

Sacrament Preparation Supplement

OCIA: Adult Sacraments

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Have you been married before [Civilly or in Church] **and/or** are you currently civilly married? *This applies to both baptized and unbaptized persons.*

If you answered “yes”, please contact Deepa Duran asap, 623-500-3207 or dduran@sthelenglendale.org

Impediments:

- Living Together with S/O
- Cohabiting
- Currently Civilly Married
- Has Prior Marriage[s]
- A Baptized Catholic who did not marry inside the Catholic Church
- Divorced and currently Remarried
- Divorced and currently single or dating

To those in OCIA with Impediments: please refrain from receiving Holy Communion until impediments are removed / adjudicated / repaired.

If you have further questions about receiving Holy Communion, please speak to Deacon Stan.

BAPTISMAL / BIRTH CERTIFICATE

Must be submitted by November 10, 2026.

At the beginning of Sacrament Preparation, adults have to submit their Baptismal and/or Birth Certificate. If you haven't done so already, please submit this asap. You may email dduran@sthelenglendale.org or give it to Deacon Stan Gwizdak.

Your certificate must be submitted ASAP, no later than November 10, 2026.

- **Unbaptized?** We need a copy of your Birth Certificate.
- **Baptized as a Catholic?** We need a copy of your Baptismal Certificate with notations. [You will contact the Catholic parish where you were baptized.]
- **Baptized as a Non-Catholic?** We need a copy of your Birth Certificate, as well as, a copy of your Baptismal certificate.

A BAPTISM GODPARENT or CONFIRMATION SPONSOR.

By January, adults have to submit their Baptism Godparent or Confirmation Sponsor, along with proof of sacrament documentation. If you haven't done so already, please submit the **Eligibility form** asap. You may give the original to Deacon Stan. **The Eligibility form and documentation must be submitted by January 5, 2027.**

Hopefully, you've thought a lot about what receiving the sacraments of initiation mean, and how the Holy Spirit will affect your life. You're required to have a Baptism Godparent or Confirmation sponsor — someone who guides you and shares the story of faith with you now and throughout your life.

Some advice: You're looking for someone you trust, whose Catholic faith you admire and who will be there for you to help you grow in your Catholic faith as you continue to grow older.

GODPARENT/SPONSOR GREAT RESPONSIBILITIES:

A Baptism Godparent / Confirmation Sponsor **must be a fully initiated Roman Catholic** because Baptism Godparents / Confirmation Sponsors officially represent the Roman Catholic Church by witnessing what it means to live a baptized life, confirmed in the Holy Spirit and faithfully participating in the sacraments of Reconciliation and the Eucharist, the source and summit of the Christian life.

GODPARENTS/SPONSORS CAN TRUTHFULLY STATE ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

- I am at least 16 years of age.
- I am a registered member of my Catholic parish.
- I am an active member at my parish. [financial support and involvement in ministries]
- I have received the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Communion and can show proof.
- I fully and actively participate in the Liturgy of the Mass on Sundays & **Holy Days of Obligation**;
- I celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation regularly [every 1-2 months];
- I tithe 3-10% to our parish weekly;
- I develop and maintain a personal relationship with God through daily prayer;
- I participate in the catechetical, sacramental, and communal life of our parish.
- I witness to the teachings of the Catholic Church by the way I live my life as a disciple of Jesus Christ.
- I am married, and I married within the Catholic Church and can show proof. **or**
- I am unmarried, nor am I cohabitating with my significant other [living together under the same roof: part-time, full-time, or occasional sleepovers].

RELATIONSHIP STATUS NOTES FOR POTENTIAL GODPARENTS / CONFIRMATION SPONSORS:

- Those Catholics in second+ marriages must have had their previous marriage[s] annulled and their second+ marriage convalidated by the Catholic Church.
- Those Catholics presently in civil or common law marriages are not eligible to serve as a Baptism Godparent or as a Confirmation Sponsor.
- A Sponsor who is unmarried, must be living a life consistent with the single vocation as defined by the Catholic Church. [in good standing]
- Any single person cohabitating with another person, living in a romantic relationship or as a couple, is ineligible to minister as a Baptism Godparent or as a Confirmation Sponsor.

DO YOU KNOW A CAFETERIA CATHOLIC?

A **Cafeteria Catholic** is someone who picks and chooses Church teachings according to what they want to believe or not believe.

- A **Cafeteria Catholic** supports the pro-choice movement [abortion and contraception].
- A **Cafeteria Catholic** supports the re-defining of marriage.
- A **Cafeteria Catholic** is “living with” someone else [cohabitating full-time or occasionally] or is civilly married;
 - while engaging in intimate sexual relations (outside the Sacrament of Matrimony).
- A **Cafeteria Catholic** is attending Mass only when they feel like it or it fits into their schedule.

