



# Temple Beth Torah

Melville NY

## For Immediate Release

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## **God Squad's Rabbi Marc Gellman to present "A History of Blasphemy in Judaism, Christianity and Islam"**

*Rabbi Emeritus of Temple Beth Torah Melville to Deliver Adult Education Program on Mar 25, 2015*

**Melville, NY** – Temple Beth Torah, a well-established Reform Temple in Melville, has announced that Rabbi Emeritus Marc Gellman of God Squad fame will present "A History of Blasphemy in Judaism, Christianity and Islam" at 7:00 PM on Wed Mar 25, 2015 at the temple facility at 35 Bagatelle Rd in Melville.

"We're very pleased that Rabbi Gellman will be presenting this very important and topical subject," said Susie Moskowitz, Senior Rabbi at Temple Beth Torah. "Our temple members and friends will hear his insights into this critical issue that touches multiple faiths and is frequently in the news."

Blasphemy is insulting God and its history helps us to understand how the Abrahamic Religions of Judaism, Christianity and Islam have balanced reverence for God with freedom of speech. Recent events have made this not just a theological but also a political issue in the war on terror and in secular societies. Rabbi Gellman's lecture will address how we balance freedom of speech and reverence for God in a world torn by violence. His lecture at Temple Beth Torah is free and open to the public.

### *About Rabbi Marc Gellman*

Rabbi Marc Gellman, Ph.D. is the Rabbi Emeritus of Temple Beth Torah in Melville. He was senior rabbi there from 1981 to 2014. Rabbi Gellman and his dear friend Father Tom Hartman are The God Squad and were voted by the readers of Newsday as the most important leaders on Long Island in the past 100 years. Rabbi Gellman is a columnist for Newsday and for Golf Digest. He is the author of many books and articles and his HBO special with Father Tom won the George Foster Peabody Award. He is a former president of the New York Board of Rabbis.

### *About Temple Beth Torah Melville*

Founded in 1969, Temple Beth Torah Melville is an active Reform Jewish Congregation of over 600 families serving the Western Suffolk and Eastern Nassau County areas of Long Island. Its extended temple family shares rich educational, spiritual and social experiences through a full spectrum of programming -- including religious and nursery school, religious services, and teen and adult activities. Members come to Temple Beth Torah to pray, to learn and to celebrate. Its culture is inclusive and encourages participation by all age groups. For more information, visit <http://www.tbtny.org>.

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