

ADDITIONAL SAMPLE PARENTS PRAYERS:

5.

We are so proud of you today. How joyful it is for us to see you set these wonderful goals and do whatever it takes to achieve them. What an incredible young woman you are!

You were our destiny — the daughter we always envisioned and prayed for in every way, and yet we are constantly amazed by your continual devotion as a daughter, granddaughter, great-granddaughter, niece, cousin, friend, and citizen — not just of the community, but of the world.

You are thoroughly intelligent, creative, genuine and full of optimism. As one of your teachers once said, you only see through to the good in others.

We pray that you will hold on to your innate understanding of right and wrong. You possess a powerful trait — the courage to stand up for your beliefs.

We pray you will continue to be an independent thinker, regardless of the temptations that you will encounter.

We pray that you will never lose sight of your passions and that you will always follow the bliss that will carry you to your dreams and make them real.

Most of all, we pray that you use your talents to do something remarkable so that you will make a difference in this world. And yet, we have no doubt that you will do just that. May you never forget how much we love you.

6.

Dear God,

There are no words for the depth of my love for this child.

Please bless this beautiful young woman and surround her always.

I pray for her protection.

I surrender her into your hands.

May she be protected from the darkness of our times.

May she have the strength to remember that those who have gone...have not gone far.

May she always see you at the center of her life.

May her heart grow strong to love and serve You.

Show me to love most patiently, to be there for her most fully, to understand profoundly who she is and what she needs.

May the spirit of this family be a blessing unto her now and forever.

May she continue to learn values and principles of love and righteousness.

May she learn from me kindness.

May she learn from me strength.

May she live most fully and love most deeply.
That is my wish.
That is my prayer for her.

7.

_____,
Today is one of the most significant days of your life, whether you realize it or not. As you become a Bar mitzvah, you join the many generations of Israel who have been called to the Torah before you. You are now a link in the chain that connects our past with our future, and you represent all that is promising and possible. Let this day be a reminder to you that your place in the universe is unique because you are a Jew.

What a privilege it is today for me to publicly tell this congregation of our family and friends what a wonderful human being that you have been since the day you were born. You are a kind and gentle person whose compassion for others is remarkable for someone your age. I have always been truly moved by your capacity to make people feel better just by your presence. Your smile has the power to brighten any room you walk into. You, _____, are an extraordinary person, and we are so proud and honored to be your parents.

I have written a blessing that I would like to say for you today, as you become a bar mitzvah.

May the light in your eyes shine upon the path that you choose to follow.

May the kindness in your heart radiate to those around you.

May the caring that you show to others help to heal the world, one person at a time.

May your awareness of God be a constant source of wonder and amazement and always bring you comfort and strength.

May you always know peace in your soul and carry it with you through the journey of your days.

8.

My beautiful darling, I pray for you....

That one day, you will know the boundless love, pride and joy for a child, as I have with you.

That your dreams and wishes are on their way.

That you never take away a piece of yourself to fit in.

That you share your many gifts with the world, which is in need of much healing.

That you continue to learn the importance and value of integrity.

That in pursuits both personal and professional, you use your head, but follow your heart.

That you continue to draw to you all the love that you give.

That you manifest the divine in your deeds.

When you relocate to a university, a new city or new town---that you always remember three small, but important words – *call your mother*.

9.

As you are about to read the Torah and become a Bat Mitzvah I wanted to express what a blessing you are in our lives and how grateful I am to have a daughter like you. You have taught me so much – especially lately. This ceremony marks your transition from child to adult. In modern America this rite of passage must wait until your 18th birthday, but in the eyes of the Jewish people you are now spiritually mature. You have so many natural God-given gifts, and now, the gift of Torah. It is time for you to develop your own personal relationship with God. I pray that you develop a connection that is meaningful and helpful to you and that you may feel his peace and love throughout your life. I love you very much! God bless you!

