



Dear Bar/Bat Mitzvah Parents,

Congregation Beth Shalom would like to wish you a hearty *Mazel Tov* on your forthcoming Simcha. We are here to work with you as partners in this very important Jewish life cycle event in your family.

As a member of our CBS community, each Bar/Bat Mitzvah family will host the Kiddush following their service. CBS is happy to be of help to you during your Simcha. The Kiddush is not a private event; the entire Congregation is welcome to participate. CBS offers several options for the Saturday Morning Kiddush. More information will follow.

We want to make your Kiddush as special as this important day deserves. Please help us with your cooperation and patience.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the Kiddush or your financial obligation, please feel free to call me at 847-498-4100, x30.

Again, Mazel Tov on reaching this exciting milestone!

Brenda Wasserman

CBS Shabbat Kiddush Coordinator

847.498.4100, x30

bwasserman@bethshalomnb.org



Celebrate Your Simcha at Congregation Beth Shalom

Congregation Beth Shalom offers everything you need to make your Simcha a memorable occasion. Our beautiful facility can accommodate your party with ample parking, excellent caterers, and professional party planning assistance.

CBS offers the services of five outstanding Kosher caterers who prepare the meals in the North Shore's largest Kosher kitchen.

If you choose to have your Kiddush catered by one of the Kosher caterers approved for Kiddush at Congregation Beth Shalom, the Base Fee of \$875.00 will be waived. *The only CBS fee will be for Bima flowers.* A catered Kiddush must include the congregation. Private Kiddushim are not available.

You may select from the following approved Kosher caterers:

1. **Chicago Tailgators/Premier Catering;**

Steven Greenberg
Chicagotailgators.com
224.534.7787

2. **Danziger Kosher Caterers**

Merry Jean
Danzingerkosher.com
847.982.1818

3. **Midwest Conference Center**

Faith Bugay
www.midwestconf.com
847.343.0818

4. **PaNosh Kosher Catering**

Glenn Simon
Panoshcatering.com
847.947.2100

5. **Shallots Catering**

Berel Fischler
847.677.3463

6. **Zelda's Kosher Gourmet**

Linda Zelda Neiman
www.zeldaskoshercatering.com
847.679.0033

Hosting your Simcha at the synagogue will add a unique dimension, you will not find anywhere else. For more information, please contact Maria Catezone 847.498.4100 at Congregation Beth Shalom or Jill Olefsky 847.272.1758 jolefsky@aol.com, Catering Committee Chairman.

Our Kosher kitchen is only able to accommodate one (1) of our caterers per weekend. After a caterer has been scheduled to be used for any reason on a particular weekend, only that caterer can be used for another event that same weekend. This also applies to using a caterer for your Kiddush or Oneg Shabbat. Since this process is implemented on a first come, first serve basis, it is important to contact Jill or Maria to schedule the use of a caterer or check on availability.

HAVE A SIMCHA TO CELEBRATE?

Congregation Beth Shalom is offering our congregants the opportunity for Friday Night Drop-Off Dinners. Drop-off Dinners are dinners that are arranged with a kosher restaurant or caterer which will drop off the food, and we will use our staff to set up the buffet dinner.

What a meaningful way to celebrate a simcha, anniversary or birthday! Guests can number up to 120 people. Dinner will be after Friday night services at 7:00 pm.

For more information, please contact Maria Catezone at 847-498-4100.

B'nai Mitzvah Commitment Fee - \$1950 paid over 3 years (\$650 per year), must be paid in full four months prior to your Simcha date. This fee includes*:

"PBM" Class (9 Sessions) – A little over a year before becoming a Bar/Bat Mitzvah, you and your child will attend a series of classes. Seven of these classes will take place on Sunday mornings during Sunday school hours. (9:30 – 12:00) Two of the classes will meet on Shabbat morning during services. For part of the session, parents will convene with Rabbis Melman or Averbach to discuss pertinent religious and social issues while the students meet with Cantor Raquel Gershon to learn some of the blessings and special skills needed to participate in their Bar/Bat Mitzvah service. During the second part of the morning you and your child(ren) will participate in a learners service with Cantors Stoehr & Gershon.

Tutoring – Tutoring begins approximately one year before the Simcha and it includes individualized tutoring once a week until the date of their Simcha. Each child will have approximately 42 lessons, each of which is 20 minutes in length. Students are expected to practice regularly at home. (20-30 minutes a day, 5-6x a week is suggested).

Day of your Simcha – Set up/cleanup of the social hall, kitchen staff, bimah flowers and all paper goods and basic table coverings. As a reminder CBS offers Torah for Tots (babysitting) for your family and guests with young children during the service. Children must be toilet trained and parents must remain in the building.

Clergy Meetings

As a member of CBS, you always have access to our clergy and professional staff. As part of your CBS B'nai Mitzvah preparation, special meetings will be set up with Rabbis Melman & Averbach. Each of them has specific goals to accomplish with your family for the special day.

Cantor Stoehr will meet with the student and parents to help narrow down and focus on the necessary steps for achieving a successful Mitzvah project (our Three Pillars Project), if requested.

Rabbi Averbach will meet with you about two months prior to study and prepare ideas for your child's D'var Torah as well as discuss family honors and other service logistics.

Rabbi Melman will meet you on the bimah within 2 weeks of the Simcha for a final walk-through.

The clergy, as always, will be available to answer any of your questions and concerns at any time.

**Kiddush menu is a separate expense. You will be contacted by our Kiddush Coordinator, Brenda Wasserman, four months prior to your special day to select your food options.*



The Simcha Shop

For your convenience, the Simcha Shop has a full line of napkins for your Simcha. If ordering *separately** from one of the Extended Kiddush menu options, please call our Simcha Shop Chairperson:

Suzy Hakimian

847-205-1488

**The Shabbat Kiddush Coordinator will submit all napkin orders associated with an Extended Kiddush.*

Louis Gurvitz Memorial Sisterhood Judaica Shop

The Judaica Shop offers a selection of tallitot, kippot, tefillin, Kiddush cups, candlesticks, and other Judaic items. The Judaica Shop Chairmen will be happy to assist you.

Please contact our Judaica Shop Co-Chairs:

Diana Lewis

847.947.2906

Darlene Padnos

847.998.0494

Photographs & Videos

Please call Maria at CBS (847-498-4100) to set up your appointment for your photos and/or videos.

Notes: