



Bar/Bat Mitzvah Protocols During COVID-19  
As of August 5, 2020

We are pleased to share your Bar/Bat Mitzvah service at Sinai Temple. It will be wonderful to share your Simcha during these challenging times.

The Coronavirus is still among us. Jewish tradition demands unequivocally that we protect the health and wellbeing of our entire community. Therefore, the following protocols will be maintained for the service. Please understand that these protocols have been established for the sole purpose of protecting the health of your family, your guests and Sinai Temple clergy and staff.

These protocols are not negotiable and may not be compromised. As the host family, your cooperation in notifying your guests and enforcing these protocols is expected. Guests or members unwilling to comply will be asked to leave the campus. Neglect of these protocols will result in the immediate termination of the service and clearing of the building by the Sinai Temple Clergy and/or Sinai Temple security if needed.

Services will be held virtually over Zoom until we can safely return to services at Sinai Temple in our Ziegler Sanctuary and Kohn Chapel.

- There are three options for B'nai Mitzvah families:
  - Immediate family (same household) may come to Pilot Plaza (if double and both families request one will go to the Kindergarten yard). The Rabbi will be present for the B'nai Mitzvah. Torah, table, chairs, computer, copies of siddur will be provided
    - Masks are required while Rabbi is present.
  - Up to 20 family members including the Bar Mitzvah family invited to Pilot Plaza / K-Yard. Masks and social distancing required. The Rabbi will be present for the B'nai Mitzvah.
  - Family "Zooms" from home. Torah, B'nai Mitzvah gifts, copies of Siddurim will be provided (delivered or arranged for pickup with Rabbi Rosenthal)

- Local laws and regulations must be required if more than immediate family present (masks, social distancing, etc.)
- Family may hire A/V specialist recommended by Sinai Temple to help with technological setup (at their own cost)
- Zoom service is run by our A/V Support Specialist Coordinator Jorge Garcia who will be virtually present at all dress rehearsals
- 9:30am services will be broadcast to our community and can be viewed here: [www.youtube.com/sinaitemplepresents](http://www.youtube.com/sinaitemplepresents)
- 11:30am and 2:00pm services will be Zoom only and all family and friends of B'nai mitzvah will be given link to join the Zoom service. Zoom call will be recorded for posterity.
- B'nai Mitzvah family must be on Zoom call at least 30 minutes prior to their service
- Zoom link will be provided to family at least two weeks prior to the service.
- Kabbalat Torah experience - A Rabbi or Cantor of Sinai will come to family's home on Monday or Thursday morning prior to B'nai Mitzvah for a Kabbalat Torah. No singing or chanting, but opportunity to put on Tefillin, find place in the Torah with clergy member in anticipation of Shabbat celebration.
  - Guests can be invited; masks must be worn, and social distancing must be observed.

#### **Protocols for B'nai Mitzvah services held at the Temple on Pilot Plaza/Kindergarten Yard**

1. You may have a maximum of 20 people in attendance, including the Bar/Bat Mitzvah family. The guests must be immediate and extended family members only like grandparents, aunt, uncles, and cousins.
2. You must provide a list of those attending the Thursday prior to the service to Sarah Buchanan [sbuchanan@sinaitemple.org](mailto:sbuchanan@sinaitemple.org), who will distribute within Sinai as needed. The guest list must include the name, phone, and email address of each guest attending the service. This will enable Sinai Temple and you to help with contact tracing if that becomes necessary. Only those persons on that approved list will be admitted to Sinai Temple for the service.
3. As the host family, you are required to share these protocols with your family and invited guests. You will be asked to confirm in writing that you have distributed the protocols to each guest when you send the guest list to us.
4. You and your guests can expect to be asked questions on-site about their health before being admitted to the Temple. This will include asking each person if they have had a fever or other COVID-19 symptoms and if they have been exposed to someone with a fever or a possible COVID-19 carrier in the last 14 days. Persons unable to indicate that they have not had such symptoms or exposures will not be permitted to enter. This process could delay entry, so it is recommended that guests arrive at least 15 minutes before the scheduled

service time. See also paragraph 7 below regarding temperature taking.

