

Godparent Guidelines

Insofar as possible, a child to be baptized is to be given a godparent who together with the parents presents the child for baptism. A godparent also helps the baptized child to lead a Christian life in keeping with baptism and to fulfill faithfully the obligations inherent in it. **The following are the requirements of a godparent(s)**

- **Age:**

Must be at least 16 years old.

- **Catholic Faith:**

Must be a full initiated Catholic, meaning they have received all three sacraments of initiation: Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmation.

- **Practice of Faith**

Must be a practicing Catholic, meaning they regularly attend Mass, live a life in accordance with Church teachings, and are in good standing with the Church.

- **Valid Marriage (if applicable)**

If married, the godparent must be married according to the laws and regulations of the Catholic Church.

- **Not the parents**

Godparents cannot be the child's parents.

- **Number of Godparents**

While one godparent is sufficient, it is common to have two, one male and one female.

- **Non-Catholic Witness**

A baptized, non-Catholic Christian can participate in the baptism as a "Christian witness" alongside a Catholic godparent.

- **Letter of Eligibility**

Some parishes require a letter of good standing from the godparent's parish, affirming their faith and participation.