



A B'nai Mitzvah During Covid-19

During this time of uncertainty, we want to make sure that 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:

- **Headshots-** Headshots are due 30 days prior to the service month. We use this headshot on our community connections email. (photos taken with an iPhone or Android are okay)
- **Aliyot Form-** Aliyot form must be completely filled out and submitted two weeks before the service date. Individuals 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: 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 Kabbalat Torah:** (Time to be determined with clergy liaison) If you will be celebrating the Bar/Bat Mitzvah at home, on the Thursday before the Bar/Bat Mitzvah a member of our clergy will come to your house to deliver a Torah and B'nai Mitzvah gifts and copies of the siddur for the weekend. Our B'nai mitzvah wear Tallit, T'fillin (optional, but encouraged) and they will receive a blessing to mark this special occasion. This may take place at Sinai Temple as well if you are having the Bar/Bat Mitzvah at Sinai. Photographers are allowed for this occasion. If you are interested in Kabbalat Torah at your home or at Sinai Temple please let the B'nai Mitzvah Coordinator know and she can schedule this for you.
- **Virtual Friday Night Service:** On Friday evening at **5:45pm** our Kabbalat Shabbat service begins via Zoom and is led by one of the Sinai Temple clergy. The parents of the B'nai Mitzvah are invited to light and say the blessing over the Shabbat candles (Bar/Bat Mitzvah family will need a Shabbat set up). Services conclude by 6:45pm. You will be required to be on the Zoom link by 5:15pm. If you are interested in being part of the Virtual Friday Night Service please let the B'nai Mitzvah Coordinator know and we will arrange the link to be sent to you.

Saturday Service Timeline:

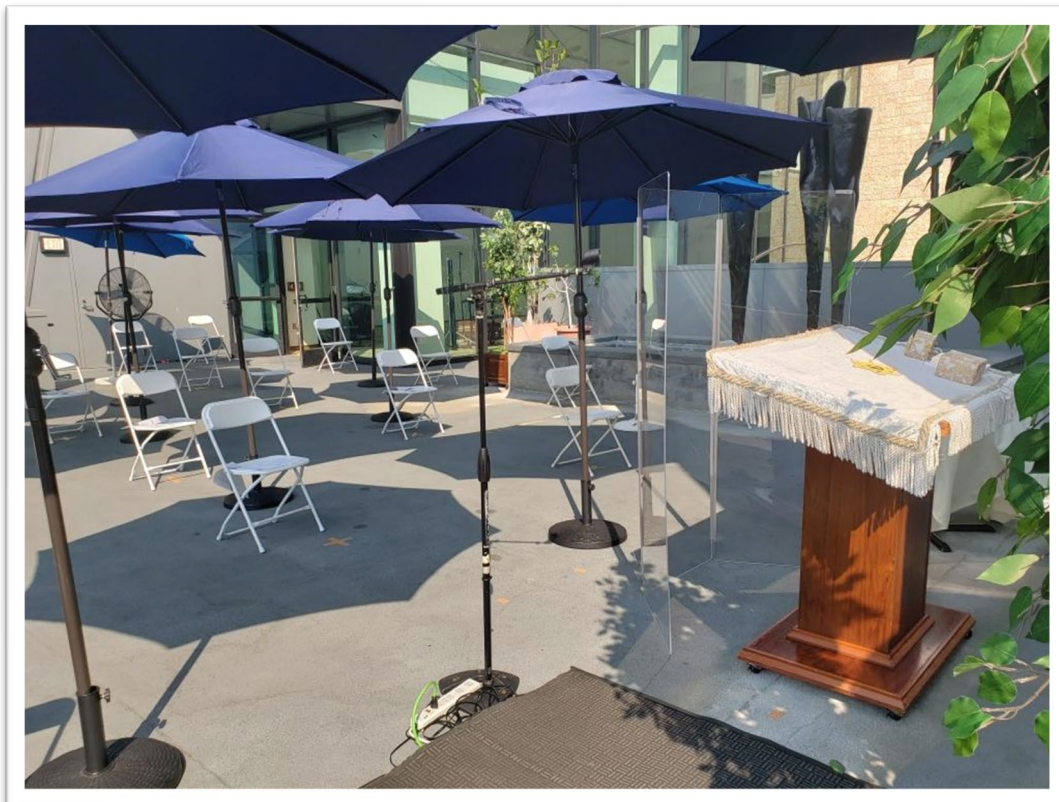
The Main Sanctuary service runs as follows (all times are approximate):

- **9:00am** – The service begins with opening prayers and our Shacharit service.
- **9:45am** – Torah service begins. Aliyot (Torah readings) take place with members of each family being called to the Torah. 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.
- **10:15am** – 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.
- **10:45am** – Musaf Service including the singing of L'dor Vador.
- **11:00am** – Rabbi's Sermon
- **11:15am** – Conclusion of service

Family Minyan and Torah in the Round Services each begin at **11:30am** and run approximately 1.5 hours.

Venue Information:

Families have the option to have the Saturday service at Sinai Temple in one of our outdoor venues, or in their own home. Sinai Temple will have a setup of the Torah, computer for joining the Zoom call, copies of the Siddur, chairs, umbrellas, and a podium for the service. Please let me know which option works best for you and your family.



FAQ

- **Can we have our service at Sinai Temple?**

Yes, you may and we have two options: Pilot Plaza and the K-yard. The Clergy will assign the venues to the families upon request.
- **Can we have our service at home?**

Yes you may, the Clergy Liaison will contact you directly to drop off the Torah the Thursday before, officiate a blessing and our IT technician will make sure you are all set up for your Zoom service at home
- **How many people can attend?**

Currently we allow 20 people per service at Sinai Temple. This includes your immediate family. (ex. If you have a family of 5 you may invite 15 people)
- **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 \$600 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?**
 - 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: 3 Aliyot for family and friends and 1 Aliyah for parents
- **Are guests allowed to park in building?**

Until further notice, all guests will have to park on the street and will enter from the Ashton entrance.
- **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.
- **Can we have a breakfast or a kiddush at Sinai Temple?**

Currently, we are not allowing any members inside the building for safety purposes.

- **If we have a Saturday service at home will the officiating rabbi attend the service?**
 Currently, our Clergy are not doing Saturday services at home for safety reasons. All services that take place at home will be done via Zoom. The clergy are happy to visit your home on the Thursday before for a Kabbalat Torah / Tefillin experience.
- **If we do Kabbalat Torah on Thursday, what time will the rabbi arrive with the Torah?**
 The Clergy Liaison will contact you to make arrangements to drop off the Torah and give your family a blessing.
- **Will we have Zoom rehearsals?**
 Yes, each family will have Zoom rehearsals with Cantor Feldman.
- **Can we throw candy?**
 If you wish to throw candy you may do so at your home service. At Sinai Temple we are currently not encouraging candy throwing for safety purposes.
- **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 11:15am 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.
 Stay Safe!**