



ALIYOT AND HONORS FOR SHABBAT WITH A BAR/BAT MITZVAH

Approximately 2 months prior to the Bar/Bat Mitzvah a ritual committee member will contact you to offer assistance in preparing your honors list. We welcome each family to honor their friends/family through participation in the Bar/Bat Mitzvah service. We are an inclusive congregation and wish to warmly include both Jewish and non-Jewish family and friends. Families may assign honors to anyone they wish. However, certain ritual and liturgical honors may be fulfilled only by Jews.

- The following honors can be assigned to any family member or friend, regardless of faith:
 - Honor of Distributing candy (2-4 guests). This honor is most often done by children.
 - Honor of Reading “A Prayer for Our Country” (found on GRJC website or in *Siddur Lev Shalem*, p. 177).
 - Honor of Reading “A Prayer for Peace” (found on GRJC website or in *Siddur Lev Shalem*, p. 178).
 - Up to 2 other English readings are available for family/guests from other faiths. Please note that these additional readings occur within the first 15-30 minutes of the Saturday morning service.

- The following honors should be assigned to Jewish family and friends:
 - Honor of Opening and Closing the Ark
 - Honor of Passing the Torah – To represent the passage of Torah from one generation to the next, a parent and/or grandparent may pass the Torah to his/her (grand) child. You may choose to honor another close family relative or friend instead.
 - Honor of Reciting the English Meditation (found on the GRJC website)
 - Honor of receiving an Aliyah (non-Jewish family or friends may accompany the Jewish person who recites the Aliyah to the bimah)
 - Honor of Gelilah (Dressing the Torah)
 - Honor of Reading “A Prayer for Israel” (found on GRJC website or in *Siddur Lev Shalem*, p. 178).
 - Honor of Reciting Kiddush (Blessing over wine or grape juice)
 - Honor of Reciting Motzi (Blessing over challah)

- Guidelines for Aliyot:
 - An aliyah may be assigned to either one person or to two people.
 - When two people are called it is preferred that one person chants the opening blessing and one person chants the closing blessing. Alternatively, one person may recite both blessings.
 - The Hebrew Name(s) that are needed for an aliyah are the full Hebrew name with son of/daughter of father & mother. For example, for a man, *Chaim ben Moshe v'Ester*; for a woman, *Shayna bat Hershel Tzvi v'Golda*.
 - The Bar-Bat Mitzvah family can assign up to 5 aliyot to family and/or friends, including one for the parent(s), which is most often Aliyah number 7. The Maftir Aliyah is always reserved for the Bar/Bat Mitzvah. (We alter the aliyot assignments in the case of twins, which Rabbi Schlosberg will discuss with your family privately). We ask that you list “Congregant” in two of the aliyot spaces. These honors will be distributed at the discretion of the gabbaim and/or Rabbi Schlosberg. We reserve these for other special occasions (e.g., baby naming, auf ruf) or when someone is observing a *yahrzeit* (Hebrew anniversary of death) for a loved one.
 - We prefer not to call up blood relatives one aliyah after the next. Use a “Congregant” Aliyah to separate, if necessary. (Aliyah 7 and Maftir are not considered “one after the next” due to the separation prayer between them.)

- Please remember that Shabbat morning services and the Kiddush luncheon that follows are regularly scheduled services to which the entire community is invited.

- PLEASE FILL OUT THE ALIYAH-HONORS FORM AND SUBMIT 3 WEEKS IN ADVANCE OF THE BAR/BAT MITZVAH TO YOUR RITUAL COMMITTEE LIAISON.