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INFORMATIONAL  
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TEMPLE  
BETH  
SHOLOM  
*Religious School*

# Bar/Bat Mitzvah Guide

2013-2014  
5774

*(Valid Through June 30, 2014)*

*Rabbi Alan B. Lucas*

*Cantor Ofer S. Barnoy*

*Assistant Rabbi: Jennifer Schlosberg*

*Executive Director: Donna Bartolomeo*

*Religious School Director: Sharon Solomon*

*Machon Beth Sholom Director: Gila Hadani Ward*

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# GREETINGS FROM RABBI ALAN B. LUCAS



Dear Parents,

Your child's Bar/Bat Mitzvah will be one of the great moments in your life. We know that you are looking forward to it with much excitement. We at Temple Beth Sholom are doing everything we can to ensure that it will be a joyous and meaningful experience for everyone involved.

It is our utmost desire that the basic religious significance of the occasion be emphasized over everything else. Bar or Bat Mitzvah is a religious ceremony which symbolizes the intentions of parents and child to assume the full obligations incumbent on a Jewish child who reaches the age of communal responsibility. Bar or Bat Mitzvah marks an inauguration into dedicated Jewish living and most specifically, a reaffirmation of a powerful and meaningful bond with the synagogue.

We are pleased to provide you with this booklet explaining most of the details of the Bar/Bat Mitzvah procedure before, during and following the event. We also want to take this opportunity to share with you our requirements and expectations that we feel are necessary to have a meaningful Bar/Bat Mitzvah celebration.

Please read this booklet carefully. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. The Assistant Rabbi, Cantor, our Executive Director and our Religious School Director are also available to answer any questions.

We trust you will find this booklet helpful as you begin to make plans for your child's Bar/Bat Mitzvah. We certainly hope that it will make a contribution to the dignity, the beauty and the lasting significance of your simcha.

Warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alan B. Lucas". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Alan B. Lucas

# Mazal Tov!

The Bar/Bat Mitzvah you are preparing to celebrate is a joyous event for you and your family. We all delight in your simcha for it marks a contribution to the Jewish people and our traditions. On this occasion, the entire Temple Beth Sholom family extends to you a hearty and sincere Mazal Tov.

## Overall Goals of the Bar/Bat Mitzvah Program

- ✧ First and foremost, our goal is to provide a meaningful Bar/Bat Mitzvah experience for each child, one that emphasizes the positive dimension of Jewish commitment and imparts pride in our Jewish heritage, including becoming an involved and committed member of the Jewish community.
- ✧ We seek to use the Bar/Bat Mitzvah experience to strengthen the parent-child relationship. The Bar/Bat Mitzvah comes at a critical period in your child's development and it offers a unique opportunity for parents and children to work together towards a common goal.
- ✧ On a practical level we seek to teach worship and synagogue skills, specifically: davening (leading the service, prayer) and understanding the Shabbat service and *Trope*, cantillations of the Torah and Haftarah.
- ✧ In keeping with the Temple Beth Sholom Vision for Education, we seek to enable the family to view the Bar/Bat Mitzvah experience as a significant moment in one's Jewish development and to encourage lifelong Jewish learning following Bar/Bat Mitzvah. To that end, we hope that the B'nai Mitzvah will emerge with a desire to continue their Jewish education in our **Machon Hebrew High School Program** and become active in our **Kadima and USY Youth Groups**.
- ✧ Our goal is to help the B'nai Mitzvah and their families feel at home in the synagogue and develop a desire to attend regular Shabbat and Holiday services.

