

Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish and Shrine Faith Formation Office

55A Warwick Rd., Stratford NJ 08084 Office: **(856)** 627-2222 Ext. 109

Email: ghernandez@guadalupeshrinenj.org

SPONSOR CERTIFICATION FORM

Return form by February 16th, 2026, attached to the Application

Return to Mrs. Hernandez

Dear Sponsor:

When a child chooses you as a Sacramental Sponsor, that means you are thought of as a very special Catholic. Being called to be a Sponsor is not merely a choice because of family ties or a reward for friendship. This call to be a sponsor bears the responsibility of giving spiritual witness to your Confirmed Child on how to live out the Catholic faith in everyday life. By being faithful to God's law, being active in the life of your parish, participating in Mass weekly, and living Gospel values, you offer tremendous personal support to the parents who commit themselves in Baptism to faithfully pass on the Catholic faith to their child.

The laws of the Catholic Church offer these qualities of a **valid sponsor**:

- Must be mature enough to undertake this role, at least 16 years of age.
- Must be <u>fully initiated</u>, having received the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist.
- Must be a member of the Catholic Church, <u>canonically free</u> to carry out this office. (This
 would indicate that Catholics living in an <u>invalid marriage</u> (not according to Church
 regulations) and those who are <u>cohabiting</u> (living together without marriage) are
 ineligible.
- Must know the fundamental truths of the faith, be a practicing Catholic who attends Sunday Mass and receives the sacraments regularly, and see to the religious instruction of his/her family.
- Must not be the mother or father of the one to be confirmed. The sponsor, with the
 parents, presents the child for the sacrament and helps him/her live a life befitting a
 baptized Catholic Christian.

Therefore, it is important that you prayerfully consider the <u>serious responsibility</u> which you take on as a Sponsor. If you are unable to live up to these Catholic ideals, you may decline this responsibility.

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I,	, a member of	,
(Please Print Sponsor's Full Name)		
accept the invitation to be a sponsor to		for the
	(Please Print Candidate's Full Name)	
Sacrament of Confirmation at Our Lady	of Guadalupe Parish Shrine.	
•	urch. I understand that I am called to somy confirmed child, especially by my	
Sponsor Signature: <u>Date</u> :		
Sponsor Contact Info: Phone #	Email:	