10. For A Son

We give thanks for the wondrous privilege of seeing our son grow day by day, week by week, year by year. For the health and strength You have given him, for the mind and spirit with which You endowed him, for his ability to elicit and return love - for all these precious gifts, we thank You.

Watch over him, O God, on this special day and every day. Grant him a growing understanding of the true significance of this occasion and deepening loyalty to everything which it represents. May the teachings of our heritage guide him throughout life, and may he lead a life worthy of Your blessings. Amen.

11. For A Son

O God, gratefully I thank You for the joyous privilege of seeing my son attain this milestone. On this day cherished dreams and hopes are fulfilled. On this day new dreams and new hopes are born. I pray that Your protecting and loving care will accompany him wherever he goes and in all that he does. Help him to become all that he is capable of being. Give him strength to do all the good things that are within his reach. Keep him loyal to the best that he has been shown and to the noblest Jewish teachings he has been taught. May his deeds find favor in the eyes of all and be worthy of Your blessings.

12. For A Daughter

Lord our God, gratefully we thank You for the joyous privilege of seeing our daughter attain this milestone. On this day cherished dreams and hopes are fulfilled. On this day new dreams and new hopes are born.

We pray that Your protection and loving care will accompany her wherever she goes and in all that she does. Help her to become all that she is capable of being. Give her strength to do all the good things that are within her reach. Keep her loyal to the best that she has been shown and to the noblest Jewish teachings she has been taught. May her deeds find favor in the eyes of her fellow creatures and be worthy of Your blessing. Amen

13. For A Daughter

On this Shabbat when our daughter becomes a Bat Mitzvah, we have come with her and our loved ones to join in worship and to offer our prayer of thanksgiving.

We are grateful, O God, for the privilege of passing along the gift of life which You gave us, that we might share with You in the miracle of creation. We are grateful also for the thirteen years of nurturing this life, for the unnumbered joys and challenges which these years have brought us.

Bless our daughter, O God; watch over her, protect her, guide her. Help her to continue to grow in body and mind, in soul and character. Keep her loyal to our people and to the teachings of our Torah. May her life be rich and rewarding. May all her deeds bring pride to us, honor to the house of Israel, and glory to Your name.

14. For A Daughter/Son

What I wish for my daughter/son, I wish for all our children. I wish for you to be a person of character, strong but not tough, gentle but not weak.

I wish for you to be righteous but not self-righteous, honest but not unforgiving.

Wherever you journey, may your steps be firm and may you walk in just paths and not be afraid.

Whenever you speak, may your words be words of wisdom and friendship.

May your hands build and your heart preserve what is good and beautiful in our world.

May the voices of the generations of our people move through you, and may the God of our ancestors be your God as well.

May you know that there is a people, a rich heritage, to which you belong, and from that sacred place you are connected to all who dwell on the earth.

May the stories of our people be upon your heart and the rhythm of the Torah dance in your soul.

15. For A Daughter/Son

In gratitude and joy we celebrate our child's Bar Mitzvah. We thank you for the blessing of parenthood and for reaching this moment we dreamed of many years ago. May it signal a life of Jewish commitment for our son.

Lead our daughter/son to live the values of Torah and guide him in the path of faithfulness to our people. May she/he enjoy a life of health and accomplishment, fulfillment and peace.

May God make you like Efrayim and Menasseh (or May God make you like Sarah, Rebeca Rachel and Leah), a Jew of wisdom and strength, compassion and peace. Amen.

16. For a Daughter/Son

We are very proud of the person that you are becoming. On this, your Bat Mitzvah day, we have special hopes for you:

We hope that you always remember that you are part of a wonderful heritage that has been passed down from generation to generation for thousands of years. You are connected to the Jewish people, to God and to Torah. You need the Jewish community and the Jewish community needs you.

We hope that you will continue to learn and mature. You will find that the world is not always a fair place, but do what you can to make it better. Do not let others sway you from what you know to be right and just, and always believe in your own abilities. Remember you are a unique individual and the most important thing is to be the best that you can be.