

THE FOUR MITZVOT OF PURIM

Esther Reading
mikra megillah

Once at night

Once in the day

Hear every word

Festive Meal
s'udat purim

In the daytime, after Minchah

May continue into the night

Meat and wine are customary

Gifts of Food
mishloach manot

Expression of friendship, not anonymous

Sent through a messenger

Sent and received during the daytime

At least one recipient

At least two ready-to-eat foods in each gift

Recipient can serve it at their Festive Meal

Charity
matanot l'evyonim

Sent and received on Purim

At least two recipients

Can be anonymous

Recipient should know it's for Purim

Recipient can use money to pay for Festive Meal

Often distributed through an agent at the synagogue

ADDITIONAL CUSTOMS

Fast of Esther

Starting at dawn on the day leading up to Purim

Ends after the Megillah reading

Only for people in good health

Half Shekel

Three coins per family member

Half the basic denomination (half-dollar coins)

Given to the poor

TIMELINE FOR PURIM 2019 IN HUDSON

Wednesday

March 20

5:46 am Fast begins at dawn

6:15 pm Give Half Shekel before Minchah

Minchah and Ma'ariv prayers

7:00 pm Evening Megillah reading (*mikra megillah*)

7:46 pm Fast concludes

8:00 pm Party at Beth Immanuel

Thursday

March 21

7:00 am Shacharit prayers

8:00 am Morning Megillah reading (*mikra megillah*)

Give Charity (*matanot l'evyonim*)

Send Gifts (*mishloach manot*)

2:00 pm Minchah prayers

Festive meal at home (*s'udat purim*)