

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILLING OUT SINGLE BAR/BAT MITZVAH ALIYAH SHEET

**PARENTS' PRAYER** - this is the one line on which you will not be putting a name! We know that you as parents are saying this prayer to your child. You will receive a packet of suggested prayers. We ask that you write on this line the number of the page of the prayer you pick, or "original" if you plan to write your own prayer. (Please note that this must not be a "speech"!!) If you write your own, look through the packet to get a sense of the nature of a prayer, and please e-mail or provide a hardcopy of this to Rabbi Leib at least one month prior to the Bar/Bat Mitzvah.

### **The Roman numerals below correspond with those on the aliyah sheet**

- I. As do many congregations, we pass the Torah through the generations of your family to your Bar/Bat Mitzvah. We ask that you have **ONE** representative from each generation pass the Torah. The representatives can be in **ANY** combination you wish. In other words, you may pass from maternal great-grandmother to maternal grandmother to mother to daughter if you want, but you may also pass from paternal great-grandfather to maternal grandmother to father to son or daughter.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT FOR THE REST OF THIS SHEET YOU ARE TO ENTER ONLY ONE PERSON PER LINE.** IF YOU HAVE MORE THAN ONE NAME ON A LINE WE WILL HAVE TO TAKE ONE OFF, WHICH IS DIFFICULT TO DO AFTER YOU'VE MADE YOUR DECISIONS.

We also ask for the relationship of each person to your child, such as aunt or uncle or family friend and so on.

- II. Your child will chant his/her Torah portion in four sets. For each of the first three sets there will be a pair of people who will come up as aliyot to chant or read blessings before and after the set. In addition, for each of the first two sets you may invite a third, optional person, to come up as well if you wish. The people invited to do the blessings before and after each set will come up to the Bimah all together. (Your child will do his/her own blessings for the fourth set.) We do ask that whenever possible you choose people who are familiar with these blessings to be the ones you ask to come up, although of course you are welcome to invite anyone you deem deserving of this special honor, provided that he/she is Jewish (Biological or by choice) and over the age of Bar/Bat Mitzvah.

**For this section we will need Hebrew names of the people on each line. The name should consist of the person's own name, such as Moshe, plus both of his/her parents' names, such as Moshe ben Avraham v'Sarah.**

Please do put your child's full English and Hebrew names on his/her line as well.

- III. During the Service there are three (3) separate occasions when the ark is opened. Each time you may ask two people to open the doors of the ark, remain for the part of the service while the ark is open, and then close the doors. (Non-Jewish relatives or friends may participate at this time.)

Page 244 is when we remove the Torah and pass it down to the Bar/Bat Mitzvah. We caution you that it does require that they stand for approximately 10 to 15 minutes. Please note that none of the people who pass down the Torah should do this ark opening, as that would mean they would have to be standing in two different places at once!

Page 256 is when we return the Torah to the ark at the end of the entire Torah service. At this time the Rabbi and Cantor will confer the Priestly Blessing on the Bar/Bat Mitzvah in the presence of the parents and siblings. You might wish to reserve this second ark opening for very special, close relatives (i.e. grandparents or aunt and uncle.)

Page 282 is the *Aleinu* – the service of adoration. This is the third and last ark opening.

- IV. After the Torah is read it is held high by the Rabbi and then dressed in its mantle and shield. This section calls for two (Jewish) people, one to sit and hold the Torah upright, the other to put the mantle and shield on it. The Torah is heavy, and holding it upright is difficult, so we suggest a strong person for this aliyah.
- V. This is an English prayer that often is said by a younger sibling. If there is no younger sibling or cousin, or if he/she is not yet reading age you may, of course, invite an adult to read.

Please feel free to call the office with any questions as you fill out this sheet.

as of 5/13

**BAR/BAT MITZVAH ALIYAH SHEET**  
**SINGLE**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF BAR/BAT MITZVAH: \_\_\_\_\_

PARENTS' PRAYER (# from booklet \_\_\_\_\_ or writing or adapting an original prayer which has been sent to Rabbi Leib for approval \_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

**I. PASSING THE TORAH FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION:**

Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

**(ONLY ONE PERSON PER SPACE BELOW)**

**II. TORAH BLESSING NAME** – Please provide **FULL** English and Hebrew name(s) of individual **AND** his/her parents - please list how your child addresses this person

**1st Set**

Before the Reading: \_\_\_\_\_

After the Reading: \_\_\_\_\_

Optional Shared After the Reading: \_\_\_\_\_

**2nd Set**

Before the Reading: \_\_\_\_\_

After the Reading: \_\_\_\_\_

Optional Shared After the Reading: \_\_\_\_\_

**3rd Set**

Before the Reading: \_\_\_\_\_

After the Reading: \_\_\_\_\_

BAR/BAT MITZVAH: \_\_\_\_\_

**III. ARK OPENING & CLOSING    NAME (ENGLISH ONLY)    RELATIONSHIP**

Page 244 \_\_\_\_\_

Page 256 \_\_\_\_\_

Page 282 \_\_\_\_\_

**IV. TORAH (HOLD AND DRESS)    NAME (ENGLISH ONLY)    RELATIONSHIP**

**V. PRAYER FOR THE NATION** \_\_\_\_\_