

- Infant baptism
- Teen confirmation
- Adult confirmation
- OCIA child

Completed form can also be emailed to [sj-office@scsjcluster.org](mailto:sj-office@scsjcluster.org)



## ST. CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA & ST. JOAN OF ARC

### Sponsor form for Baptism or Confirmation

You have been chosen to be a sponsor (godparent) for Baptism or Confirmation in one of our parishes. We ask that you reflect on the responsibilities of being a sponsor (see second page) and complete this form. Ensure that YOUR CATHOLIC PASTOR signs this form and marks it with the parish seal. Allow a couple weeks for processing.

Candidate's name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(The individual being baptized and/or confirmed)

Sponsor's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor's Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor's Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor's Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I am registered with the parish of \_\_\_\_\_

in (city) \_\_\_\_\_, (state) \_\_\_\_\_.

I meet the following requirements for being a Sponsor:

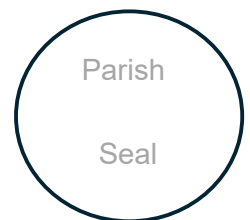
- I am Confirmed in the Catholic Church and have received First Communion.
- I attend Mass on all Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation.
- I am 16 years old or older.
- I am not the father or mother of the Candidate named above.
- Marital status (must be able to check one):
  - I am single and living a Christian life
  - I am married, and had a Catholic wedding or Catholic validation ceremony
  - I am divorced, and have not remarried outside of a Catholic ceremony

#### FOR THE CATHOLIC PASTOR OF SPONSOR

I affirm that this person meets the requirements to be a sponsor in the Catholic Church.

Signature of Catholic Pastor: \_\_\_\_\_

Parish: \_\_\_\_\_





## **The Role of a Sponsor**

Sponsors are encouraged to deepen their own faith and to be models of discipleship. A sponsor follows the life of the early Apostles, who handed on the faith they first received from Jesus himself (1 Corinthians 11:23). We cannot give what we do not have. In Baptism, sponsors pledge this support to the parents. Confirmation preparation includes opportunities for candidates and sponsors to share their faith and to strengthen their relationship with one another.

## **FAQs**

### **What is the difference between a godparent and a sponsor?**

While the term “godparent” is often used, mostly in Baptism, the Church term for both Baptism and Confirmation is “sponsor.” This highlights the ongoing mentoring relationship. It is not a mere honorary or civic role.

### **May a candidate have more than one sponsor?**

For Baptism, there can be one male sponsor or one female sponsor or one of each (CIC 873). For Confirmation, yes, but only one will be the liturgical sponsor who will present the candidate.

### **May parents of the candidate be sponsors?**

Parents of the candidate may not be sponsors, according to Church Law (CIC 874). This is because the Church sees parents as the “first heralds” or primary educators of the faith regarding their children (CCC 1656). The sponsor pledges assistance to the parents in raising the candidate in the Catholic faith. Grandparents of the candidate may serve as sponsors if they meet the other requirements.

### **Can someone who cannot be present be a sponsor and someone else fill in?**

Yes, however, the proxy sponsor must fulfill the same requirements as the primary sponsor and complete this form. Both are encouraged to participate as much as possible in the candidate’s preparation.

### **What are the Holy Days of Obligation in addition to Sundays?**

Wisconsin: January 1, August 15, November 1, December 8, and December 25

CIC = Code of Canon Law

CCC = Catechism of the Catholic Church