

Bar Mitzvah Prayer (Non-Jewish Grandparent(s))

O God of all humanity, I (We) lift up my (our) voice in gratitude for the gift of Torah that my (our) grand-son accepts on this day.

I am (We are) grateful for the ideals that it has taught him: Justice, compassion and devotion; the partnership of mind, heart and deed.

I (We) celebrate his taking his place among the Jewish people. May he do so with pride and joy. O God, as you have called upon the Children of Israel to be a light to the nations, so, too, may my (our) grand-son be his own ray of light to the world.

Grandparent's Reading I

Our family opens its heart in celebration as our grand-son's link to the generations is proclaimed. Today, he is called to read from the Torah and welcomed into responsibility for our people's future. As we now pass you the Torah, so have we passed on to you our faith and our memories.

All that is vital and treasured by our Judaism, we have held in trust for you until this day of Bar Mitzvah. Soon, we will hand to you our Torah as a symbol of the Judaism we pray you will, with zeal and commitment, seek for yourself. Our God and God of our Ancestors, may this moment in time be blessed.

Grandparent's Reading II

Torah is the source of our people's dedication to truth. From its devotion to vision, we derive the charge to strive for wisdom. From its commitment to justice, we are impelled to seek the good. The spirit of Torah abides with us on this day of Bar Mitzvah.

As we pass you the Torah, may your heart be filled with its intuition, and its vision of the straight paths that are before you. May your eyes shine with the light of its holy words, and your face reflect the brightness of the heavens. May your lips ever speak its wisdom and your fulfillment be in a life infused with God's teachings of justice and righteousness. May you ever hear the voice of the Holy One and be blessed beneath the wings of Sheh-chee-nah.

Parent's Blessing

We give thanks for this day, and for the years of learning and growth that have preceded it. Now as our child steps forth to affirm his commitment to the ideals and *Mitzvot* of Judaism, our souls are joyful, our minds are at peace. We praise You, Eternal One, for enabling us to reach this moment in time and we pray that this day's service may long echo in our child's memory.

May it engrave on his heart the understanding that this day initiates a life more firmly dedicated to the study of Torah and the fulfillment of *Mitzvot*, to deeds of justice and kindness and to faithful membership in the household of Israel. O God as we pass on to him the Torah and the ideals contained within it, may we be blessed with many years of walking hand in hand with him as he follows Your path of righteousness and truth. Amen.

Shabbat Eve Bar Mitzvah Reading

Humbly do I give thanks for this Shabbat of my Bar Mitzvah, and for the days and years of learning that have preceded it. Now as I step forward to affirm the ideals and commitments of our faith, I proclaim my understanding that this Shabbat initiates a life more firmly dedicated to the study of Torah and the fulfillment of Mitzvot, to deeds of justice and kindness, and to faithful membership in the household of Israel.

O God, strengthen me and guide me through the days of my life and help me to be a worthy example of proper Jewish living. May the words of Your Torah always echo through my thoughts and actions.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ, מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, שֶׁהֶחֱיֵנוּ וְקִיְּמָנוּ וְהִגִּיעָנוּ לְזֶמַן הַזֶּה
*Baruch Atah Adonai Eloheinu Melech Ha-Olam, Shehecheyanu Vekiyemanu
vehigianu lazeman hazeh.*

Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Ruler of the Universe, for giving us life, for sustaining us, and for enabling us to reach this great day. **AMEN**