



*Invitation to the student from*

# Remember Us

## The Holocaust Bnai Mitzvah Project



One of our wisest Jewish teachers, the Ba'al Shem Tov, taught:

*Remembrance is the secret of redemption.*

It means that the simple act of remembering someone restores that person's value and meaning, and adds meaning and value to your own life.

One-and-a-half million Jewish children were lost during the Holocaust before they had a chance to grow into Jewish adults, many before their own call to the Torah.

*This is an invitation to bring the memory of one of these children with you as you become bar/bat Mitzvah.*

The **Remember Us** program is simple and does not add any extra time:

- 1** Your teacher will give you the name of a lost child, and whatever information we know about him or her.
- 2** Keep that child in your thoughts—however you like—as you prepare for your bar/bat mitzvah.
- 3** When you do a mitzvah, do it b'shem—in the name of—the child whose memory you are carrying.
- 4** When you stand in front of the Torah, speak the name of your child, in whatever way you choose.

After bar/bat mitzvah, our tradition allows you to do the mitzvah of saying the Kaddish prayer for a family member or someone who you want to remember who has died. You will learn it as part of your bar/bat mitzvah.

- 5** Become the Kaddish-sayer for the child whose memory you keep. Choose a good day to say the prayer and light a memorial candle. It could be Yom Hashoah (the day Jews everywhere remember the Holocaust), Yom Kippur, or the anniversary of your bar/bat mitzvah.

Through these simple acts, done in the normal unfolding of your own life, you will be helping to redeem the life of a lost Jewish child.

Peace and a blessing, shalom uvracha. Congratulations, and thank you.