A CAFETERIA CATHOLIC may not serve as Baptism Godparent or as a Confirmation Sponsor.

CODE OF CANON LAW FOR THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

THOSE TO BE BAPTIZED

Canon 864 Every person not yet baptized and only such a person is capable of baptism.

Canon 865 §1. For an adult to be baptized, the person must have manifested the intention to receive baptism, have been instructed sufficiently about the truths of the faith and Christian obligations, and have been tested in the Christian life through the catechumenate. The adult is also to be urged to have sorrow for personal sins.

Canon 865 §2. An adult in danger of death can be baptized if, having some knowledge of the principal truths of the faith, the person has manifested in any way at all the intention to receive baptism and promises to observe the commandments of the Christian religion.

Canon 866 Unless there is a grave reason to the contrary, an adult [age 8+] who is baptized is to be confirmed immediately after baptism and is to participate in the eucharistic celebration also by receiving communion.

Canon 867 §1. Parents are obliged to take care that infants are baptized in the first few weeks; as soon as possible after the birth or even before it, they are to go to the pastor to request the sacrament for their child and to be prepared properly for it.

Canon 867 §2. An infant in danger of death is to be baptized without delay.

BAPTISM GODPARENTS

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

Canon 873 There is to be only one male Godparent or one female Godparent or one of each.

Canon 874 §1. To be permitted to take on the function of Godparent 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.

Canon 874 §2. A baptized person who belongs to a non-Catholic ecclesial community is not to participate except together with a Catholic Godparent and then only as a witness of the baptism.

CODE OF CANON LAW FOR THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION:

THOSE TO BE CONFIRMED

Canon 889 §1. Every baptized person not yet confirmed and only such a person is capable of receiving confirmation.

Canon 889 §2. To receive confirmation licitly outside the danger of death requires that a person who has the use of reason be suitably instructed, properly disposed, and able to renew the baptismal promises.

Canon 890 The faithful are obliged to receive this sacrament at the proper time. Parents and pastors of souls, especially pastors of parishes, are to take care that the faithful are properly instructed to receive the sacrament and come to it at the appropriate time.

Canon 891 The sacrament of confirmation is to be conferred on the faithful at about the age of discretion unless the conference of bishops has determined another age, or there is danger of death, or in the judgment of the minister a grave cause suggests otherwise.

CONFIRMATION SPONSORS

Canon 892 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.

Canon 893 §1. To perform the function of sponsor, a person must fulfill the conditions mentioned in Canon 874.

Canon 893 §2. It is desirable to choose as sponsor the one who undertook the same function in baptism.

[The practice of choosing a Godparent from Baptism stems from the close connection between the two sacraments and the godparent's existing commitment to the individual's spiritual life. The godparent, having already made promises to assist in the child's Christian upbringing at baptism, is seen as a natural choice to continue guiding and supporting the individual's faith journey through confirmation.]

I am receiving the sacrament of Baptism & Confirmation at the same Mass. Am I allowed to have Godparent[s] for Baptism and someone different serve as my Confirmation Sponsor?

In **Canon 893**, your Confirmation Sponsor is to be one of your Godparent. **Canon 866** specifically states that immediately following your Baptism, you receive Confirmation.

The answer is no. You are not allowed to have Godparent[s] for Baptism and then a different person to serve as your Confirmation sponsor when receiving those two sacraments together at the same Mass.

BAPTISM GODPARENT / CONFIRMATION SPONSOR ELIGIBILITY FORM

Please give their Baptism Godparent or Confirmation Sponsor this **St. Helen Godparent/Sponsor Eligibility Form** to complete and return to St. Helen (address: 5510 W. Cholla St, Glendale, AZ 85304 or email: kkennedy@sthelenglendale.org)

This forms needs to be Completed and submitted on/before the due date for the person who is **receiving the sacraments.** [Please confirm with the person who is receiving sacraments.]

