

Bnai Mitzvah Pulpit Honors at Kol Haverim

Tallit Presentation – parent and/or grandparent presents the tallit to the child and places it on his/her shoulders at the very beginning of the service.

Torah service begins. We call up:

Shomrim – two persons to open the ark doors and stand as an honor guard as we parade with the Torah scroll around the sanctuary. When we return to the bimah, the shomrim assist with undressing the scroll and they close the ark doors.

L'dor Vador – Grandparents and parents hand down the Torah scroll through the generations to the bar/bat mitzvah child. If the family wish, readings are available for each generation to recite

Aliyah to the Torah – Three aliyot, or 4,5,6 or 7 as the family desire. For each Aliyah, one or more persons are called up to the bimah to recite the blessings both before and after the reading of the Torah. For each aliyah, at least three verses of Torah are recited. People called for an aliyah must be Jewish and over the age of 13. They must be familiar with the Hebrew blessings. It is not necessary for the first aliyah to be a cohen.

Ba'al Korah (Torah reader) – At the family's discretion you may have family members do the Torah readings. The Rabbi will perform up to three readings, unless the family wish to recite all the readings. For additional aliyot as desired the family must provide their own readers. Volunteer readers are also available from the congregation by advance request to the Rabbi. Readers **must** read from the scroll, without vowels or punctuation marks. Readers must be capable and must practice in advance.

Hagbah and Galilah (Raising and Dressing the Scroll) – One person to hold up the scroll and show it to the congregation (hagbah) and one to dress the scroll, after which it is placed on the Torah shelf on the bimah. The person who performs hagbah must have physical strength to raise the scroll.

Shomrim – two more shomrim open the ark as we return the scroll.

Parental Address – One or both parents may speak to the child. The purpose of the parental address is to speak about your religious and ethical hopes for your child – what kind of person you would like him/her to be – and to express your pride at your child's Jewish achievement to date.