



## Introduction



The Communauté Juive Libérale de Genève – GIL, in Geneva, Switzerland, is seeking a second permanent rabbi to work alongside its founding rabbi, François Garaï. Our community, founded 50 years ago, is more than 1'250 members strong and hosted in a purpose-built, modern synagogue and community center inaugurated in 2010, close to Geneva's city center.

We are seeking a French-speaking, progressive rabbi with at least three years of experience.

## Presentation of GIL

### Our history from 1970 to 2020

It all started in 1970 in a private house with 15 people for a celebration of Purim. Today we have grown to over 800 families. Following are the key dates over the past 50 years.

**1970**, A few families gathered to discuss if a Liberal community was needed in Geneva. Following this, more than 60 people gathered for a first Seder for Passover followed by an office of Shavuot and an office on Friday evening. With increased attendance, a group of 10 people organized the High Holidays and regular Friday evening offices. On December 7<sup>th</sup>, 1970, an assembly gathered and voted the 'Groupe Israelite liberal' which became the 'Community Israelite Liberal' or GIL.

**In October 1971**, the first Benot-Mitzvah read the Torah and in 1972 a young man celebrated his Bar-Mitzvah.

Membership at the GIL has been steadily growing; in October 1981, a decision was made by management to find a new, more central home allowing for more growth. The Gil moved to Quai Seujet; then a new building, erected on Route de Chêne became our new home inaugurated in 2010. Since then, all activities are held under the same roof.

### Our Values

**Welcoming:** Our practice of Judaism is traditional. It is rooted in the written tradition (The Torah and Bible) and oral (Rabbinic). A tradition that is constantly evolving and stresses the importance of ethical behavior and search for truth. Our practice of Judaism allows each person who identifies as Jewish to affirm their belief in G\_d and their loyalty to the Torah as well as their responsibility to Kelal Israel (All Jewish people) and the divine creator.

**Equality:** Founding families of GIL vowed to ensure the financial stability of GIL with no request for any special recognition in exchange. Their altruistic generosity along with others, is the

foundation of the egalitarian spirit of GIL. There are no reserved spaces, no special advantages and no special honor extended resulting from a financial participation.

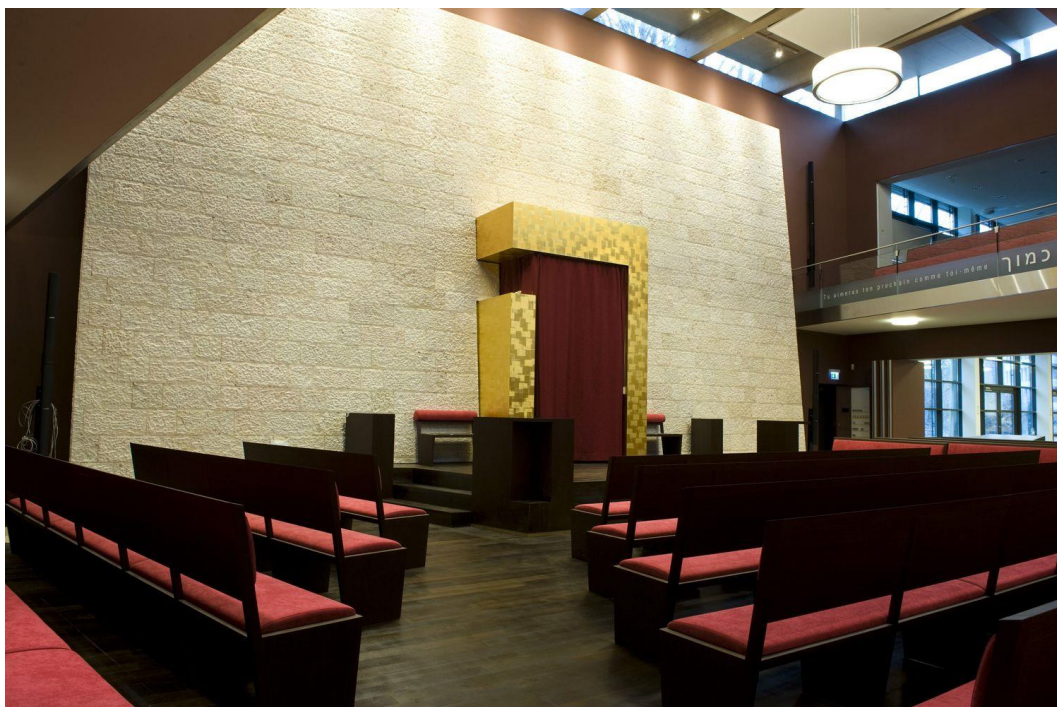
**Tolerance:** The GIL collaborates with many Jewish institutions – locally (CICAD, GSI), nationally (Jewish Platform for liberal Judaism in Switzerland, Jewish representation with the Federal authorities) and Internationally (French speaking Federation of liberal Judaism, World Union and European for Progressive Judaism and the Union of community centers). The Gil is also involved in inter-religious discussions.