# Educational and Religious Requirements For Bar and Bat Mitzvah

- ❑ **Attendance** in Temple Beth Sholom Religious School, Solomon Schechter Day School, or a school affiliated with the United Synagogue Commission on Jewish Education or its equivalent for a minimum of five years prior to the Bar/Bat Mitzvah. Current enrollment in such a school at the time of the Bar/Bat Mitzvah is mandatory. Regular attendance and passing grades are required.
- ❑ **Attendance by your family at Shabbat Services** at Temple Beth Sholom prior to your simcha is required and encouraged. We want you to feel more comfortable in our sanctuary and with our service. The frequency of this requirement is prescribed by Temple Beth Sholom's Board of Education.
- ❑ **Serving as a Greeter at Shabbat Services** will help our families feel more comfortable with the rhythm and flow of the service. It is also a wonderful addition to make all of our guests feel welcome.
- ❑ Students who wish to read Torah on the day of a Bar/Bat Mitzvah must attend a special series of classes to learn the *trope*, the melodic pattern of the Torah
- ❑ The Religious Affairs Committee of Temple Beth Sholom has established the following sequence for those who are willing and capable to perform the following on Shabbat morning:
  - Blessings for the Aliyah to the Torah
  - Haftarah and its blessings
  - Maftir (last portion of Torah reading)
  - Ashrei and concluding hymns
  - Additional Torah reading
  - Kabbalat Shabbat (The Friday Night Service)
  - Psukei D'Zimra (The Preliminary Service)
  - Shacharit (Shabbat Morning Service)
- ❑ Selection and completion of a **Mitzvah Project** which reflects the ethical and communal responsibility incumbent on Jewish adults.
- It is our hope that you and your child attend weekday morning services during the week prior to the Bar/Bat Mitzvah, put on the traditional Tallit and Tefillin and have an *aliyah* to the Torah.
- It is expected that families attend Shabbat services to familiarize themselves with the rhythm and flow of the service. You will also be asked to serve as greeters for the Saturday morning service prior to your simcha.
- **The Board of Education and Religious Affairs Committee reserve the right to postpone the ceremony of students who fail to meet any of our requirements.**

# Bar/Bat Mitzvah Programming

In the year before your child's Bar/Bat Mitzvah, during the 6<sup>th</sup> grade year, we start to prepare the entire family for "the big day." Because we want this day to be as special as possible, we offer a number of opportunities for students and families to learn together and enhance the meaning of the day. These programs are run in addition to the lessons and other training that your child will receive.

These programs are for all of the Bar and Bat Mitzvah families in a given year. Whether you receive your Jewish education in our Religious School or at the Solomon Schechter Day School, you are all "children of Beth Sholom" and we want to make sure that each of you takes advantage of these wonderful opportunities.

## Trope Class

All of our students attend special Torah reading classes. In September of each year, our 6<sup>th</sup> grade students will participate in "B'nai Mitzvah Boot Camp" where they will study trope and other synagogue skills each week under the direction of Cantor Barnoy. This study will culminate in a ceremony in which the 6<sup>th</sup> grade students will have the opportunity to share what they have learned.

## Participation in our Mishpacha Minyan

We strongly encourage students, once they have learned their *Trope* to put their skills to use in our Mishpacha (Family) Minyan that occurs once each month. We will help you prepare a short Torah reading and you and your family will have an *Aliya* to the Torah. It is a special moment and a window into your future experience as a Bar/Bat Mitzvah.

## Bar/Bat Mitzvah Family Programming

During the 6<sup>th</sup> grade year, we plan 3 or 4 programs during the year for families. These programs generally revolve around the meaning of the day of Bar or Bat Mitzvah and what it means to be a Jewish adult. You will also have a chance to start to think about the *parasha* (the weekly Torah portion) for the week of your child's Bar/Bat Mitzvah.

These programs, often held during Religious School hours, offers families to think more deeply about the Bar/Bat Mitzvah experience and ultimately, enhance the meaning of the day.

## The Mitzvah Project

We are very much concerned that the Bar/Bat mitzvah process reflects the ethical and communal responsibility incumbent on a Jewish adult. To this end, we require each Bar/Bat mitzvah student to design and complete a Tzedakah project during the Bar/Bat mitzvah year.

During the "Vav" (sixth grade) year in the ritual and customs class, being taught this year by Sharon Solomon, each student should choose a mitzvah project about which they are passionate. Representatives from aid programs will come to speak to the students. In addition, they will have the opportunity to participate in our annual Mitzvah Fair which will take place on Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2014. Starting in the month of February 2014, students will take turns presenting their projects to their class. These ideas may include visiting the sick in the hospital or nursing facility, collecting food and other items for the needy or using a special talent to benefit a needy person in some way. The possibilities are endless! We encourage creativity and whole family involvement. Each of us has something to offer and we can all learn and get inspiration from one another.

Eight weeks before the Bar/Bat Mitzvah, when your child meets with the Assistant Rabbi Jennifer Schlosberg to begin work on the Torah or Haftarah Introduction (see page 10), he or she will be encouraged to incorporate their experiences of the Mitzvah project into their D'var Torah.

# The Different Bar/Bat Mitzvah Ceremonies

The ceremony for Bar/Bat Mitzvah occurs during the following worship services that are led by our Rabbis and Cantor.

- **Saturday Morning – 9:00AM (Single or Double Bar/Bat Mitzvah)**

In addition to the Haftarah portion, a child may be eligible to chant from the Torah if he/she has had Torah Trope training. The Bar/Bat Mitzvah may read additional Hebrew and English prayers (see page 5) and will present an introduction to the Torah or Haftarah Reading

✧ Honors: Three Torah honors (not including the Bar/Bat Mitzvah) and Three ark openers per family.

*Please note: In addition to the Aliyot of the Bar/Bat Mitzvah and their families, honors are offered to Temple members, some of whom may be observing a yahrtzeit, celebrating an aufruf or the naming of a baby girl, or other significant life event.*

*Please note: The organ has always been a part of our TBS Shabbat service and a part of our history as a congregation. In response to the evolving nature of our community, the organ schedule is determined based upon a number of factors including the availability of the organist, schedule, special programming, etc. **There will be no fee for use of the organist.***

**No photography or videotaping of any kind is permitted in our building on Shabbat.**

- **Weekdays When Torah is Read – 10:00AM  
(Single Bar/Bat Mitzvah)**

These days include Rosh Hodesh, Hanukkah, Labor Day Monday, Thanksgiving Thursday, Memorial Day Monday, Martin Luther King Monday, etc.

The child reads from the Torah since the Haftarah is not chanted. The Bar/Bat Mitzvah may read additional Hebrew and English prayers and will present an introduction to the Torah reading. The Bar/Bat Mitzvah is also encouraged to lead the Hallel where possible.

✧ Honors: Three Torah honors, six ark openings and four other honors.

All men called to the Torah are required to wear Tefillin except on Hol HaMoed. The luncheon must be a Joseph Craig catered function at our synagogue (see page 16).

- **Saturday Mincha, Maariv and Havdalah (Single Bar/Bat Mitzvah)**

This service begins at sunset on Saturday afternoon. Since the Haftarah is not chanted Saturday evening, the child reads from the Torah. The Bar/Bat Mitzvah may lead additional Hebrew and English prayers and present an introduction to the Torah reading. In addition, he or she may lead the brief Havdalah Service at the conclusion. The family is invited to participate in the Havdalah ceremony.

✧ Honors: Three Torah honors (including the Bar/Bat Mitzvah), ten ark openings and four other honors.

The evening celebratory meal must be a Joseph Craig catered function at our synagogue.

*Please note: The use of the organ during the Mincha Bar/Bat Mitzvah service is optional. We encourage you to choose to use it as it enhances the service. At present there is no fee for the use of the organist. Please determine whether you will use the organist at least 60 days before your affair and inform the Executive Director so that the organist may be properly scheduled.*



# TIMETABLE PRIOR TO THE BAR/BAT MITZVAH

## *Three Years Before The Bar/Bat Mitzvah:*

- ✧ You will receive a form with the date of your child's Hebrew birthday and a calendar for the Bar/Bat Mitzvah year. Please fill out the form indicating 3 possible dates for Simcha. You will be notified of an **assigned** date after careful consideration by the committees involved.
- ✧ *Bar/Bat Mitzvah ceremonies are not held during July and August or on certain Jewish and secular holidays.*

## *18 Months Before The Bar/Bat Mitzvah:*

- ✧ Participation in Solomon Schechter Torah *Trope* class or Religious School Bnai Mitzvah "Boot Camp."
- ✧ Bar/Bat Mitzvah Family Programming

## *12 Months Before The Bar/Bat Mitzvah*

- ✧ Parents of the Bar/Bat Mitzvah are invited to a **general meeting** at which the Clergy, Executive Director and members of the Education Team will discuss procedures and answer questions families may have.
- ✧ This is a good time to start to think about the Mitzvah project that the Bar/Bat Mitzvah will be doing.

## *6-8 Months Before The Bar/Bat Mitzvah*

- ✧ If you would like to discuss your child's mitzvah project with Sharon Solomon or have questions about any part of the Bnai Mitzvah process, please feel free to contact her at (516) 621-2288 x118 or [sharonsolomon@tbsroslyn.org](mailto:sharonsolomon@tbsroslyn.org).
- ✧ Your child is ready for **individualized instruction**. He or she will be assigned to one of our outstanding Bar/Bat Mitzvah teachers following a policy to make an appropriate match between your child and the teacher. You may not request a particular teacher.

Your child's assigned teacher will contact you by phone to schedule about 25 weekly half-hour lessons. Please make every effort to find a time that will be kept on a regular basis. **It is expected that your child will prepare his/her assignment at home between lessons. The lessons serve to evaluate the progress and assign additional portions to be studied at home.**

### ***Please note:***

*If your child's Bar/Bat Mitzvah date is in September or October, your child may need to begin lessons two months early to compensate for summer vacation. If your child will be away for the whole summer, we strongly urge you to arrange for a summer tutor for him or her, either privately or through his/her camp so that they may rehearse what they have already learned and be readily prepared when they continue their lessons after the summer.*

- ✧ *The Board of Education's policy is that Bar/Bat Mitzvah lessons may not take place when the child is scheduled to be in Religious School or Machon Beth Sholom Hebrew High School classes.*

### ***3 Months Before The Bar/Bat Mitzvah:***

- ✧ **The family is expected to attend Shabbat services regularly** to become familiar with our Shabbat customs. Even if your celebration will take place on Shabbat afternoon or on a weekday, it is important for you and your child to feel comfortable in our sanctuary. We believe that you will only achieve this with regular attendance.
- ✧ Please be in touch with Donna Bartolomeo, Executive Director or Joseph Craig Caterers regarding planning your Kiddush.
- ✧ You will be contacted regarding your family serving as greeters on Shabbat morning services prior to the Bar/Bat Mitzvah, to once again become familiar and feel comfortable with the flow of the service.
- ✧ All Zayin class students are expected to participate in the regular Sunday morning service that is part of our Geshet program. At the beginning of the year, the students are provided with instruction in how to put on **Tallit and Tefillin** as well as an explanation of these important mitzvot. At the Geshet service, all boys must put on Tallit and Tefillin. Girls are encouraged to do so.
- ✧ A special part of the Bar/Bat Mitzvah experience is the acquisition of special Jewish ritual objects such as the Bar/Bat Mitzvah **Tallit and Tefillin**. The Tefillin themselves should be provided by the parents and can be purchased from our Sisterhood Gift Shop.
- ✧ It is our hope that you and your child attend weekday morning services during the week prior to the Bar/Bat Mitzvah, put on the traditional Tallit and Tefillin and have an *aliyah* to the Torah. You can schedule this with your tutor and Cantor Barnoy.
- ✧ If parents and/or older siblings are interested in reading Torah at the Bar/Bat Mitzvah, please be in contact with Cantor Barnoy or your tutor so that a Torah reading part can be assigned for you for that day.

### ***6 – 8 Weeks Before The Bar/Bat Mitzvah:***

- ✧ **Rabbi Lucas** will meet with you and your child to review his or her achievements in Jewish studies and to discuss with your child the significance of his or her Bar/Bat Mitzvah. Distribution of the honors to be given out during the services and family participation will be discussed at this time.
- ✧ **The Assistant Rabbi** will schedule a meeting with the family to begin working on the student's introduction to the Torah or the Haftarah portion (Speech or D'var Torah). Rabbi Schlosberg will provide all the materials necessary.

- ✧ The family may choose to provide *Kippot* (Head coverings) for their guests at the service and most families do. You may order them privately.
- ✧ Families may choose to have professional **photographs** taken in the sanctuary either during the week before or after the Bar/Bat Mitzvah. Please arrange a mutually convenient time to do this with your tutor to schedule a one-hour photo session. Your child's Bar/Bat Mitzvah tutor or a member of the clergy must be present if you need the Ark opened.

**PLEASE NOTE: NO PHOTOGRAPHY OF ANY KIND  
IS PERMITTED IN OUR BUILDING ON SHABBAT**

***3 Weeks Before The Bar/Bat Mitzvah:***

- ✧ Your child should be done with instruction and begin reviewing and perfecting their performance with the teacher's help in the Main Sanctuary. The speech should be fully prepared.

***2 Weeks Before The Bar/Bat Mitzvah:***

- ✧ You will receive a call from a member of the Religious Affairs Committee who has been assigned to assist you with *Aliyot* (honors before the Torah) and Ark openings. There is a policy as to how many honors each family is given which is discussed in a prior section depending on the type of service in which you are participating.

***1 Week Before The Bar/Bat Mitzvah:***

- ✧ Cantor Barnoy will set up a dress rehearsal with each family. If you are sharing a simcha with another family on Shabbat morning, this rehearsal will involve both families together. This will be a good opportunity to get instruction regarding our exact Bar/Bat Mitzvah etiquette and to have any last minute questions answered.
- ✧ By the Thursday prior to the Bar/Bat Mitzvah, please provide the synagogue office with any *Kippot* and head coverings that you have ordered. **The office has the display materials needed. In order to maintain consistency, we do not permit families to provide their own baskets for kippot or their own programs, handouts or brochures.** The synagogue supplies the basket and has a Shabbat brochure as well as a guide to the Shabbat morning service.

***After the Bar/Bat Mitzvah***

- ✧ We would like to speak with you and your child to hear your reflections on the Bar/Bat Mitzvah process. We would also like to have a conversation with your child about "next steps" in his or her Jewish involvement. This is part of a new initiative we are launching to create and sustain meaningful relationships with our teens. We will contact you to schedule an appointment.

# CHECKLIST FOR EASY REFERENCE

- 3 years prior - Did we receive our Bar/Bat Mitzvah date?
- 18 months prior - Did my child participate in Trope class or Bnai Mitzvah Boot Camp?
- 18 months prior – Did we participate in Bnai Mitzvah Family programming?
- 12 months prior – Did we attend an informational meeting of the Bnai Mitzvah families for the coming year?
- 12 months prior – Have discussion with my child about his/her Mitzvah project
- 8 months prior – Do you need help with your mitzvah project? Meet as a family with Sharon Solomon ([sharonsolomon@tbsroslyn.org](mailto:sharonsolomon@tbsroslyn.org) or 621-2288 x118)
- 6-8 months prior – My child begins Bar/Bat Mitzvah tutoring
- 6-8 months prior – Have we been attending services to familiarize ourselves with the service?
- 6 months prior – Return form for certificate engraving
- 3 months prior – Serve as a greeter at a Shabbat service. Contact Susan Lipper ([sgl50@aol.com](mailto:sgl50@aol.com)) to schedule a convenient date.
- 3 months prior – Purchase tallit and tefillin for my child.
- 3 months prior – Schedule tefillin aliyah on a weekday for my child prior to the Bar/Bat Mitzvah
- 3 months prior – Talk to our tutor about parent or older sibling reading Torah at Bar/Bat Mitzvah service
- 3 months prior – Plan Kiddush luncheon with Donna Bartolomeo or Joseph Craig Caterers
- 8 weeks prior – Meet with the Assistant Rabbi Jennifer Schlosberg to work on Dvar Torah and completed Mitzvah project.
- 6 weeks prior – Meet with Rabbi Lucas
- 6 weeks prior – Order *Kippot* and/or headcoverings
- 6 weeks prior – Schedule photograph time with our tutor
- 2 weeks prior – Speak to someone from Religious Affairs committee regarding *Aliyot* and honors
- 1 week prior – Dress rehearsal
- Thursday before – Drop off any *kippot*/headcoverings at the synagogue
- The Big Day!
- Post Bnai Mitzvah – Meet with synagogue to share thoughts and reflections.

