

Honors Instructions & Form

Here are some guidelines for incorporating close family and friends who have played an important role in your child's life into this special day. Some roles they can play include:

Blessings before/after each aliyah of Torah

The word *aliyah* (aliyot in plural) means "going up." The blessing before/after each aliyah of the Torah can be recited by Jews over the age of 13. Normally, the Bar/Bat Mitzvah candidate recites the blessings surrounding the last aliyah and the parents do the one just before that. Obviously all family structures are different, so do what is best for your family. We generally recommend 1-2 people for each honor, and no more than 4, because it otherwise gets crowded. Please share the [Torah Blessings Sheet](#) and recording on [DropBox](#) with those doing the blessings so they can practice in advance.

For those reciting Torah blessings, please submit their Hebrew names in the following format:

_____ ben / bat _____ v' _____

Hebrew name son / daughter of father's name in Hebrew and mother's name in Hebrew

English Translations of Torah

This can be done by anyone at any age. The translations will be provided for you when you submit this form so you can send it to people to review in advance. They are generally 4 sentences each. A copy will also be present on the *bimah* for use during the service.

Dressing the Torah

This is a great honor for younger siblings or cousins. It provides them with a much-needed time to get off their seats and doesn't have the stress of public speaking.

Lifting and/or holding the Torah

At the conclusion of the Torah chanting, the Torah is raised for all to see. It is recommended that this person be at the rehearsal to practice because every Torah feels a bit different. After the Torah is dressed, either that person, or someone else will sit on the *bimah* and hold the Torah during the recitation of the Haftarah.

Bimah Guest

Every family is asked to invite a member of the board to be the bimah guest during the service. This person will also present the B'nai Mitzvah candidate with gifts at the conclusion of the service. If there is a board member you know well, it is best to personally invite that person, otherwise, we will assign someone who is available.

B'nai Mitzvah Service Honors Form

Name of Student: _____ Date: _____ Torah Portion: _____

Torah Reading begins with ____: _____, Plaut p. _____

Haftarah Reading begins with ____: _____, Plaut p. _____

Coming to the Bimah for Torah Passing: _____

Hebrew Blessings over the Torah reading:	English Torah Translation:
1. English Name(s):	1. English Name(s):
Relation:	Relation:
Hebrew Name(s): _____ ben/bat _____	
2. English Name(s):	2. English Name(s):
Relation:	Relation:
Hebrew Name(s): _____ ben/bat _____	
3. English Name(s):	3. English Name(s):
Relation:	Relation:
Hebrew Name(s): _____ ben/bat _____	
***** MISHEBEIRACH L'CHOLIM (Blessing for healing of the sick) *****	
4. English Name(s):	4. English Name(s):
Relation:	Relation:
Hebrew Name(s): _____ ben/bat _____	
5. English Name(s):	5. English Name(s):
Relation:	Relation:
Hebrew Name(s): _____ ben/bat _____	
6. English Name(s):	6. English Name(s):
Relation:	Relation:
Hebrew Name(s): _____ ben/bat _____	
7. English Name(s):	7. English Name(s):
Relation:	Relation:
Hebrew Name(s): _____ ben/bat _____	
Dressing Torah:	Lifting & Holding Torah:
Relation:	Relation:
Kiddush: Atrium:___ Social Hall:___	Board Member on Bimah:
Ushers:	Ushers: