

B. Mitzvah General Information

SERVICE LEAFLETS

At each B. Mitzvah service, a service leaflet, created by the office, is handed to your guests. This leaflet includes an order of worship service, your child's Torah and Haftarah portions in both Hebrew and English, a page of definitions and explanations about our service, a personalized welcome paragraph from the parent(s)/family, and the names of family members who have passed away that you want to remember, and service honors.

OPTIONAL READINGS

Each family may include up to three optional readings which will be read at the beginning of the service. If a family chooses to provide their own reading(s), please send the reading(s) to Rabbi Bellows at least four weeks before the service for approval. Please submit these readings to the office at least one month prior to your service. If you choose to create your own reading, it must be of a meditative nature having to do with the child coming of age or becoming an adult Jew. Please do not include personal praise/accomplishments in your readings, as they will not be approved.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Please schedule with Carol at cyesnick@bethamg.org a time to take B. Mitzvah pictures. It is recommended that you have pictures at the Beth Am Sanctuary, regardless of where your service takes place.

SECURITY

Security is required at each service and is arranged through Beth Am.

HELPING FAMILIES

Each family is required to assist as usher and general 'helper' at a service prior to their own. On your assigned day you will be serving as ushers and greeters to our guests who are celebrating with us. Your role as a helping family is essential and ensures that our services are welcoming and friendly. We are depending on all of our families to help each other on their special day. This provides your family an opportunity to experience the mechanics of a B. Mitzvah service prior to their service.

KIPPOT

Black kippot are available for your service. Some families choose to provide *kippot* for the occasion. *Kippot* can be purchased online or at any Jewish gift store of your choosing. *Kippot* left over after the service can be collected by the B'nei Mitzvah family or donated to the congregation.

ONEG/KIDDUSH

Friday Shabbat Evening: All families are asked to sponsor the Friday night Oneg on the Friday prior to their service (or another Friday night, if the timing is better for the family). Oneg sponsorship is \$250 and your sponsorship and service will be published in the weekly email update. The Oneg includes festive desserts, fruit, coffee, tea, juice, and a table sign acknowledging your sponsorship and simcha. Families are highly encouraged to come to services on Friday night to celebrate Shabbat. Those who attend will be invited to the Bimah for a service honor such as lighting the Shabbat candles.

Shabbat B. Mitzvah Service: There will be only challah and juice provided immediately following your service. This Challah and Juice kiddish will be available for 20 minutes after the service. It is a time

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to receive Mazel Tovs but it is not designed to be an extended kiddush beyond the 20 minutes. If you would like to have a kiddush that is more than 20 minutes, and that has more than challah and juice, please see the information sheet on our extended Kiddush fees and procedures.

We strive to accommodate each family, should there be any questions, concerns, requests about the kiddush, or extended time after your service, please speak with Rabbi Bellows far in advance of your service.