Confirmation Year 2 Sponsor

The Role of a Confirmation Sponsor

A sponsor must be a person who knows the candidate and can help him/her on his/her spiritual journey and can share his/her own faith. This selection should be indicated at the beginning of the candidate's immediate preparation so that the sponsor can play an active part in the preparation process. Ideally, it should be someone who has been involved already in the candidate's spiritual formation, such as a godparent, a family member, or a member of the local parish.

Eligibility of a Confirmation Sponsor

A sponsor must:

- Be a practicing Catholic in good standing with the Church (Canon 874.3)
- Good standing includes being in a marital state that is blessed by the Church
- Be at least 16 years old (Canon 874.2)
- Belong to the Catholic Church and have been fully initiated (have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist) (Canon 874.3)
- Not be the biological parent of the candidate (Canon 874.5)

Suggestions for Sponsors

- **Be a good Catholic role model.** The primary job of a sponsor is to show a candidate how to live the faith as an adult. This includes going to Mass every Sunday (or Saturday evening) and Holy Days, going to Confession regularly, and praying daily. It also means bringing your faith into ordinary situations in daily living: being a model of forgiveness, compassion, and personal sacrifice. When you actively seek spiritual growth, you provide a guide for your candidate's own growth in their faith journey.
- **Offer prayer support.** Remember to pray for your candidate every day for the rest of your life. It can be as simple as saying a quick prayer or establishing a complex prayer routine, offering a memorized prayer like the Hail Mary or creating an original prayer. Remember your candidate in your Mass intention each Sunday and Holy Day. And let your candidate know that you are praying for them.
- **Show visible spiritual support.** Make it a point to ask your candidate about their prayer life on a regular basis. Are they getting to Mass every Sunday and Holy Day? If not, how can you help (offer a ride to Mass, talk to their parents about going as a family, etc)? Is your candidate getting to Confession regularly? If not, how can you help?
- **Mark the Confirmation Anniversary**. Remember the date that your candidate is confirmed and celebrate it each year. Send a card, make a phone call, or go out to dinner. Do something to remind your candidate (and yourself) that this is a major event in both of your lives.

SPONSOR/GODPARENT CERTIFICATION FOR BAPTISM AND CONFIRMATION

I, (name) have been asked to be the Godparent/Sponsor for (name of child) who will receive the Sacrament of

Baptism Confirmation. I am aware of my responsibility to support the person who is receiving this Sacrament by my example, involvement and prayers, and to assist him/her parents in raising him/her in the Catholic faith. I am aware of the requirements for being a Godparent/Sponsor and so attest to the following:

Please initial each of the following:

I am at least 16 years of age.
_____

_____I have received the Sacrament of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation in the Roman Catholic Church.

I practice the Catholic faith by attending Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation.
_____

_____I sincerely try to follow the moral teachings of the Catholic faith and try to lead a Catholic life with integrity.

(If married) I was married in the Catholic Church.
_____

_____I am not one of the parents of the child receiving the Sacrament.

Signature Date Tel. Address _____City/Zip

_____

RETURN THIS FORM TO YOUR PASTOR TO COMPLETE.

THEN FORWARD TO THE PASTOR OF THE CHURCH WHERE THE SACRAMENT IS TO TAKE PLACE.

To be filled out by the Pastor of the Sponsor:

(Name of sponsor/godparent)_____assures me that the above requirements are fulfilled.

_____ He/she is a registered and active member of our parish.

_____ He/she has recently registered and promises to make the parish his/her spiritual home.

_____ I have discussed being a Catholic Godparent/Sponsor with the Godparent/Sponsor who has promised to us this invitation to rekindle their faith.

Signature of Priest/Delegate DatePrint Name

_____Parish_____

City/State_____**CHURCH**

SEAL HERE

POLICY FOR SPONSORS/GODPARENTS FOR THE SACRAMENTS OF BAPTISM AND CONFIRMATION

1January2024

On recommendation of the Presbyteral Council, and in accord with the Code of Canon Law (Canons 872, 873, 874 §1.2, 892, 893) the following outlines the requirements for sponsors/Godparents for the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation in the Diocese of Oakland.

FOR BAPTISM

Can.872 Insofar as possible, a person to be baptized is to be given a sponsor who assists an adult in Christian initiation or together with the parents presents an infant for baptism. A sponsor also helps the baptized person to lead a Christian life in keeping with baptism and to fulfill faithfully the obligations inherent in it.

Can.873 There is to be only one male sponsor or one female sponsor or one of each.

FOR CONFIRMATION

Can.892 §1. Insofar as possible, there is to be a sponsor for the person to be confirmed; 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.

Can.893 §1. To perform the function of sponsor, a person must fulfill the conditions mentioned in can. 874 (see below)

FOR BAPTISM & CONFIRMATION

Can.874 §1. To be permitted to take on the function of sponsor a person must:

1/ be designated by the one to be baptized, by the parents or the person who takes their place, or in their absence by the pastor or minister and have the aptitude and intention of fulfilling this function;

2/ have completed the sixteenth year of age, unless the diocesan bishop has established another age, or the pastor or minister has granted an exception for a just cause;

3/ be a Catholic who has been confirmed and has already received the most holy sacrament of the

Eucharist and who leads a life of faith in keeping with the function to be taken on;

4/ not be bound by any canonical penalty legitimately imposed or declared;

5/ not be the father or mother of the one to be baptized.

§2. A baptized person who belongs to a non-Catholic ecclesial community is not to participate