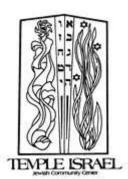


## TEMPLE ISRAEL and JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER 475 Grove Street Ridgewood, New Jersey 07450







### Dear Temple Israel Community:

Enclosed please find a Yom Hashoah Yellow Candle<sup>TM</sup>. We hope that you will once again join with Jews around the world on Yom Hashoah, and light this candle on **Sunday evening, May 1**<sup>st</sup>, in memory of the victims of the Holocaust. The act of kindling this flame and reciting the enclosed readings (see reverse side) can be a moving ritual to remind us of what happened to our people not so long ago. Placing the candle in your window is a way to help remind the community. This moment would also be an appropriate opportunity to discuss the Holocaust with your family.

This is the **18th** year that Temple Israel's Brandeis Men's Club has participated in this program. The Yom Hashoah Yellow Candle Program is a project of the <u>Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs</u>, in cooperation with the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism and the North American Federation of Temple Brotherhoods. It is our hope that the observance of Yom Hashoah, centered on the lighting of a Yellow Candle, will become an annual event in your home and in the home of families throughout our community.

We ask that you make a donation to help underwrite the expenses of this program. Funds received over and above our costs are used to provide Holocaust programming for the Temple Israel Religious School. The Brandeis Men's Club uses proceeds to proudly sponsor a trip to a Jewish museum for students in our Dalet and Hey classes. We would ask that you consider gifts in multiples of \$18.00. The number 18 is *chai*, or life. By remembering, by doing our part to ensure our future, we celebrate the ongoing life of our people even as we memorialize those who were destroyed. We appreciate your support of our efforts in this Yom Hashoah commemoration and our on-going education programs.

We hope that you will gather your family together to participate on Sunday evening, May 1<sup>st</sup>, in this small but meaningful gesture.

If you have questions, please feel free to call me at: 201-664-8172.

Sincerely,

David Millman

Bob Rohrberger

2011 Yellow Candle

Chairmain

President,
Brandeis Men's Club



# Meditation



Place the Yom HaShoah Yellow Candle in your window on the evening of **Sunday April 11th 2010**, and recite the following as you light it:

As I light this Yellow Candle, I vow never to forget the lives of the Jewish men, women, and children who are symbolized by this flame. They were tortured and brutalized by human beings who acted like beasts; their lives were taken in cruelty. May we be inspired to learn more about our six million brothers and sisters as individuals and as communities, to recall their memory throughout the year, so that they will not suffer a double death. May we recall not only the terror of their deaths, but also the splendor of their lives. May the memory of their lives inspire us to hallow our own lives and to live meaningful Jewish lives so that we may help to insure that part of who they were shall endure always.

(Permission to reproduce this Meditation is granted)

# "Who Am I To Speak Of A Time?"

Who am I to speak of a time of families crushed, of crimes of mankind, of children in hiding and living in fear, of mothers trying to hide all their tears, of fathers praying to an empty heaven, of people dying again and again?

Who am I to know what it was like
to be persecuted by day and trapped by the night,
to be surrounded by a world turned upside down,
to be starved and tortured and beaten to the ground,
to witness a nation of hate marching past,
to see all their dreams broken and shattered like
glass?

Who am I to mention their suffering and pain, the ghettos, the camps, life and death inhumane? I wasn't even born, I wasn't even there, it happened long ago, it could never happen here. Who am I to know what God had in mind when the virtues of man were buried alive, when good lost to evil and hope turned to despair, when hell upon earth seemed everywhere?

Who am I to let their memories be forgotten, to say and do nothing as if it never happened, to forsake the loss of our Jewish family, to live in a world of complacency?

#### THE BLESSING OF THE YELLOW CANDLE

We light this yellow candle to rekindle God's flame,
To shine His light upon the world once again,
To sanctify the memories of the millions of souls,
To honor their prayers and all their lost goals.
We bless their existence by being alive
To light this yellow candle as proof we survived.