5. As has been well publicized, adults over 65 years of age and individuals with certain underlying health conditions, comorbidities, or immunosuppression have shown the greatest susceptibility to the COVID-19 virus. Given those risks, we strongly recommend that any such attendees consult with their physicians to see if it is advisable that they attend the service – for their own personal safety.

6. Only those individuals on the B'nai Mitzvah family's list will be permitted to enter the Sinai Temple campus. Names will be checked off the list by the Sinai Temple security staff. No one else will be allowed to enter the campus other than Sinai Temple Clergy and staff.

7. Everyone attending the service will have their temperature taken outside the security entrance and will be asked the questions about their exposure to the virus and/or symptoms. Anyone with a temperature above 100 degrees Fahrenheit, anyone showing any signs of illness or anyone unable to respond favorably to the symptom and exposure questions will not be permitted to attend the service and will be asked to leave the Sinai Temple campus.

8. In addition, everyone attending the service must bring a mask or face covering. Anyone without a mask or face covering will not be permitted to enter. Everyone in attendance at the service must remain masked and maintain social distancing (at least six feet apart) at all times when on the Temple premises. Congregants and their guests must always wear their mask over their nose and mouth while on the Temple property, including during the service.

9. The service will be held in on Pilot Plaza which is located on the Ashton Avenue side of the Temple. If there are multiple B'nai Mitzvah on a Shabbat morning, then an additional service will be set up in the Kindergarten Yard also located on the Ashton Avenue side of the building. Family and guests should find parking on the streets adjacent to the Temple for Pilot Plaza, enter at the stairs located on the corner of Beverly Glen and Ashton Avenue. At the top of the stairs family and guests will be met by security to go through the health questions and temperature checking described above. For the Kindergarten Yard after finding street parking family and friends should enter the door just west of the security kiosk located at the entrance of the Ashton Avenue parking where they too will be met by security to go through the health questions and temperature checks.

The rest of the synagogue facilities will not be open for guests. In addition, family and guests will be asked to remain in their designated seating areas throughout the service and are expected to monitor their children and keep them

close by. Guests should not congregate before or after the service and at the conclusion of the service, family and guests will be asked to leave the synagogue.

10. Chairs will be pre- set up socially distanced apart and family and guests are asked not to move or relocate them.

11. There will be no Kiddush or other food served. Candy will not be allowed for throwing nor will we allow any other food into the either space. Families should plan on providing water bottles for themselves and guests. Drinking fountains will be turned off.

12. Due to Shabbat prohibitions on photography and due to social distancing and face covering requirements, photography (both before and after the service) will not be permitted.

13. Attendees are encouraged to bring their own Kippot and Tallitot. Sinai Temple will provide a small stock of plain Kippot for those who need them. There will be a designated box to return those Kippot after the service for cleaning. Tallitot will not be provided by Sinai Temple.

14. On the Bimah, a reading table(s) equipped with a clear shield will be set up for the Bar/Bat Mitzvah, and the clergy. Other than the immediate family, those called for an Aliyah to the Torah will be asked to stand in their seat(s) for their Aliyah. Singing or chanting the Aliyah should be done as little as possible and while donning your mask. There will be no handling the Torah or other ritual items, except by the Sinai Temple clergy and the Bar/Bat Mitzvah. Only the parents of the Bar/Bat Mitzvah may walk up to read their Aliyah with their child. No other guests may walk up to the bimah.

15. For Pilot Plaza the two bathrooms (Boys and Girls) located in the hallway as you enter Pilot Plaza. In the Kindergarten yard there is one staff bathroom that will be unlocked located at the end of the hallway. Both locations will be open and sanitized. Guests will be asked to enter the restroom one person at a time. We ask that all guests follow and comply with the 6' social distancing requirements.

16. All parking will be street parking only. There will be no parking allowed in the building as the building must remain closed.

17. Finally, it is possible that due to circumstances beyond our control, events related to COVID-19 or other security issues could require Sinai Temple to reschedule the service.

**After you have read these protocols please sign and date the acknowledgement form below and e-mail it back to Sarah Buchanan. The Bar/Bat Mitzvah ceremony can only take place after we have received this signed acknowledgement form.**

Acknowledged this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_