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!

ENROLL IN YOUTH ED PROGRAMS
Our b’nei mitzvah program requires 4 years of enrollment in youth education programs at Beth Am or an equivalent in order to build foundations of Jewish education and community for our students.

GET YOUR DATE BLESSING
In the spring of your 5th grade year, you will schedule 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 YOUTH ED PROGRAM & 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.

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.

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.

TUTORING & CLERGY MEETINGS
Approximately 6 months 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.

B’NEI MITZVAH WEEKEND
Time to kvell at all your hard work!

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