



Bar/Bat Mitzvah Service Honors Checklist

Please complete and return this form to Rabbi Moritt no later than 3 weeks before your Bar/Bat Mitzvah. Information on additional Torah readers should be submitted much sooner (5 months).

- ☞ = indicates an honor available to any person regardless of age or religion
★ = indicates an honor reserved for Jews, aged 13 and older.

1. Friday Night:

Your child will lead the congregation in kiddush (blessing over wine/juice) at our Kabbalat Shabbat Friday night services at which the family will be invited to light the candles.

Who will come to the bimah to light the candles and read the English blessing? Multiple family members are invited.

☞Candle lighting: _____

2. Torah Honors

a. Chanting the Torah

★ Our services customarily contain 4 aliyot/readings of Torah. Our cantor will chant the first reading. The b'nai mitzvah child will chant the last 3 of those 4 readings. We encourage other family members or friends to honor your child by reading additional verses of Torah, up to 8 readings. Extra readings will enable you to offer extra aliyot honors to your guests (see below). B'nai mitzvah children wishing to read more are encouraged to do so. We will gladly supply recordings with at least a month's lead time for those who wish to chant Torah.

Do you anticipate family or friends will chant Torah? Yes No
If yes, indicate how many additional people/names _____

b. Aliyot (Blessings before and after the 4 Torah Readings)

★ We welcome non-Jewish parents and relatives to join Jewish family and friends onto the bimah for these honors, but only Jews aged 13 and older will chant the Hebrew blessings.

★ Of the 4 readings, you must designate a member of our congregation to offer the blessings for the first aliya (the "congregational aliya.") The people blessing 2nd aliya are yours to choose. Parents have the honor of the penultimate aliya. The last aliya is reserved for the b'nai mitzvah child. The additional Torah readers you may supply enable you to honor more people with these aliyot. Your extra Torah readers/extra honors would become reading #3, with parents and b'nai mitzvah child slotted after. Note: If you designate a member of our congregation to read Torah, the "congregational aliya" may be a Torah reader.

★ Please provide full Hebrew names, including ben/bat + Hebrew names of parents: Use extra sheets if necessary.

Table with 4 columns: Honor, English Name(s), Hebrew Name(s), Relationship to child. Rows include Congregational Aliya, Choice, Parents, and Maftir/Child.

★ B'nai mitzvah children customarily chant Haftarah in addition to their three (3) sections of Torah.

3. Passing the Torah from “Generation to Generation”

✧ *Generally this is a grandparent passing the Torah to a parent, passing it to the child.*

A. (English Name/relationship) _____

B. (English Name/relationship) _____

Other Honors

✧ Open/close the Ark at the beginning of the Torah Service (1 or 2 people)

Name _____

✧ Open/close the Ark at the end of the Torah Service (1 or 2 people)

Name _____

✧ Hagba--lifting the Torah- (Please keep in mind **physical requirements**. The Torah is **heavy!**)

Name _____

✧ Galila- dressing the Torah (1 or 2 people)

Name _____

✧ Prayer for Our Country (optional*)

Name _____

✧ Prayer for the State of Israel (optional*)

Name _____

**These 2 blessings are optional but are either both included or omitted as a pair. They are opportunities for more members of the family and friends to participate in the service, if desired. Both are read in English.*

✧ Will candy be thrown? **YES / NO**

(Only **soft jelly candies individually wrapped** are permitted, i.e., Sunkist Fruit Gems)

✧ **Will the parents want to offer personal words of blessing as part of the service?** (See Guide) **YES / NO**

✧ Kiddush and motzi blessings are offered by the bar/bat mitzvah child at the end of services.

✧ **Younger siblings** are encouraged to participate. Opening/closing the Ark or offering the Prayer for Our Country/Israel Are good options.

✧ **Older siblings** are strongly encouraged to have an Aliya- i.e., to offer the blessings before/after Torah reading.

✧ **Proper attire is required for anyone called to the bimah for any honor, i.e.; no sloppy sneakers, shoulders covered, hemlines for dresses/skirts/appropriate shorts should be no shorter than 1"-2" above the knee. Please choose your celebratory wear accordingly.**
