

## PARENTS' PRAYER TO BAR OR BAT MITZVAH

*At the beginning of the Saturday morning Service, we offer you an opportunity to have a private moment with your child on the Bimah. This is your chance to offer a blessing to your child on this special moment in his or her life and in the life of your family. The prayer below is taken from the Gates of Prayer. You may use this or substitute your own words.*

Into our hands, O God, You have placed Your Torah, to be held high by parents and children, and taught by one generation to the next. Whatever has befallen us, our people have remained steadfast in loyalty to the Torah. It was carried into exile in the arms of parents that their children might not be deprived of their birthright.

And now I pray that you, \_\_\_\_\_, may always be worthy of this inheritance. Take its teaching into your heart and in turn pass it on to your children and those who come after you. May you be a faithful Jew, searching for wisdom and truth, working for justice and peace. Thus will you be among those who labor to bring nearer the day when God shall be One, and God's children shall be one.

May the God of our people, the God of all humankind, bless and keep you. May the One who has always been our guide inspire you to bring honor to our family and to the House of Israel.

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,  
שֶׁהַחַיִּינוּ וְקִיְמָנוּ וְהִגִּיעָנוּ לְזִמְן הַזֶּה.

Baruch Ata Adonai Eloheinu Melech ha-olam  
shehecheyanu v'ki-y'manu v'higi-an'u laz'man hazeh.

Blessed are You, Adonai, our God, Sovereign of the universe, for giving us life, for sustaining us, and for enabling us to reach this day of joy. Amen.