DECEMBER 1, 2026

Baptized 3rd Graders

4TH / 5TH Graders in year two

6th, 7th, & 8th graders in year two

9th, 10th, 11th graders in year two

JANUARY 5, 2027

Adults in OCIA

12th graders in OCIA

MARCH 8, 2027

Baptized 2nd Graders

Unbaptized 3rd Graders

4TH / 5TH Graders in year one

6th, 7th, & 8th graders in year one

9th, 10th, 11th graders in year one

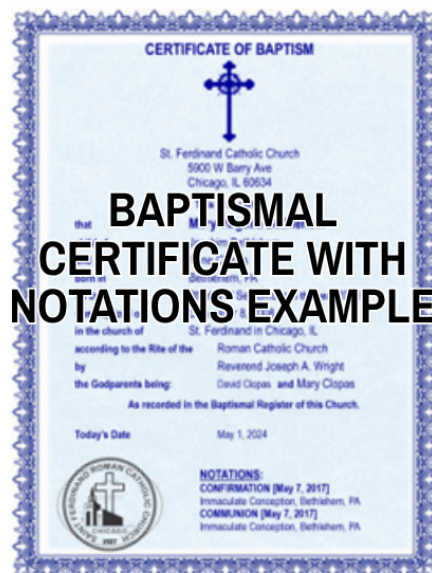
Infant [6 years of age & under]: within 2 months of the scheduled Infant Baptism

To the Baptism Godparent or Confirmation Sponsor:

Complete this ELIGIBILITY FORM by finishing all four steps below:

1. The Baptism Godparent or Confirmation Sponsor completes the form truthfully and honestly.
2. The Baptism Godparent or Confirmation Sponsor takes the Eligibility form to the parish where they live and are actively involved. If the Baptism Godparent or Confirmation Sponsor is an active, registered member, their parish church will seal and sign their form.
3. The Baptism Godparent or Confirmation Sponsor submits their Sealed and Signed Eligibility form to St. Helen. [We do not accept copies of the Eligibility form]
****note** The PARISH SEAL is a raised embossment, stamp or a sticker decal.**
4. The Baptism Godparent or Confirmation Sponsor then, contacts the Catholic parish where s/he received their sacrament of baptism and requests a **newly issued Baptismal Certificate with notations** [[notations need to include both Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist]] ****** if married, the notations will also list your Sacrament of Marriage.**

The newly issued Baptismal Certificate with notations needs to be issued/printed between May 2026 and March 2027. [We will not accept potential Baptism Godparent or Confirmation Sponsor baptismal certificates with notations printed on/before May 1, 2026].





ST. HELEN CATHOLIC PARISH

5510 West Cholla Street, Glendale, AZ 85304

Phone: 623-979-4202

Website: www.StHelenGlendale.org

GODPARENT/SPONSOR

ELIGIBILITY FORM

INFANT through ADULT

To be completed by the Catholic Sponsor

THE SPONSOR NEEDS TO CONTACT THE PARISH WHERE YOU RECEIVED THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM AND REQUEST A **BAPTISMAL CERTIFICATE WITH NOTATIONS** [INCLUDING ALL OF THE SACRAMENTS YOU HAVE RECEIVED]. THE **BAPTISMAL CERTIFICATE WITH NOTATIONS** MUST BE DATED WITHIN **ONE YEAR** OF SUBMITTING YOUR ELIGIBILITY FORM. EMAIL/MAIL THE **BAPTISMAL CERTIFICATE WITH NOTATIONS** TO KAREN KENNEDY, KKENNEDY@STHELENGLENDALE.ORG

First & Last Name of the Person receiving the sacrament[s]: _____ and their Age _____

GODPARENT/SPONSOR INFORMATION

First Name _____ Last Name _____ Contact # _____

Mailing Address _____ City _____ State _____

Email: _____ Country _____ Zip Code _____

In accepting this responsibility, I can truthfully state the following:

- ☐ I am a practicing Roman Catholic in word and deed.
- ☐ I am a fully initiated Catholic.
- ☐ I attend Mass: _____ Weekly _____ Monthly _____ Do not really attend Mass
_____ Twice a month _____ Occasionally
- ☐ I am at least 16 years of age.
- ☐ I am: _____ Single; _____ Married; _____ Widowed; _____ Divorced
- ☐ I am not cohabitating (living with significant other/boyfriend/girlfriend or having occasional sleepovers).
- ☐ If married, were you married in the Catholic Church _____ If yes, what year? _____

Statement of Sponsor

I recognize that in accepting the role of Sponsor, I become responsible to be a model and example of my Catholic faith to the newly Baptized as a committed and active Catholic and to be a support in the practice of our mutual faith. I hereby assure that I am committed to my Catholic faith, that I am properly baptized and confirmed in it, and that I meet my fundamental obligations as a Catholic by participating in Sunday Mass, by receiving the Eucharist as often as possible and Penance as necessary, by being open to the Word of God as revealed in Sacred Scripture and taught by the Church, by witnessing to the values of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and by seeking to serve others for love of Him.

Signature of Catholic Sponsor _____

Date Signed _____

Name of Your Home Parish Church _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Pastors must ascertain the spiritual qualifications of Godparents/Sponsors.

AFFIX
CHURCH
SEAL
HERE

Signature of Pastor or Delegate _____

Date: _____ / _____ / _____

