

# CONFIRMATION SPONSOR

## ELIGIBILITY, DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES

The sponsor for a Confirmation candidate is meant to provide spiritual help to the candidate (Catechism 1311). He or she should be willing to serve as a strong and lasting Christian influence on the candidate. The sponsor enters into a spiritual relationship with the candidate and acts as a spiritual parent and mentor. Therefore, it is both a great blessing and a responsibility to commit to the role of a sponsor.

Each candidate may choose only one sponsor; it may be either a man or a woman. **A sponsor takes on a life-long commitment to help their candidate persevere in the Faith. According to the Code of Canon Law (892), “The sponsor is to take care that the confirmed person behaves as a true witness of Christ and faithfully fulfills the obligations inherent in this sacrament.”** The Church states that it is desirable that the sponsor would be one of the person’s godparents; however, this is not a requirement (893, §2). The sponsor needs to be a registered member of a Catholic parish in order to get the Sponsor Certificate of Eligibility signed by the pastor. Moreover, a sponsor must have intellectual and physical faculties to be a sponsor.

**According to Canon 874, a sponsor must meet the following criteria:**

- Must be 16 years old or older
- Must have received the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Eucharist
- Must not be a parent of the one to be confirmed

This canon (874, §1, 1) also states that the sponsor must lead “a life of faith in keeping with the function to be taken on.” **Therefore, the following persons are NOT eligible to act as a sponsor:**

- Persons married outside the Catholic Church
- persons who miss Sunday Mass and Holy Days of Obligation and/or consider Sunday Mass and Holy days of Obligation as optional
- Persons cohabiting without the benefit and grace of Catholic marriage
- Persons who neglect the religious education of their children
- Individuals who neglect to fulfill their “Easter Duty” that is, Communion at least once a year during the Easter season and Confession once a year if in the state of mortal sin
- Those who give public scandal in any way

Your sponsor should be willing and able to participate in your formation for Confirmation. Your sponsor should be someone that you trust and feel comfortable turning to for help, advice and guidance, especially in regard to your spiritual life.

After you receive the Sacrament of Confirmation your relationship with your sponsor DOES NOT END! You both are called to lead each other closer to God, to continue to grow in knowledge of your faith, and to challenge one another to lead lives of holiness and service.

FORMS/REQUIREMENTS FOR CONFIRMATION SPONSORS:

- Certificate of Sponsor Eligibility (see [www.saintagnes.org](http://www.saintagnes.org) for a copy of the form)
- Sponsor Interview

**DUE DATE: March 18, 2024**



## GODPARENT/SPONSOR ELIGIBILITY FORM

### CANDIDATE'S LAST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

*You have been asked to be a Godparent for the Sacrament of Baptism or a Sponsor for the Sacrament of Confirmation. Such a person assumes, along with the parents, the responsibility for the child's faith. The purpose is to ensure that the rich and beautiful faith of the Church is passed on to the child in the most loving and authentic way possible. In accepting this very important role, you are urged to reflect upon the importance of this commitment. Please read the following and pray about the responsibility you will be fulfilling in someone's spiritual life. After reflection, please initial each line and fill in the Sacraments information, sign the statement of eligibility and have your parish sign and seal the bottom portion.*

**From the Code of Canon Law:** A sponsor for the Sacrament of Baptism or Confirmation must be a Catholic who has received the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation. They must be free from canonical penalty and must lead a life in harmony with the faith in keeping with the function to be undertaken. (Canons #874 & 893).

Name of Church where Baptism/Confirmation will take place: \_\_\_\_\_

#### REQUIREMENTS FOR A GODPARENT/SPONSOR:

- \_\_\_\_\_ I have received the three Sacraments of Initiation of the Roman Catholic Church:
- \_\_\_\_\_ **1. Catholic Baptism** – Date and Church where Baptized: \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ **2. Catholic Holy Communion** – Date and Church of First Communion: \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ **3. Catholic Confirmation** – Date and Church where Confirmed: \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ I am at least sixteen years of age or older.
- \_\_\_\_\_ If married, I have received the Sacrament of Marriage in the Catholic Church (or Convalidation in the Catholic Church)  
Date and Church of Marriage: \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ If single, I am not living with someone outside of marriage.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I participate regularly in Sunday Mass and Communion as a practicing Roman Catholic. I celebrate the sacrament of Reconciliation at least once a year. I have given witness to my faith in Jesus Christ in word and deed and strive to live out my commitment to the Gospel message. I intend to continue the practice of my Catholic Faith.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I am a registered member of \_\_\_\_\_ in (City, State) \_\_\_\_\_ since \_\_\_\_\_ and fulfill my obligations to the parish to the best of my ability.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I promise to give support to \_\_\_\_\_ (candidate's name) by my prayers, my continued interest in his/her Catholic growth, and by the Christian example of my daily life.

#### GODPARENT/SPONSOR AGREEMENT:

I do hereby solemnly declare that I do fulfill all the requirements to act as a Godparent for the Sacrament of Baptism or a Sponsor for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*(This part is to be filled out by the Church of the Godparent/Sponsor.)*

This certifies that the above named person is known to me as a parishioner in good standing. I testify that he/she is qualified to serve as a Godparent for the Sacrament of Baptism or Sponsor for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Parish Seal	Name of Church:	_____
	Church's Street:	_____
	Church's City, State, Zip:	_____
	Pastor's Name:	_____
	Pastor's Signature:	_____
	Date:	_____

# SPONSOR INTERVIEW

## INSTRUCTIONS

The Confirmation Candidate is required to interview the sponsor. This can be done in-person or over the phone. The purpose is to begin a personal conversation between candidate and sponsor regarding living the faith.

Be sure to get specific answers, not “yes” or “no” responses.

Candidate Name (print): \_\_\_\_\_

Candidate Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor Name (print): \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Interview: \_\_\_\_\_

## INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

*(Answers are to be handwritten by the Candidate on a separate piece of paper)*

1. How do you pray?
2. Who has been influential in the growth of your Faith?
3. Have you ever had to defend your Faith? When? How?
4. Are you active in your Church? How?
5. What do you find to be the most rewarding part of your Faith?
6. Do you participate in community service? What kind?
7. Have you sponsored anyone else: Who and why? How have you helped them? (Be specific)
8. Do you have any childhood memories of your Faith, Church, or Catholic Holidays? What are some of them?
9. What Catholic devotions have helped you pull through the tough times in your life?
10. What do you find to be the most rewarding part of Mass?
11. Is there anything that you don't understand or have a difficult time accepting concerning matters of faith? What and why?
12. How do you see God working in your (the Sponsor's) life?
13. How do you see God working in “my” (the Candidate's) life?

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