



Rabbi Josh Bennett

KF Kosher

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MAASERTEXT [WEEK 4]

Halachah

In this week's MaaserText article, Rabbi Josh Bennett explains how the MaaserText system has been configured, making use of automation and even a purpose-built app.

What happens when I text MaaserText?

Much of the MaaserText service is automated. The user first receives a response directing them to a link where they can read the instructions for separating Terumos and Maasros – including the wording of the formula you need to say. For those without web access they can elect to receive email instructions by emailing to maasertext@federation.org.uk.

Most importantly, our system counts the number of uses of the coin. Calculated at 60 uses for every £2 coin, we know that in order to guarantee that coins are constantly available for the public we must empty the coins by transferring the accrued kedushah onto other coins. With an automated system now in place, whenever a notification informs us that the coin has been filled, one of our Rabbonim 'empties' the coin by redeeming it on to one of lesser value. Next Pesach, when the time for *biur maasros* arrives, the coins will be destroyed and another one will be prepared.

I haven't received a confirmation text, can I still proceed?

As long you have not heard from us you can't make use of our coin. We have worked hard to avoid situations in which the coin is lost, unavailable or full.

How many times can I use the Federation's coin once I have texted and received confirmation?

Our service entitles you to a one-off use per text. To ensure the highest levels of kashrus, we keep track of how many times the coins are used. To do this we have had to limit the way in which the coin can be used. In fact, the carefully worded *pidyon* declaration includes the stipulation that the redemption is being carried out in accordance with the terms of use of the coin. To make repeated use of the coin or to make use of it on a future occasion, just text again.

The MaaserText series will resume in four weeks' time on Parshas Pinchos, and will take a look at more in depth look at some of the aspects of the service. Among other issues, we will discover how members of the public should deal with this year's special instruction to give Maaser Oni.

Warmest Mazal Tov wishes to Rabbi Josh Bennett & Family on the Birth of Twin Girls!

Has your supermarket delivered fruit or veg from ארץ ישראל?
Before eating, you must take מעשרות and תרומות.



The Federation's MaaserText service can help!

How to use:

1. **PREPARING THE FOOD** Separate slightly more than 1% of the edible part of the produce. Each type of food (eg avocados, potatoes) needs to be *maasered* separately. **WARNING** – ensure you don't separate less than the required amount.

2. **Text 'MAASER'** to 07800 006 913 to receive one-off permission to use the Federation's coin. Text again for each individual food you are separating from.

3. **DECLARATION** Upon receiving confirmation from MaaserText, make the following declaration:

"I hereby separate the required terumos and maasros, according to the Federation Beis Din's nusach, and I hereby redeem any Maaser Sheni and Revai onto the coin that has been set aside for this by the Federation Beis Din in accordance with the Beis Din's nusach, and the terms of usage of the coin."

4. The small amount of food separated, which is now teruma and terumas maaser, should be well wrapped and thrown away. The rest of the produce may now be eaten.

תרומות and מעשרות must not be separated on Shabbos or Yom Tov

For more detailed instructions visit www.federation.org.uk or email maasertext@federation.org.uk. For questions or further information text ShailaText on 07860 017 641

maasertext
TEXT MAASER TO 07800 006 913

לע"נ ר' שלמה דוד בן ר' משה וינגרטן ז"ל

SHAILATEXT
TEXT 07403 939 613

PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL RESPONSE TO SHAILOS ON ANY TOPIC WITHIN FOUR WORKING HOURS

Wherever possible it is preferable to take shailos to your own rov who knows you personally. ShailaText is not intended to be used as substitute for a rov but L'zakos es horabim. For more information visit federation.org.uk/shailatext/

To sponsor a day/week/month of Shailatext, please email Batsheva.pels@federation.org.uk



This week's Shailatext is

לע"נ שמעון בן שרגא ז"ל

QUIZ TIME Living with Mitzvos
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2. Why were the *nesiyim*, leaders, sent as spies? Why was this a good qualification to fit the criteria of being a spy?