# The Big Day

The Shabbat morning service begins at 9:00AM. The other services have different starting times. **Please be at the synagogue on time.** Services are usually completed by noon. Our custom is that the Bar/Bat Mitzvah Family sits in the front section of the Sanctuary.

## The Tallit Ceremony

At the beginning of the Torah Service (approximately 9:45AM), the Rabbi will invite you and your child to stand at the foot of the Bima. All boys, and those girls who choose to wear a Tallit, will participate in the Tallit ceremony. Those girls who choose not to wear a Tallit will still participate in a ceremony. The Rabbi will discuss these options at your meeting with him. For those who will be wearing a Tallit, the Rabbi will ask the parents to place the Tallit on your child's shoulders and he/she will recite the blessing for the Tallit at this time. The Rabbi will then lead the parents in the *bracha* (blessing) of the *Shehechyanu*:

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ הוֹדוּ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,  
שֶׁהַחַיִּינוּ וְקִיַּמְנוּ וְהִגִּיעָנוּ לְזִמְנֵי הַיּוֹם.

*Baruch atah Adonai Eloheynu Melech HaOlam  
Shehecheyanu, VeKiyemanu, Vehigianu Lazman Hazeh.*

**Praised our You Lord our God, who has sustained us  
and enabled us to reach this very special day.**

At the conclusion of this ceremony the Bar/Bat Mitzvah will ascend to the Bima for the balance of the service and the parents will return to their seats.

## Family Participation

We encourage the members of the family to become involved but please remember the focus should be kept on the Bar/Bat Mitzvah. It is his/her special day. It does add to the special feelings of the day when members of the extended family participate in the Torah reading. Opportunities for family involvement include:

- ✧ Post Bar/Bat Mitzvah – Reading Torah (please talk Cantor Barnoy about this)
- ✧ Pre Bar/Bat Mitzvah – Siblings can be called up to participate in *Ein Keyloheynu* or *Adon Olam*.

There are some additional opportunities for family participation such as English readings at Shabbat Mincha or weekday Bar/Bat Mitzvahs. For more information, please consult the Rabbis or the Cantor.

We are here to help you. Please feel free to contact the Cantor or the Rabbis for assistance.

## Special Reminders and Helpful Suggestions

### Safeguarding the Dignity of The Service

We are very proud of the warm, friendly and inspiring atmosphere that we have created in our synagogue. The following are certain things you can do to help us sustain this atmosphere, especially on Shabbat:

- ✧ Please remember that your Shabbat Bar/Bat Mitzvah is a feature of the regular Shabbat service. The regular service is the standard and your affair must conform to its guidelines and practices. Your sensitivity in this area will be appreciated.
- ✧ While we encourage you to provide *kippot* and head coverings for your guests, **in order to maintain consistency, we do not permit families to provide their own baskets for kippot or their own programs, booklets, handouts or brochures. The office has the display materials needed.** We print a Shabbat brochure every Shabbat that includes all pertinent information relating to both the Bar/Bat Mitzvah as well as the Shabbat service.
- ✧ No packages may be brought into, or removed from, the synagogue during Shabbat. Please advise your friends not to bring gifts to the synagogue on Shabbat.
- ✧ Photographing and videotaping are not permitted on the premises on Shabbat.
- ✧ Smoking is not permitted anywhere on Temple premises during Shabbat.
- ✧ The use of wireless phones and beepers is prohibited on Shabbat. Please advise your guests that in case of emergency they should speak to our ushers who will direct them to a phone in the synagogue office.
- ✧ Please advise all Jewish adult males that they will be required to wear a Tallit during our service. Adult Jewish women have the option of wearing a Tallit as well. In addition, all male guests must wear head coverings which are available at the entrance to the Sanctuary.
- ✧ Experience has shown us that inviting your non-Jewish guests to join the service later, while it is already in progress at approximately 10:00AM on Shabbat morning will maximize their enjoyment.
- ✧ **A Word About Modesty: Modesty is always in good taste at Temple.** To help us preserve the dignity of synagogue worship, you and your friends are urged to dress appropriately. Strapless dresses and/or extremely short skirts are inappropriate during services. Jeans and sneakers are also inappropriate. We leave it up to you use good judgment in selecting appropriate attire for the synagogue service.
- ✧ **Children and Teenage Guests:** The proper place for children is either with you in the main sanctuary or, on Shabbat morning they may attend one of the children's services. You may want to designate someone to monitor the behavior of your child's guests to make sure that they are not wandering the hallways and are observing proper Temple etiquette.

