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December 2018

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Dear Friends,

This is an exciting letter to write. It concerns a very special occasion in the life of your family, the Bar or Bat Mitzvah of your son or daughter.

To help us schedule Bar/Bat Mitzvah dates, please read the following information and return the enclosed questionnaire by January 16, 2019.

Dates will be assigned on appropriate Saturdays as close as possible to your child's birthday (within a two or three-month period), excluding July and most of August. Bar/Bat Mitzvah services are held at 10:00 am, with two children assigned to each morning service. They finish around 12:15 pm.

Gala Events is the exclusive caterer at Temple Beth Torah. If you select a Saturday morning service, Gala Events will hold that date for your reception until May 15, 2019 or until three years prior to your date, whichever is later. Then they will open the date for parties to outside families. Gala can be contacted at 631-920-6776. If two B'nei Mitzvah families are having a morning service and desire the use of the catering facilities at the same time, or there are other conflicting requests, a lottery will be scheduled and held at the Temple.

Alternatively, you can have your Bar/Bat Mitzvah ceremony on a Rosh Chodesh Sunday, a Jewish holiday Sunday, a secular holiday Monday, a designated Friday night (from 7:30 pm – 9:00 pm) or a Saturday evening Havdalah service (from 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm). Choosing any of these services guarantees you will be a single and you must book your reception with Gala Events to immediately follow the service.

Please fill out and return the enclosed questionnaire by January 16, 2019 via mail or by email [elachant@optonline.net](mailto:elachant@optonline.net). You can also print it off our website at [www.tbtny.org/BarMitzvah](http://www.tbtny.org/BarMitzvah).

As the time draws closer to your child's Bar/Bat Mitzvah, you will receive a B'nei Mitzvah handbook. There will be several meetings to prepare your family spiritually and logistically. In the meantime, if you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact Rabbi Moskowitz at 631-643-1200 ext 314 or me at 917-697-0808.

Best wishes for a happy and healthy New Year. We look forward to the time we can share in your special simcha.

Very truly yours,

*Erica*

Erica LaChant  
B'nei Mitzvah Coordinator