

Rabbi Chizner of Temple Judea Installed by Rabbi Marc Gellman



At Friday night services September 15, 2006, it was standing room only, as the crowd of close to 400 people witnessed the installation of Temple Judea of Manhasset's new Rabbi, Todd Chizner. Rabbi Chizner is only the third Rabbi to hold this position in the Temple's fifty-one year history. Rabbi Chizner is young, vibrant and energetic. He looks forward to meeting and working with the families that make up the fabric of Temple Judea and to encourage new families to join this warm, growing congregation.

Those who came out on this rainy Friday night joined in an uplifting service, led by the Rabbi and Cantor Melissa L. Adleman. Surrounded by family, friends, and congregants, Rabbi Chizner was installed by his mentor Rabbi Marc Gellman, Ph.D, of Temple Beth Torah of Melville, and co-host of the nationally syndicated "God Squad". Rabbi Gellman is the senior Rabbi of Temple Beth Torah, where he has served since 1981. He has sat on the faculties of several colleges and universities and has lectured at Harvard, Princeton and Amherst College. Rabbi Gellman writes a weekly column for Newsweek Magazine, which appears online at Newsweek.com. With his dear friend Monsignor Thomas Hartman, he also writes a syndicated national religious advice column that appears locally in Newsday. Rabbi Gellman was also the rabbi who gave Rabbi Todd Chizner his first job, and Rabbi Chizner is the only member of his graduating class at HUC to work for the same rabbi for all his seven years since ordination. Services were followed by a Special Oneg Shabbat, where congregants were greeted by Rabbi Chizner, his wife Lauren and their children Jacob, Jed and Rachel.

If Rabbi Chizner's installation is any indication, there will be many more occasions where there will be standing room only at Temple Judea. The synagogue is starting a new chapter in its history with Rabbi Chizner at the helm. Creative new programs are being developed and the administration is looking forward to welcoming many young families who will bring a new level of energy, enthusiasm and ideas to the already existing plethora of activities that go on everyday at Temple Judea.

The temple is located at 333 Searingtown Road, Manhasset, N.Y., and can be reached at 516-621-8049. Further information can be obtained from its web site, Temple-Judea.com.