







Shabbat is a time of peace, a time for family. There are special blessings we recite to welcome Shabbat into our homes. The first of these blessings is the Shabbat candle blessing and it helps us usher in Shabbat with brightness and joy.

ָבָרוּךְ אַתָּה יִיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתִיו, וְצְוָנוּ לְהַדְלִיק נֵר שֶׁל שַׁבָּת.

Baruch Atah Adonai, Eloheinu Melech haolam, asher kid'shanu b'mitzvotav v'zivanu l'hadlik ner shel Shabbat

Blessed are You, Eternal our God, Sovereign of the universe, who makes us holy with mitzvot, commanding us to kindle the light of Shabbat.



The kiddush is the blessing that helps us sanctify Shabbat and make it holy. Traditionally, before kiddush is recited we fill our glass to overflowing to thank God for our abundance of blessings. Below is the entire Shabbat Kiddush. In box is the blessing we say at school.

ַויְהִי עָרֶב וַיְהִי בְּקֶריוֹם הַשִּׁשִׁי.

וַיְכֵלוּ הַשָּׁמֵיִם וְהָאָרֶץ וְכָל צְבָאָם. וַיְכַל אֱלֹהִים בַּיּוֹם הַשְּׁבִיעִי מְלַאכְתּוֹ אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה, וַיִּשְׁבֹּת בַּיּוֹם הַשְּׁבִיעִי, מִכָּל מְלַאכְתּוֹ אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה. וַיְבָרֶך אֱלֹהִים אֶת יוֹם הַשְּׁבִיעִי וַיְקַדֵּשׁ אֹתוֹ, כִּי בוֹ שָׁבַת מִכְּל מָלאכִתּוֹ, אֲשֶר בַּרָא אֱלֹהִים לעֲשׁוֹת.

ּבָרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, בּוֹרֵא פְּרִי הַגְּפֶּן.

Ba-ruch a-tah, A-do-nai, E-lo-hei-nu me-lech ha-o-lam, bo-rei p'ri ha-ga-fen.

Blessed are You, Eternal our God, Sovereign of the universe, Creator of the fruit of the wine.

בֶּרוּךְ אַתָּה יָיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלֶם, אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתִיו וְרָצָה בְנוּ, וְשַׁבַּת קַדְשׁוֹ בְּאַהַבָה וּבְרַצוֹן הִנְחִילֶנוּ זִכָּרוֹן לְמַעֲשֵׂה בְרֵאשִׁית, כִּי הוּא יוֹם מְּחִלֶּה לְמִקְרָאֵי קֹנֶדשׁ, זֵכֶר לִיצִיאַת מִצְרִים כִּי בָנוּ בָחַרְתָּ וְאוֹתָנוּ קִדְשְׁתָּ מִכָּל הָעַמִּים, וְשַׁבַּת קָדְשְׁךְּ בְּאַהֲבָה וּבְרָצוֹן הִנְחַלְתָנוּ. בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ, מִקְדֵשׁ הַשַּׁבָּת.

בָּרְכוֹת הַמִּשְׁפְּחָה

It is traditional for parents to bless their children on Shabbat. There are many variations on how the blessing is made. The most common custom is for a parent to put their hands on the child's head and recite the blessing. This is a wonderful tradition that helps children feel special and loved, it boosts self-esteem, and it fosters fond memories of Shabbat-family-together time.

For the boys we say:

יִשְׂמָדְ אֵלֹהִים כָּאֵפָרֵיִם וְכִמְנַשֵּׁה.

Y'simcha Elohim k'Efrayim v'che-Menasheh

May God inspire you to be like Ephraim and Menasheh.

For the girl we say:

יִשֹמֵך אֱלֹהִים כְּשָׁרָה רִבְקָה רָחֵל וְלֵאָה.

Y'simeich Elohim k'Sarah, Rivkah, Rachel, v'Leah.

May God inspire you to be like Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel and Leah.

Together we say:

יְבֶרֶכְהְ יָיָ וְיִשְׁמְרֶהְ. יָאֵר יִיָ פָּנָיו אֵלֶיהְ וִיחֻנְּהָ. יִשֵּׂא יִיַ פָּנַיו אֵלֵיהְ וִיַשֵּׁם לְךְּ שֵׁלוֹם.

Y'varechecha Adonai V'yish'm'recha. Ya'er Adonai panav eilecha vichuneka. Yisa Adonai panav eilecha v'yasem l'cha shalom.

May God bless you and keep you. May God's light shine upon you, and may God be gracious to you. May you feel God's presence within you always, and may you find peace.



On Shabbat, we also say Hamotzi - blessing for bread - over the specially braided challah to praise and thank God for giving us food to eat.

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלֶם הַמּוֹצִיא לֶחֶם מִן הָאָרֶץ.

Ba-ruch a-tah, A-do-nai, E-lo-hei-nu, me-lech ha-o-lam, ha-mo-tzi le-chem min ha-a-retz.

Blessed are You, Eternal our God, Sovereign of the universe, who brings forth bread from the earth.