

Parents' Prayers

One of the following prayers is recited by the parents of the Bar/Bat Mitzvah, immediately following the parents' *aliyah*.

For a Bar Mitzvah

[*Likrat Shabbat*, Section II (blue pages): page 68]

“This is the day the Lord has made; Let us rejoice and celebrate on it.”

Prayer I

With gladness and thanksgiving we praise You, O Lord our God, for having kept us alive, and sustained us, and enabled us to reach this day.

We give thanks for the wondrous privilege of seeing our son grow day by day, week by week, year by year. For the health and strength You have given him, for the mind and spirit with which You endowed him, for his ability to elicit and return love-for all these precious gifts, we thank You.

Watch over him, O God, on this special day and every day. Grant him a growing understanding of the true significance of this occasion and a deepening loyalty to everything which it represents. May the teachings of our heritage guide him throughout life; and may he lead a life worthy of Your blessings.

Amen.

Prayer II

Lord our God, author of life and source of all blessings, we praise You for keeping us alive, and sustaining us, and enabling us to reach this day.

Gratefully we thank You for the joyous privilege of seeing our son attain this milestone. On this day cherished dreams and hopes are fulfilled. On this day new dreams and new hopes are born.

We pray that Your protecting and loving care will accompany him wherever he goes and in all that he does. Help him to become all that he is capable of being. Give him strength to do all the good things that are within his reach. Keep him loyal to the best that he has been shown, and to the noblest Jewish teachings he has been taught.

May his deeds find favor in the eyes of others and be worthy of Your blessings.

Amen.