



B'nai Mitzvah During Covid-19

During this time of uncertainty, we want to make sure one thing you are certain about is your Bar/Bat Mitzvah service at Sinai Temple. Below are answers to our most frequently asked questions, a weekend breakdown of the Bar/Bat Mitzvah service and important information you should know.

What We need and When:

- **Headshot's-** Headshots are due 30 days prior to the service month. We use this head shot on our community connections email. (photos taken with an iPhone or Android are okay)
- **Aliyot Form-** Aliyot form must be filled out and submitted two weeks before the service date. Individual's must be Jewish and over the age of 13 to participate.
- **Guest List-** Guest list must be submitted via email one week prior to the service date. The list must be alphabetized. Please note: 50 Guest Max. Any person not listed will not be allowed in the building.
- **Bar/Bat Mitzvah Protocols During COVID-19 Form** - Please sign our Bar/Bat Mitzvah Protocols During COVID-19 Form and make sure it is submitted to the B'nai Mitzvah office 30 days prior to the service.

Weekend Breakdown

- **Thursday Morning Minyan: 7:30am** – On the Thursday before your Bar/Bat Mitzvah, please join our morning Minyan service in Ziegler Sanctuary. The service is led by one of the Cantors. Family and Friends are encouraged to attend this first celebration of the weekend. Our B'nai mitzvah wear Tallit, T'fillin (optional, but encouraged), lead us in Sh'ma and V'ahavta, and are called to the Torah for an Aliyah (they recite the Blessings Before and After the Torah reading). They will receive a blessing and a gift to mark this special occasion. Services conclude by 8:30am. Please arrive 10-15 minutes early for assistance with Tallit and T'fillin.
- **Friday Evening: 5:45pm** - On Friday evening, in Ziegler Sanctuary our B'nai Mitzvah lead us in selections of prayers (Sh'ma, V'ahavta, L'ma'an Tizk'ru, V'sham'ru, Kiddush, and Aleinu). The service is led by one of the Cantors. The parents of the B'nai Mitzvah are invited to light and say the blessing over the Shabbat candles. At the end of the service, parents present the B'nai Mitzvah with the Kiddush cup (provided by Sinai) for their child to recite Kiddush. Services conclude by 6:45pm. Please arrive 15-20 minutes early.

Saturday Service Timeline:

The **Main Sanctuary** service runs as follows (all times are approximate):

- **9:00am** - The service begins with opening prayers and our Shacharit service.
- **9:40am** – Torah service begins. Aliyot (Torah readings) take place with members of each family will read the Aliyot from their seats. Parents are given the final Aliyot and bring their child's Tallit up with them to the Torah. All honorees walk up the center steps and comes down the side steps next to the Cantor's podium. Anyone reciting an Aliyah should be familiar with the Torah Blessings and know their Hebrew name. PDFs and mp3s of the Torah Blessings with English and Farsi transliteration are available from the Cantor's office.
- **10:10am** – B'nai Mitzvah are called to the Torah. Bar/Bat Mitzvah Maftir, speech, and Haftarah. Each child will be called up to the Torah as a Bar/Bat Mitzvah. Then the first Bar/Bat Mitzvah followed by the second Bar/Bat Mitzvah will deliver their D'var Torah (speech) and chant their section of the Haftarah (including blessings before and after). At the conclusion of the Haftarah, the Rabbi gives a charge, the Cantor and Rabbi give a blessing, we chant Siman Tov, and the Bar/Bat Mitzvah have their video collage.
- **10:40am** – Musaf Service led by the Cantor. Sometimes there will be a guest speaker or special musical interlude before Musaf begins.
- **11:00am** – Rabbi's Sermon. During the Rabbi's sermon, the B'nai Mitzvah should open their binders to the Aleinu prayer so that they are ready to lead upon the conclusion of Ein Keloheinu.
- **11:15am** – Ein Keloheinu is sung by the congregation and then the B'nai Mitzvah walk up the center staircase and lead the congregation in Aleinu. Upon conclusion of the prayer, they walk back down the center staircase and return to their seats.
- **11:25-11:45pm** – Conclusion of service.

Family Minyan and Torah in the Round Services each begin at different times and run approximately 1.5 hours. Please contact Rabbi Sherman and/or Rabbi Guzik for details.

