

Instructions for “Information Sheet for B’nei Mitzvah Parents”

Friday night - There is usually a short English reading before the candle lighting. After the candles are lit, we will chant the candle blessing as a community.

For All Services

Aliyot to the Torah (being called to the Torah to recite blessings before and after a section of the reading — for more information see the brochure about being called to the Torah at Congregation Beth Am.) The information required includes the English name, or the Hebrew name (we can call people to the Torah either by their Hebrew names or their English names) and the relationship with the child. **Both men and women are asked to wear a tallit when called for an aliyah at Beth Am. Tallitim are available at the entrance to the Sanctuary.**

PLEASE NOTE

For the Bar/Bat Mitzvah him/herself, we need a complete Hebrew name.

Open the Ark-P'ticha — People who have aliyot to open the Ark will be called up to the Bimah by their English names.

Lift and dress the Sefer Torah -Hagbah & G'lilah — The person lifting the Torah needs to have some degree of upper body strength. If she/he has never before lifted a Torah, then we can teach her/him how to do this. The Torah dressers will be assisted during the service. All of these people will be called up to the Bimah by their English names.

Torah & Haftarah portions — Please list the name of the Torah and Haftarah portions (usually the same since the latter customarily takes the name of the former) and the page in The Torah: A Modern Commentary, edited by Gunther Plaut, on which the Hebrew of each portion begins. If you are not sure how to find this information, Cantor Greenwald or Daniel Leanse will be happy to help you.

Presenter of the Kiddush Cup — This should be a member of Beth Am Women (Sisterhood) — who is among your invited guests. If none of your guests qualifies, the synagogue Board member sitting on the Bimah that day, or the rabbi or cantor, can make the presentation, which customarily takes place following the service.

The Motzi — is usually recited by a sibling or siblings, but it can be recited by anyone you choose to honor by involving them in this way.