# RECIPE





# FRENCH TOAST BAKE WITH PECAN CRUMBLE

#### **INGREDIENTS:**

#### for french toast:

1 loaf challah bread, sliced 1" thick

2 tbsp butter at room temperature (for baking dish)

4 large eggs
4 large egg yolks
2 cups heavy cream

 $\begin{array}{ll} 2 \text{ cups} & \text{milk} \\ 1/2 \text{ cup} & \text{sugar} \end{array}$ 

1 tsp pure vanilla extract 1/2 tsp ground cinnamon 1/2 tsp freshly ground nutmeg

1/2 tsp kosher salt

## for crumble:

3/4 cup pecans

3 tbsp unsalted butter, chilled and cut into pieces

3 tbsp light brown sugar 1/2 tsp kosher salt

### **DIRECTIONS:**

Slice the challah bread into 1 inch thick slices and on a large baking sheet, let stand overnight to dry out. Also, leave a half stick of butter out to come to room temperature.

In the morning, butter a 13x9 baking dish with the room temperature butter and arrange the sliced challah bread overlapping slightly in the baking dish.

In a medium mixing bowl, whisk eggs, egg yolks, cream, milk, vanilla, sugar, cinnamon, nutmeg and salt. Pour the custard mixture over the bread, pressing down on the bread to help it soak up the custard. Cover and chill at least 2 hours.

#### Preheat the oven to 375 degrees.

In a food processor, add pecans, chilled butter, light brown sugar and salt and pulse until nuts are coarsely chopped and the mixture resembles a crumble.

Scatter the pecan crumble over the soaked bread. Place the the baking dish on a rimmed baking sheet and cover tightly with foil. Bake for 30 minutes and then remove the foil and bake uncovered until deeply golden brown, another 35 minutes. Let cool slightly before serving.

Serve with warm syrup, butter and your choice of assorted berries.