Venue Information:

Main Sanctuary Services will take place in the Ziegler Sanctuary.



Torah in the Round and Family Minyan will take place in Barad Hall.



FAQ

- **Can we have our service at Sinai Temple?**
Yes, indoor venues are now available.
- **Can we have our service at home?**
If your family is not comfortable coming into the building, you may “Zoom in” from your home. Please discuss this option with your clergy.
- **How many people can attend?**
Currently we allow 50 people per service. This includes your immediate family. (ex. If you have a family of 5 you may invite 45 people) This amount is the same for ALL services.
- **Do we have to wear a face mask/face shield?**
Everyone must always wear a face mask. When the Bar/Bat Mitzvah child is at the podium, only then will they be allowed to remove their mask. If your guests do not wish to wear a mask, we suggest watching the service on live from our Sinai Temple YouTube Channel.

- **Will the Shabbat Service's be open to the public?**
Yes, Shabbat services will be open for Members only on a reservation basis. Reservations must be made weekly, Monday thru Wednesday 8:30 am to 5pm the week of by signing up online or calling Monique Green at the Temple office at (310) 474-1518.
- **Can Non-members attend my child's Bar/Bat mitzvah service?**
Yes, if they are on your guest list, they will be allowed in the building.
- **What is the capacity percentage right now?**
We are now operating at 25% maximum capacity. Once we are allowed 50%, we will restructure our setups and reset our maximum capacity to reflect new city/county guidelines.
- **Can we have a photographer or a video filming at Sinai?**
We do not allow photography on Shabbat but you may purchase a copy of the service for \$360 by contacting the Cantor's office.
- **Can we bring our own Tallit and Kippot?**
We encourage you to bring your own Tallit and Kippot for you and your family. During this time we are not offering communal Kippot or Tallit.
- **How many Aliyot can we have?**
During this time All Aliyot will be read from your seat.
 - Main Sanctuary Double: Each family are given 2 Aliyot for family (up to 4 people per Aliyah) and 1 Aliyah for parents
 - Main Sanctuary Single: The family is given 3 Aliyot (up to 4 people per Aliyah) and 1 Aliyah for parents.
 - Family Minyan: 6 Aliyot for family and friends and 1 Aliyah for parents
 - Torah in the Round: 6 Aliyot for family and friends and 1 Aliyah for parents
- **Are guests allowed to park in building?**
For Morning Minyan-Street parking only, due to school carpool. Please park in the surrounding streets, walk to Beverly Glen entrance where security will take your temperature.
Evening Minyan- Members may park in the building, non-members will need to park in outside.
Shabbat Morning- Members may park in the building, non-members will need to park in outside.
- **Are we allowed to bring our phones in the service?**
You may bring your phone to the service, but it must be placed on Silent mode or Airplane mode to not have any interruptions during the service. Photography and videography are always prohibited while on premises.

- **Can we have a breakfast or a kiddush at Sinai Temple?**
Currently, no members may have a kiddush or a party at the temple. Mingling before, after and during services in the building is not permitted, due to social distance protocols. We have a responsibility to our entire community.
- **Will there be cookies, challah or grape juice after the service?**
For safety reasons there will be no challah, cookies or grape juice provided after the service.
- **Are toddlers allowed to attend the service?**
At this time, children who cannot sit with a parent for the duration of the service may not attend.
- **Will we have Zoom rehearsals?**
Yes, each family will have Zoom rehearsals with Cantor Feldman.
- **Can we throw candy?**
At Sinai Temple we are currently not encouraging candy throwing for safety purposes.
- **Can we provide goodie bags or gifts?**
For the safety of our members, we are not allowing gifts, goodie bags or any offerings or exchanges in the Temple.
- **Can we hold / touch the Torah?**
For sanitation concerns, we ask that only the immediate family holds and touches the Torah.
- **How do we log on for Saturday services?**
We ask that you log on to the Zoom link / be present at Sinai by 8:15am for the 9:00am Main Sanctuary service, or 45 minutes before the service time for Family Minyan and Torah in the Round services. All guests are asked to watch the service on our YouTube page: www.youtube.com/SinaiTemplePresents

**If you have any additional questions, please contact our offices at (310) 481-3235 or email Sarah Buchanan sbuchanan@sinaitemple.org or Cantor Feldman mfeldman@sinaitemple.org.
Stay Safe!**