## A Word About The Importance Of The Day

The most important aspect of the Bar/Bat Mitzvah experience is what takes place in the Temple at the service. It is certainly appropriate to celebrate the happy event with a festive social gathering. However, we encourage you to seek ways to incorporate the religious message of the moment in the social celebration.

Care must be taken that the social event does not overshadow the religious event itself. As part of your child's religious education we seek to impart a sense of values which reflect the Judaism's rich heritage. We try from the beginning to inculcate the ability to distinguish between what is essential and what is trivial, between the essentials in life and the merely glittering. There is a potential for the Bar/Bat Mitzvah party to neutralize or negate all that we have attempted to teach if the importance of the party is blown out of proportion. It would be sad indeed if a by-product of a child's Bar/Bat Mitzvah was that he/she received the impression that ostentation was more desirable than modesty, or that money spent for elaborate entertaining is better spent than money for books or Tzedakah (charity). We encourage you to combine your celebration with the transmission of lasting Jewish values.

## Catering Your Affair

### JOSEPH CRAIG Caterers

Temple Beth Sholom is proud to recommend the services of our exclusive in-house caterer, Joseph Craig Caterers. Mr. Craig Weinberg is available to help you plan your celebration. He can be contacted at the synagogue at 621-8200. Please remember that those planning to have a Shabbat Mincha Bar/Bat Mitzvah, a Rosh Hodesh Sunday Bar/Bat Mitzvah or a special Holiday Bar/Bat Mitzvah are **obligated** to have a Joseph Craig affair at the synagogue. You are encouraged to speak to Craig as soon as possible as dates fill up quickly.

### Kashrut and Shabbat Observance

We strongly encourage you to affirm the spirit and traditions of our people as you decide on the particulars of your affair. The appropriate collation at the Bar/Bat Mitzvah should be Kosher. Your affair should not require your guests to violate Shabbat by having to travel unnecessarily to an off-premise location following the service.

## The Temple Shabbat Kiddush

On Shabbat morning, TBS also provides the opportunity for a luncheon following the Bar/Bat Mitzvah in the Rubenstein Auditorium of the Wingate Center.

The luncheon can be arranged by contacting our Executive Director, Donna Bartolomeo at 621-2288 x113 or [dbartolomeo@tbsroslyn.org](mailto:dbartolomeo@tbsroslyn.org).

The Kiddush lunch will include:

- **Kiddush Option #1** (In House Catering)  
For information, contact Donna Bartolomeo

- **Kiddush Option #2** Joseph Craig Caterers

Menu and Pricing to be decided by Caterer.

If Simcha Family is using the caterer in the Rubenstein Auditorium the family must pay for their guests plus 225 average attendance from the congregation.

*\*Kiddush prices are subject to change.*



## Bar/Bat Mitzvah Fees

**Please make sure that your account is in good standing.**

This means that all dues, school tuitions and fees must be paid up within six months of the Bar/Bat Mitzvah. Please contact our Executive Director, Donna Bartolomeo to discuss your account at 621-2288 x113 or [dbartolomeo@tbsroslyn.org](mailto:dbartolomeo@tbsroslyn.org).

**The required Bar/Bat Mitzvah fee is \$1500.**

This fee covers the normal teaching and preparation necessary for the Bar/Bat Mitzvah child. If extra tutoring is required you must arrange for the lessons at your own expense. For Havdalah and Rosh Hodesh services this fee covers the necessary extra maintenance facility costs.

