

Possible Honors for Parents and Other Relatives

One of our most important commitments during bar/bat mitzvah celebrations is that the entire family have an opportunity to participate in the service. This honors the important role of parents and other relatives in the bar/bat mitzvah's life and makes the occasion more joyful and inclusive.

Please see the below lists of suggested honors for Jewish and non-Jewish parents and relatives:

JEWISH PARENT OR RELATIVE

- *Aliyah*
- Torah reading
- Carry Torah
- Lift or dress Torah

NON-JEWISH OR JEWISH PARENT

- Offer personal blessing for child, speech, poem
- Stand with spouse during *aliyah*
- Present child with *tallit*
- Read a translation of the *shehehhyanu* or other prayer

OTHER NON-JEWISH RELATIVES

- Open/Close the ark
- Prayer for Peace
- Read a translation of Hebrew prayers or offer a personal prayer in consultation with the rabbi

We encourage you to bring any thoughts, questions, or suggestions to Rabbi Zehavi. Our hope is to join our community's prayer practice with your family's celebration. We welcome your ideas for personalizing the service.