

# B'nai Mitzvah

Becoming B'nai Mitzvah is an important milestone in the life of your family. We are here to help you create a meaningful and memorable celebration.

[Click here for the B'Nai Mitzvah prayers and blessings.](#)

Approximately two years prior to a child's thirteenth birthday, parents are invited to an informational meeting at which a *Bar/Bat Mitzvah* date may be requested. Dates are assigned only to those students whose families are members in good standing and who are enrolled in the Bridge Family Religion School.

**Students must be enrolled in the Religion School and must meet attendance expectations to participate, including attending seventh grade. If the student is in the eighth grade or high school, (s)he will enroll in our High School program.**

There is a possibility of two *B'nai Mitzvah* on any given date: one in the morning (10:30 a.m.) and one in the evening (5:00 p.m. *Havdallah*). Dates are assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. Due to the vagaries of rabbinic scheduling, it is not possible to request a specific rabbi for your service.

During the year preceding the *Bar/Bat Mitzvah*, students and their parents are invited to an orientation session where they receive their *Bar/Bat Mitzvah* materials and important information about the *B'nai Mitzvah* process.

**Temple believes strongly that *Bar/Bat Mitzvah* is not the culmination of a child's Jewish education, but a milestone in an ongoing Jewish**

**journey.** Students are asked to sign a pledge to continue their Jewish education beyond the *B'nai Mitzvah* experience.

*B'nai Mitzvah* training begins approximately 26 weeks prior to the *B'nai Mitzvah* date. For the first three months students participate in a *B'nai Mitzvah* prayer class. Following this class, students continue to work one-on-one with a Rabbi or tutor on their *Torah & Haftorah* preparation. Students are expected to augment this time with self-study at home.

**At times, students find that they require additional assistance in learning the material. Should this be the case, we are happy to recommend outside tutors from our approved list. The tutors that we have selected are familiar with the requirements of our program, and have worked effectively with our students in the past. Engaging one of these tutors is done at the family's expense.**