

HONORS DURING THE SERVICE

During the Shabbat morning service, the B-Mitzvah family will receive a number of honors that can be assigned to family members and friends. Honors are reserved for the families celebrating B-Mitzvahs, as well as for the members of the congregation. Because Beth El is a large and active congregation, no family is given all of the honors at any one service.

The type and total number of honors depends upon the service and whether it is being shared between families. Your selection of honorees should be noted on the B-Mitzvah Ceremony Information Sheet and returned to the B'nai Mitzvah Coordinator at least one month prior to the ceremony. To avoid potentially difficult situations and disappointment, please do not make any commitments about granting honors not listed on the sheet. Questions regarding additional honors should be directed to the rabbi, who will make the final decision regarding service honors.

TORAH HONORS

As is customary in the Conservative movement, please understand that only Jewish individuals may receive Torah honors. Other honors are available for non-Jewish family and friends.

Aliyot

B-Mitzvah families may assign four Aliyot (one is generally for the child and the others assigned to Jewish family and friends that you wish to honor). Up to four people can be given a single Aliyah. Honorees usually include parents/guardians, grandparents, and older siblings; aunts, uncles, cousins, close friends and tutors are also commonly included. The remaining Aliyot are reserved for the congregation. We ask that families ensure their honorees learn the Hebrew blessings in advance of the ceremony. Check the Beth El website for recordings of the Torah Blessings.

Lifting and Tying the Torah

B-Mitzvah families may designate the people who lift (MAGBEAH) and tie (GOLEL) the Torah. The honor of lifting the Torah must be given to a person with the ability and expertise to raise the Torah in the proper manner. An instructional video is available on the Beth El website.

Holding the Torah

B-Mitzvah families may assign a person - often, but not exclusively, a child of 8 to 13 years of age - to sit on the bimah and hold the Torah while the Haftarah is chanted.

Opening/Closing the Ark

B-Mitzvah families may designate people to come to the bimah to OPEN/CLOSE THE ARK before and/or after the Torah service. We ask that no more than 2 people at a time be assigned this honor.

OTHER HONORS

Others whom you wish to honor may be asked to lead the congregation in prayers for the country, Israel, and peace. These honorees may be of any religion.

SAMPLE

B-MITZVAH CEREMONY INFORMATION SHEET

(SINGLE)

Please complete this form and return it to Robin Finkelstein, no later than four weeks prior to the ceremony date.

NAME OF B-MITZVAH:

DATE OF CEREMONY:

NAME(S) OF PARENT(S):

Honors for the Torah

- There are 8 Aliyot this Shabbat. Your family gets 4 Aliyot. Generally, one is for the child, and one is for the parent(s). The remaining 2 Aliyot can be assigned as you wish. Each Aliyah can honor 1-2 Jewish people (we can accommodate a maximum of 4 people if needed).
- The remaining Aliyot are reserved for the Congregation.
- On the day of the rehearsal, we will inform you of the order of the Aliyot.
- Friends and family chosen to open/close the ark, and lift, tie and hold the Torah, must be Jewish.

If you are considering Zoom for certain honors, please contact Sarah Ben Harush in the main office at 301-652-2606. Zoom honors must be confirmed with the main office by the 15th of the month prior to the month of the simcha. Be aware that Zoom has many limitations, including being difficult to hear and see by those in the sanctuary. Sarah will go over the details with you.

Please fill in the columns on the following pages. If you have any questions or want to discuss the honors, please contact the officiating rabbi before submitting this form.

Rabbi Gregory Harris:	(301) 652-8569 ext.105	gharris@bethelmc.org
Rabbi Deborah Megdal:	(301) 652-8569 ext.129	dmegdal@bethelmc.org
Hazzan Asa Fradkin:	(301) 652-8569 ext.117	afradkin@bethelmc.org
B'nai Mitzvah Coordinator: Robin Finkelstein	(301) 652-8569 ext.131	rfinkelstein@bethelmc.org

Torah Honors - blessings before and after each Torah portion

English Name(s)	Relationship to B-Mitzvah	Hebrew Name please use transliteration (format: name [ben/bat/mi'beit] parents' names)	Indicate Kohen (K), Levi (L) or Israel (I)
	PARENT(S)/GUARDIAN(S) OF B-MITZVAH		
	B-MITZVAH		

Other Honors

Honor	English Name(s)	Relationship to B-Mitzvah
ARK OPENING/CLOSING Page 168 MAX 2 PEOPLE		
ARK OPENING/CLOSING Page 183 MAX 2 PEOPLE		
MAGBEAH (Lift the Torah) This honor must be assigned to someone with the ability and expertise to raise the Torah in the proper manner.		
GOLEL (Tie the Torah)		

HOLDING THE TORAH This honor is traditionally assigned to a child 8-13 years of age who will sit on the bimah and hold the Torah during the chanting of the Haftarah.		
PRAYER FOR COUNTRY Page 177		
PRAYER FOR ISRAEL (Preferably in Hebrew) Page 178		
PRAYER FOR PEACE Page 178		
ASHREI Page 181		

NOTES

SHORT BIO FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Please provide the following information as indicated with an XX

XX is the son/daughter/child of XX, and brother/sister/sibling of XX, XX, and XX. XX attends XX school and his/her/their mitzvah project is XX (If available, please insert website information here.)

