



CONGREGATION RODEPH SHALOM B'NAI MITZVAH TIMELINE

5th Grade

Recommendations	We encourage attending the Parents Helping Parents Meetings on Sundays during Berkman Mercas Limud (when they are offered) to hear from other parents about the process, attending midweek Hebrew to strengthen your child's Hebrew skills, and attending Shabbat services as often as possible to help your child gain confidence with the liturgy.*
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6th Grade

Trope Class	A ten-week cycle of classes will help your student learn the system of chanting Torah and Haftarah, so they will be able to recognize patterns more readily and potentially chant any portion including their own.
2 Sunday Sessions	Attend two 6th grade Family Education/B'nai Mitzvah Orientation sessions to prepare for next year.
Fridays/Saturdays	Attend Friday evening Shabbat services and Saturday morning B'nai Mitzvah services to become familiar with our services.

The B'nei Mitzvah Year

Approximately 7 months before	Your family will meet with Rabbi Maderer to discuss their B'nei Mitzvah preparation process.** They will receive their binder with all necessary materials. A link to the recorded audio examples will also be provided. Schedule weekly tutoring with RS tutors. Any accommodations should be discussed prior to their first lesson. If you have not already done so, begin thinking about your Mitzvah Project.
6 months before	Your child will start their weekly tutoring with an RS tutor.
6 weeks before	Your child will meet with the cantor weekly (5-6 sessions) and will have 2 meetings with Rabbi Freedman to work on their d'var torah. These meetings are in person, at Rodeph Shalom, in the afterschool hours. These meetings will be set up about 1 month prior. Before your child begins seeing the clergy, please submit your RS bulletin form. We will email this form to you in advance of the deadline.
Saturday before	Your family will serve as greeters at the B'nei Mitzvah before your child's. Usually, this is the week before, but the clergy office will inform you of the date - so please be sure to check your availability, and add that date to your calendar.
Tuesday before	Your child will have a final rehearsal in the sanctuary with Rabbi Maderer or Rabbi Friedman.
Friday night before	Your family will be honored at the Friday Night Shabbat service before your date. Your family will light the candles and lead kiddush.
Bar/Bat Mitzvah Day	It's your child's Bar or Bat Mitzvah Date! Mazel Tov! You will have a short rehearsal at 9:30am in the sanctuary, and will be ready to go by 10:30am. The service begins at 10:45am.

Helpful Information

Flowers, times for the services, final rehearsal scheduling? Contact Sophia Schwab:
sschwab@rodephshalom.org

All other scheduling, materials, bulletin, and any other questions? Contact Cantor Bradley Hyman at: cantorhyman@rodephshalom.org

*Once you have been assigned a date, we require that you remain members in good standing, and that your child attends Berkman Mercaz Limud through seventh grade.

**Please note that all b'nei mitzvah fees must be paid, or payment arrangements made, before this meeting will be scheduled.