

A BAT MITZVAH at Chabad of Pudong

According to Jewish tradition, a Bat Mitzvah reflects a major turning point in the life of a Jewish girl and as such, we believe very strongly that every girl should celebrate this milestone in a meaningful and traditional manner.

We are proud to present you a variety of options to personalize your service and make this day, one to remember for years to come.

BAT MITZVAH SERVICE

The following is a description of a typical Bat Mitzvah service, which is approximately one hour, and includes prayers as well as reading selected verses from the Torah portion and D'var Torahs (speeches). Nine months of practice is typically necessary.

- ❖ Welcome & Introduction
 - ❖ Hiney Ma Tov
- Prayers led by Bat Mitzvah girl
- ❖ D'var Torah on Parsha and Haftorah

(includes readings of selected verses)

- * Rabbi's Comments
- Parents' Greeting
- Yivarechicha Blessing
- Candy Throw and Congratulations from Everyone
 - Mazel Tov sung and played
 - Adon Olam
 - Oseh Shalom
 - * Reception (optional)

Optional Candle Lighting Ceremonies: The Bat Mitzvah girl may choose to honor family members and friends by inviting them to light a candle. She may have as many as 13 candles.

Ceremony Options

HAVDALAH SERVICE

The service can begin anywhere from one hour after Shabbat ends. The Bat Mitzvah girl welcomes everyone and speaks about the Havdalah ceremony. She honors close family members by having them participate in parts of the service. Havdalah is recited by the Rabbi or the girl's father or grandfather, etc. and the Bat Mitzvah girl recites special Saturday night prayers. The ceremony continues as described on page one. All guests are then invited to the social hall for a reception.

Separate seating is not necessary, unless you plan on doing the Maariv Service.

SUNDAY MORNING OR EVENING CEREMONY

A Sunday Bat Mitzvah takes place as described on page one. The service can be followed by a brunch or a reception.

FRIDAY NIGHT CANDLE LIGHTING SERVICE

The Bat Mitzvah ceremony (as detailed on page 1) is followed by the Friday night service for all guests to attend, conducted by Rabbi Greenberg. There will be separate seating and a Mechitza during the actual Shabbat service.

In a Friday evening service, the Bat Mitzvah girl leads the women and girls in the candle lighting and blessing. In the winter the candle lighting will be at the very beginning of the ceremony, and in the summer, the candle lighting will be after the Bat Mitzvah ceremony but **before** the Shabbat evening service. Please remember that videos and cameras are only allowed **until** the Candle lighting service.

After the service, the Kiddush is recited by the Rabbi or father/grandfather of the Bat Mitzvah girl. The family of the Bat Mitzvah girl then hosts either a dinner or dessert reception.

TUTORING

The Pre-Bat Mitzvah "curriculum" serves as a forum for discussion and discovery, encouraging the Bat Mitzvah girls to learn more about this unique time in their lives.

The Bat Mitzvah girl will be paired up with a special tutor who will cover the following syllabus:

- ☐ In depth learning of her Torah portion including selected commentaries
- □ Comprehensive review of the Haftorah and that historical period
- □ Famous Biblical Women (-will compile a booklet with details from their lives and lessons that can be learned from them)
- □ Jewish Life Cycles (unless that has been covered in her Jewish schooling)
- □ Research and discussions on the 3 "women's mitzvoth" and their importance to Jewish survival.
- □ Translation and history of her favorite prayer

After the majority of the studying has been accomplished, the Bat Mitzvah girl and her tutor will prepare speeches and select verses to read and explain from her Torah and Haftorah portions, and practice the reading of selected prayers.

GUIDELINES

- ☐ Girl should be after 12th birthday (according to Hebrew birthday) on day of her Bat Mitzvah celebration.
- □ She must attend Jewish Day School or our Bat mitzvah Club as well as private Bat Mitzvah lessons (as needed).
- □ *Girl* (and hopefully entire family) must attend the Shabbat services every month as well as all holiday services the year preceding her Bat Mitzvah.
- □ At the ceremony the Bat Mitzvah girl must be modestly dressed (shoulders covered and no mini skirts.)
- □ The family should provide Kippas for guests as well as compile a booklet to help guests follow the Bat Mitzvah ceremony.
- □ You may have a photographer or video for the ceremony **except on winter Friday night.**
- □ The family is responsible to buy the candy that is thrown. The candy must be kosher and pareve (not dairy). Kosher symbols are a K or a U inside of a circle. Sunkist Gems are an example of kosher candy and highly recommended as they are soft.
- □ All Food and liquor served after the service must meet the kosher standards of the shul.

Mazel tov on your upcoming simcha! If you have any other questions feel free to call us (8621)~5878~2008