



CONGREGATION BETH AM

B'NEI MITZVAH JOURNEY

Welcome to the B'nei Mitzvah journey at Beth Am! We are so excited to share this milestone with you and rejoice in your simcha!

**PRE-K OR
LATER**

ENROLL IN YOUTH ED PROGRAMS

In order to build foundations of Jewish education and community for our students, we hope that you will enroll in Youth Education Programs as soon as your child is ready. Students must be enrolled in Youth Education by the time they begin the B'nei Mitzvah process.

**5TH
GRADE
SPRING**

GET YOUR DATE BLESSING

In the spring of your 5th grade year, you will request your date with our B'nei Mitzvah team. At this point, we will welcome you for a special blessing to celebrate the launch of your journey toward B'nei Mitzvah at Beth Am!

**6TH
GRADE**

6TH GRADE YOUTH ED & FAMILY B'NEI MITZVAH RETREAT

6th Grade marks the beginning of a new youth education program for our students. Sundays include learning Torah with our rabbis as well as an elevated t'filah, led by Cantor Shpall and that week's b'nei mitzvah, which gives students the opportunity to practice prayers in real time. Hebrew learning also accelerates during this time.

In the spring of 6th grade, families join for our B'nei Mitzvah Family Retreat to come together as a cohort and explore the meaning of B'nei Mitzvah together.

**7
MONTHS
PRIOR TO
DATE**

BEIT MIDRASH BEGINS

7 months prior to their date, students transition from their Hebrew class to our cohort-based B'nei Mitzvah preparation program- Beit Midrash. This "study hall" provides time for students to practice their prayers individually and in groups, moderated by Cantor Shpall, B'nei Mitzvah tutors, and madrichim. Students attend Beit Midrash all the way up to the Sunday before their big simcha.

**5-6
MONTHS
PRIOR TO
DATE**

TUTORING & CLERGY MEETINGS

Approximately 21 weeks prior to their date, students begin working with one of our B'nei Mitzvah tutors to reinforce prayers and begin learning individual Torah portions and Haftarah. Typically students meet with their tutors 11 times.

Approximately 6 weeks prior to their date, students meet with Cantor Shpall to finish preparing to chant Torah and haftarah. They also meet with their officiating rabbi to write a D'var Torah.

**4-5
MONTHS
PRIOR TO
DATE**

FAMILY MEETING & RITUAL

Each B'nei Mitzvah family will meet with Cantor Shpall and their officiating rabbi. In this meeting, they learn more about the B'nei Mitzvah process and participate in a special ritual blessing in front of the Holy Ark.

**THE BIG
DAY!**

B'NEI MITZVAH WEEKEND

Time to kvell at all your hard work!

**POST-
B'NEI
MITZVAH**

TEEN PROGRAMS AT BETH AM

We expect students to attend our 6th & 7th Grade Program through the end of their 7th grade year. In 8th grade and beyond, exciting teen programs await, including Wednesday Teen Nights, the Madrichim Team, and our youth groups, BAJY and BATY.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE

BETHAM.ORG/BNEI-MITZVAH