

# POST - PANDEMIC PESACH POEM

## FOR YOU IN 5782 / 2022

Pesach this year, will soon be here, and hopefully it will not be  
Different from all those that we had before the year 2020  
For two years running, we've had fewer people, if anybody  
To celebrate with us - how we've missed friends and family

Pesach is the most involved and interactive of our Jewish festivals  
Comprising as it does, so many different and time-honoured rituals  
For adults yes, but particularly the children,  
To understand and enjoy taking part in

Two Seder nights are surely the core  
Of what we celebrate this Chag for  
Each household's experience is unique  
As to how the host and all present, seek  
While sitting packed round a busy table, to revisit  
The iconic, historic story of our exodus from Egypt

Hopefully, with family, friends and guests we will  
Eat, drink (even talk!) but also pray a great deal  
Yet one question that is always asked  
Is why we're doing it differently from last  
Year, which then involves a prolonged discussion  
As each person present looks at their Haggadah  
And proudly announces on what page we are

We have meticulously cleaned our homes to ensure  
That there is no trace of Chametz left here any more  
Have ready for use a separate set of cutlery and crockery  
Cooking and kitchen utensils for eight days, for every  
Bit of food and drink that we consume  
Which we buy costing us a fortune  
Then it all invariably plays havoc  
For eight days with our stomach

In preparation for Pesach men everywhere, let's recognise  
The hard work and dedication to the cause that our wives  
Will have shown in recent weeks – having hardly stopped  
Since they have constantly cooked, cleaned and shopped  
To ensure that our homes definitely will  
Be ready for celebrating this festival  
Each one of them, an Eshet Chayil

Fellow Jews, we are of course lucky  
That here in the UK, we can all freely  
Celebrate Pesach with friends and family  
Since many others as we know  
Like previous years, cannot do so  
For a variety of reasons and Baruch Hashem  
They'll be able next year or soon to do so again

At the end of each Seder Night  
We express the hope that we might  
Next year, Baruch Hashem  
Have Pesach in Jerusalem

I wish everyone in the worldwide Jewish community  
A Chag Pesach Sameach that is Coronavirus – free

Stephen Miller