The following fees are for **optional** items:

Bima flowers (fresh flowers):	\$180
Tree of Life	\$180
Engraved Brick in Early Childhood Courtyard	\$180 small \$540 large

# **Dedication Opportunities**

## **Haftarah Scroll**

Our synagogue commissioned the writing of a beautiful Haftarah scroll which is on display in the lobby and is read by the congregation every Shabbat and Holiday. It is a wonderful opportunity to mark your child's simcha by dedicating a word, a verse or the entire Haftarah that your child will chant. Please contact the synagogue office for contribution rates.

## **Tree Of Life**

In the spirit of Mitzvot, it is customary to make a donation in honor of the Simcha. The Tree of Life, located in the Gallery, is for joyful events. It is a way to remember the day in a permanent way. Think how meaningful it will be for your child to be able to see his/her name on a leaf on the tree in the years to come. There are both small and large leaves available, as well as rocks beneath the tree, which are available for sponsorship. Please call the synagogue office for sponsorship.

## **Brick in the Early Childhood Center**

Create a lasting legacy of your family's connection to Temple Beth Sholom with the purchase of an engraved brick for the Courtyard in our new Early Childhood and Lifelong Learning Center. For more information, contact the synagogue office.

## **Tzedakah (Charity)**

The Bar/Bat Mitzvah celebrates your child's entrance into Jewish religious responsibility in many ways. By means of his/her Bar/Bat Mitzvah, your child will express his/her involvement in the other areas of Jewish responsibility such as Tzedakah – the Jew's responsibility for the welfare of people. We encourage your child to use his/her Bar/Bat Mitzvah as an opportunity to support a worthwhile cause of your child's choosing. The cause and amount should be a family decision.

## **Sisterhood Gift Shop**

The Sisterhood of our congregation is proud to provide an outstanding Gift Shop for your Bar/Bat Mitzvah needs. A wide selection of both Tallitot with matching Kippot as well as Tefillin is available. Please encourage your friends and family to support our Gift Shop where items appropriate for Bar/Bat Mitzvah can be purchased as gifts.

# **The Next Step...**

## **After The Bar/Bat Mitzvah**

### **Machon High School Community**

Bar/Bat Mitzvah is a meaningful event only in the context of continuing Jewish education. Machon, our award-winning Hebrew High School program provides students with a wide range of courses dealing with both classical text and current themes. Students make their own choices in terms of interest and background. Under the direction of Gila Hadani Ward, the faculty includes our Rabbis as well as many prominent instructors who are students in the Rabbinical and Education Schools at the Jewish Theological Seminary. We also have a phenomenal service-learning program, *Gimme 10*, which exposes teens to various community service opportunities. Students benefit greatly from their time at Machon. Please contact Gila at 621-2288 x129 to inquire about enrolling your child at Machon.

### **Kadima and United Synagogue Youth (USY) Groups**

In addition to our formal education program, we also offer a program of informal youth activities called Kadima (for 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grades) and USY (for 8<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grades). It offers a meaningful relationship with Judaism through a broad-based program of religious, educational, recreational and social activities with the atmosphere of a Jewish way of life. USY and Kadima run all kinds of programs, ranging from social to community service to shabbatonim (conclaves or conventions over Shabbat hosted by a synagogue). USY also offers the opportunity to travel during the summer throughout North America and all over the world through its fabulous summer programs. The USY and Kadima programs are wonderful ways to broaden a teen's social network with Jewish teens from all over. It also has the potential to impact teenagers Jewishly and to help in their Jewish growth. Involvement is highly encouraged!

### **USY Israel Pilgrimage**

Students who are enrolled in Machon or another acceptable Jewish educational institution are eligible for the Wingate Scholarship from Temple Beth Sholom to participate in USY Israel Pilgrimage or Camp Ramah's Israel Seminar – a summer experience of six weeks in the land of Israel. We encourage your child to remain in the Machon program so they can participate in this exciting event.

# MAZAL TOV!

When Purchasing

**Tallit**  
**Tefillin**  
**Kippot**  
**Head coverings**

Please feel free to contact our  
**Sisterhood Gift Shop**

They have a full selection of  
Items for your Simcha!

Contact the Synagogue office  
to schedule an appointment