SAMPLE

B-MITZVAH CEREMONY INFORMATION SHEET

(DOUBLE)

Please complete this form and return it to Robin Finkelstein, no later than four weeks prior to the ceremony date.

NAME OF B-MITZVAH:

DATE OF CEREMONY:

NAME(S) OF PARENT(S):

Honors for the Torah

- There are 10 Aliyot this Shabbat. Your family gets 4 Aliyot. Generally, one is for the child, and one is for the parent(s). The remaining 2 Aliyot can be assigned as you wish. Each Aliyah can honor 1-2 Jewish people (we can accommodate a maximum of 4 people if needed).
- The other family will also receive 4 Aliyot.
- The remaining Aliyot are reserved for the Congregation.
- On the day of the rehearsal, we will inform you of the order of the Aliyot.
- Friends and family chosen to open/close the ark, and lift, tie and hold the Torah, must be Jewish.

If you are considering Zoom for certain honors, please contact Sarah Ben Harush in the main office at 301-652-2606. Zoom honors must be confirmed with the main office by the 15th of the month prior to the month of the simcha. Be aware that Zoom has many limitations, including being difficult to hear and see by those in the sanctuary. Sarah will go over the details with you.

Please fill in the columns on the following pages. If you have any questions or want to discuss the honors, please contact the officiating rabbi before submitting this form.

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Torah Honors - blessings before and after each Torah portion

English Name(s)	Relationship to B-Mitzvah	Hebrew Name please use transliteration (format: name [ben/bat/mi'beit] parents' names)	Indicate Kohen (K), Levi (L) or Israel (I)
	PARENT(S)/GUARDIAN(S) OF B-MITZVAH		
	B-MITZVAH		

Other Honors

Since the date is being shared with another family, please coordinate with them (before submitting this form) as to how the following honors will be shared.

1) Each family gets one Ark Opening/Closing and half of the Ashrei:

Honor	English Names	Relationship to B-Mitzvah
ARK OPENING/CLOSING Page 168 or Page 183 MAX 2 PEOPLE		
HALF OF THE ASHREI Page 181		

2) The two families must split these honors

Honor	English Name(s)	Relationship to B-Mitzvah
MAGBEAH (Lift the Torah) This honor must be assigned to someone with the ability and expertise to raise the Torah in the proper manner.		
GOLEL (Tie the Torah)		
HOLDING THE TORAH This honor is traditionally assigned to a child 8-13 years of age who will sit on the bimah and hold the Torah during the chanting of the Haftarah.		
PRAYER FOR COUNTRY Page 177		
PRAYER FOR ISRAEL (Preferably in Hebrew) Page 178		
PRAYER FOR PEACE Page 178		
PRAYER FOR HEALERS OPTIONAL pdf document attached separately		

Notes:

SHORT BIO FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Please provide the following information as indicated with an XX

XX is the son/daughter/child of XX, and brother/sister/sibling of XX, XX, and XX. XX attends XX school and his/her/their mitzvah project is XX (If available, please insert website information here.)

SAMPLE

B-MITZVAH CEREMONY INFORMATION SHEET

(HAVDALAH)

Please complete this form and return it to Robin Finkelstein, no later than four weeks prior to the ceremony date.

NAME OF B-MITZVAH:

DATE OF CEREMONY:

NAME(S) OF PARENT(S):

Honors for the Torah

- There are 3 Aliyot this Shabbat. Generally, one is for the child, and one is for the parent(s). The remaining Aliyah can be assigned as you wish. Each Aliyah can honor 1-2 Jewish people (we can accommodate a maximum of 4 people if needed).
- On the day of the rehearsal, we will inform you of the order of the Aliyot.
- Friends and family chosen to open/close the ark, and lift, tie and hold the Torah, must be Jewish.

If you are considering Zoom for certain honors, please contact Sarah Ben Harush in the main office at 301-652-2606. Zoom honors must be confirmed with the main office by the 15th of the month prior to the month of the simcha. Be aware that Zoom has many limitations, including being difficult to hear and see by those in the sanctuary. Sarah will go over the details with you.

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Torah Honors - blessings before and after each Torah portion

English Name(s)	Relationship to B-Mitzvah	Hebrew Name please use transliteration (format: name [ben/bat/mi'beit] parents' names)	Indicate Kohen (K), Levi (L) or Israel (I)
	PARENT(S)/GUARDIAN(S) OF B-MITZVAH		
	B-MITZVAH		
	B-MITZVAH		

Other Honors

Honor	English Name(s)	Relationship to B-Mitzvah
ARK OPENING/CLOSING Page 218 MAX 2 PEOPLE		
ARK OPENING/CLOSING Page 221 MAX 2 PEOPLE		
MAGBEAH (Lift the Torah) This honor must be assigned to someone with the ability and expertise to raise the Torah in the proper manner.		
GOLEL (Tie the Torah)		

HOLDING THE TORAH This honor is traditionally assigned to a child 8-13 years of age who will sit on the bimah and hold the Torah during the chanting of the Haftarah.		
PRAYER FOR COUNTRY Page 177		
PRAYER FOR ISRAEL (Preferably in Hebrew) Page 178		
PRAYER FOR PEACE Page 178		
ASHREI This begins the service.		

NOTES

SHORT BIO FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Please provide the following information as indicated with an XX

XX is the son/daughter/child of XX, and brother/sister/sibling of XX, XX, and XX. XX attends XX school and his/her/their mitzvah project is XX (If available, please insert website information here.)