



The Rae & Joseph Gann
Beth El Preschool
o f N e w t o n

B"H

Shabbat Parashat Metzora

Hadlakat Nerot Shabbat 7:00 pm

Leviticus 14:1-15:33

Last week's Parshah described the signs of the metzora ("leper") -- a person afflicted by a spiritual malady which places him or her in a state of ritual impurity. This week's Torah reading begins by detailing how the recovered metzora is purified by the Kohen (priest) with a special procedure involving two birds, spring water in an earthen vessel, a piece of cedar wood, a scarlet thread and a bundle of hyssop. A home can also be afflicted with "leprosy" by the appearance of dark red or green patches on its walls. In a process lasting as long as nineteen days, a Kohen determines if the house can be purified or it must be demolished.

Ritual impurity is also engendered through a seminal or other discharge in a man, and menstruation or other discharge of blood in a woman, necessitating purification through immersion in a mikvah.

Shabbat Shalom!