



Purim Dinim & Minhagim

From the Rabbi

The Fast of Esther

The Fast of Esther (Thursday, March 17) is a fast day that was initiated by Queen Esther when the Jews of Persia fasted and prayed to be spared from Haman's evil plot. The fast begins in the morning at 5:30 am and ends that evening at 7:21 p.m.

The Mitzvot of Purim

Megillah: It is required to hear the Megillah both evening and morning, to tell and retell the story of our salvation from Haman's evil plot. Both men and women are obligated to hear the Megillah twice.

Mishloach Manot: It is required to send to a friend, during the daytime of Purim, a gift package containing at least two kinds of ready-to-eat food items—enhancing the spirit of friendship and sharing.

Mattanot La'evyonim: It is required to give charity to the poor during the daytime of Purim, evoking the true joy of helping our brethren in need. Collection plates will be available at Shul for this purpose.

Seudat Purim: A festive meal celebrated during the daytime of Purim culminates the day's activities in a spirit of camaraderie, thanksgiving and joy.

Taanis Esther

March 17 Thursday	Fast begins	5:30 a.m.
	Morning Service	6:15 a.m.
	Mincha	6:30 p.m.
	Fast ends	7:21 p.m.

Purim Schedule

March 19 Saturday	Maariv	7:30 p.m.
	Shabbat Ends	7:39 p.m. *
	First Megillah Reading	8:15 p.m.
	Second Megillah Reading	9:15 p.m.
March 20 Sunday Purim	Morning Service	7:00 a.m.
	First Megillah Reading	7:30 a.m.
	Second Morning Service	8:30 a.m.
	Second Megillah Reading	9:00 a.m.
	Early Mincha	2:00 p.m.
	Mincha/Maariv	6:45 p.m.

* One should recite "Baruch Hamavdil Bein Kodesh L'chol" before doing melacha such as driving to shul. Havdallah is recited after the Megillah reading.