**Confirmation Y2 Confirmation 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 (9th grade) 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 and Holy Day, going to Confession

regularly, and praying daily. But it also means bringing your faith

into the ordinary situations in daily living: being a model of

forgiveness, compassion, and personal sacrifice. If you are not

growing in holiness yourself, you will not be able to help your

candidate grow in holiness.

* **Offer prayer support.** Remember to pray for your candidate every

day for the rest of your life. It can be as simple as offering a Hail

Mary every morning or as complex as creating your own prayer

routine. Remember your candidate in your Mass intention each

Sunday and Holy Day. And let him/her know that you are praying

for him/her.

* **Show visible spiritual support.** Make it a point to ask your

candidate about his/her prayer life on a regular basis. Is he/she

getting to Mass every Sunday and Holy Day? If not, how can you

help (take him/her yourself, talk to his/her parents about going as a

family, etc)? Is he/she 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.