### **The life of our community**

Today, the Gil is a progressive Jewish community, open to the modern world.

The GIL is:

- A community of more than 1'250 members and 850 families
- Regular services for Chabbat, with a regular attendance of between 60 and 100 people
- Approximately 20 B'nai-Mitzvah each year
- Passover Seder with an attendance of approximately 150 people. High holidays assembling a congregation of more than 900 people
- Talmud Torah with about 100 children
- The ABG's uniting about 30 teenagers
- Gil-NET: A group of young adults, classes for adults, community dinners and regular cultural activities
- Hayom: A quarterly magazine distributed to more than 4'000 homes
- A cultural commission and volunteer group
- A participation in the local Jewish communities' social services activities



## **Profile**

- You are a female or male rabbi certified by the WUPJ.
- You speak French.
- You have studied in a progressive rabbinical school and are a member (or could potentially become one) of CCAR – which means you have received a rabbinical education which developed the definition of Revelation in a progressive manner.
- You are 30 years old or older.
- You have at least three years of experience as rabbi.

## **Job Description**

### **1. Principles**

- 1.1. The rabbi is, in the sense of Jewish tradition, the “Master” of the community. The role he/she has been assigned during the Semi’hah is to impart and decide. He/she is at the service of the community.
- 1.2. He/she is responsible for the execution of religious rules and customs (see Minhag haMakom).
- 1.3. He/she directs religious acts of the community. He/she may delegate this function to others, with the prior approval of the Board (or the Executive Committee).
- 1.4. He/she participates in Board, Executive Committee, and Committees meetings in an advisory quality.
- 1.5. He/she oversees the family registry.

### **2. Service**

- 2.1. He/she leads religious services according to the Gil’s tradition (see Minhag haMakom).

### **3. « In charge of souls »**

- 3.1. He/she is at our member’s side during important life events.
- 3.2. He/she can provide advice to non-members if this does engage the community.
- 3.3. He/she calls on those enduring sickness and in mourning.
- 3.4. He/she represents the community during private or public events.

### **4. Funerals**

- 4.1. He/she leads funeral services of community members.

### **5. Talmud Torah and youth**

- 5.1. In agreement with the leadership of the TT, he/she defines the guiding principles and goals of the TT.

- 5.2. In agreement with the TT leadership and the youth and education committee he/she defines:
- the course curriculum;
  - the teachers' education;
  - teaching to Bar/Bat Mitzvah
- 5.3. He/she prepares the community's children to Bar/Bat Mitzvah.
- 5.4. In case of vacancy of the role of director of youth activities, he/she oversees the continuing education of youths after the Bar/Bat Mitzvah.

## **6. Adult education**

- 6.1. He/she may offer courses for adults in different fields. He/she, in agreement with the relevant committee, may call upon others to teach classes.
- 6.2. He/she regularly contributes to the community's publications.
- 6.3. He/she leads the preparation of conversion candidates.
- 6.4. He/she may teach to people or groups seeking to know our tradition (outside of the conversion process).

## **7. Interfaith activities**

- 7.1. To the extent of his/her availability, he/she participates to interfaith events, including within non-Jewish places of worship. He/she is the contact person for other communities, with whom he/she has relations.
- 7.2. He/she participates in conferences and debates where relevant for progressive Judaism.

## **8. Other tasks**

- 8.1. He/she drafts the Siddurim.
- 8.2. He/she drafts articles for Hayom, our community's magazine.
- 8.3. At the end of the civil year, he/she supports the Board in drafting the annual activity report to the Plateforme Juive Libérale Suisse (the umbrella organization for progressive Judaism in Switzerland).
- 8.4. Vacation and prolonged absences are agreed upon with the Secretary General. Longer absences, requiring a replacement rabbi, must be approved by the Executive Committee.

This job description is not exhaustive and may evolve from time to time in agreement with the Board.

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