

NEW ROCHELLE NY, March 28, 2022

The Assisi Project

The Museum of Memory telling the story of the town of Assisi protecting Jewish Refugees during the Holocaust



A rare opportunity: Temple Israel of New Rochelle has been selected, by representatives of the Vatican, to host this historic exhibition. This evening includes religious leaders and local politicians from Italy, including the Pope's archivist, who will share stories, hidden up until now, about the clergy and citizens of Assisi, Italy, who risked their lives to protect Jewish refugees during the Holocaust.

This exhibition and roundtable discussion, entitled:
“Museum of Memory: Assisi 1943-44” will take place on Tuesday, April 5, 2022, at 5PM at Temple Israel of New Rochelle
(1000 Pinebrook Boulevard, New Rochelle, NY 10804)

The program will offer in detail a look at the perils faced by Jewish citizens in Italy during the Second World War. With Northern Italy occupied by German troops in 1943, the historic town of Assisi, home of Saint Francis of Assisi, found itself thrown into the atrocities of war. Acting on requests from Rome, Assisi's citizens and clergy rallied to come together and save the lives of their Jewish brethren.

The exhibit features:

- panels from the "Museo della Memoria Assisi" (The Museum of Memory)
- a roundtable discussion led by Professor Johan Ickx, archivist for the Historical Archives of the Vatican Secretary of State, and Elizabeth Bettina, author of "It Happened in Italy."
- also attending: Archbishop of Assisi, Domenico Sorrentino; Monsignor Anthony Figueiredo; and the Mayor of Assisi, Stefania Proietti

Rabbi Jay H. Rosenbaum, Temple Israel's rabbi, who will be moderating notes: "We are honored to host The Assisi Museum Exhibit, and excited to lead the roundtable discussion. With this exhibit, we not only memorialize the 6,000,000 Jews who were murdered by the Nazis, but the righteousness of Assisi residents who risked everything to save innocent Jewish lives. May their souls be bound up in the bond of eternal life, as we honor them through this project of reconciliation and hope with the light of love."

Noam Bramson, Mayor of New Rochelle, comments "At a time when hate crimes and anti-Semitism are sadly on the rise, this moving program inspires us to embrace all of our neighbors, across every faith, with courage, humanity, and love. I am grateful to Temple Israel for hosting the Assisi Museum Exhibit and proud that New Rochelle exemplifies these ever-essential values."

During this event, Rabbi Jay will be honoring David A. Alpert for becoming the Chairman of the Lay Advisory Committee of the North American Board of Rabbis.

For more information, please visit www.tinr.org/theassisiproject or www.ptwf.org.

For media inquiries, please contact Orietta Schneider, Communications Director at Temple Israel of New Rochelle: OriettaSchneider@tinr.org, (914) 235-1800 x215

Masks are optional. Temple Israel urges all unvaccinated people to wear them.