



Weekly Clergy Message

Rabbi Scott Rosenberg
The Mother of the Sons
Behar-Behukotai
May 9, 2018

Her two sons were killed defending Israel. Uriel and Eliraz Peretz were both members of the elite Golani brigade. Uriel died in Lebanon in 1998 and Eliraz in Gaza in 2010. Yet, in spite of these devastating tragedies, Miriam Peretz demonstrated remarkable strength and fortitude.

An educator to her core, Miriam's response to tragedy was one that inspired all of Israel and earned her this year's Israel Prize for Lifetime Achievement for strengthening the Jewish-Israeli spirit. In Israel, Miriam is referred to as Aym HaBanim, the mother of the sons. Throughout the Jewish world, we should consider her our mother as well, for as I hope you will see by listening to Miriam and reading her words in translation, the State of Israel makes us all proud in granting this award:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6ZX1xnSLGc0>

This coming Sunday, we observe both Mother's Day and Jerusalem Day, the day on which in 1967, 28 Iyar 5727, the city of Jerusalem became one city, the capitol of the State of Israel. Miriam Peretz's talk lends depth to both Mother's Day and Jerusalem Day.

I hope you find her message inspiring.