



Confirmation Sponsor Eligibility Form



Per Canon Law 874 & 893, a sponsor must be a Catholic who has received Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist; lives a life of faith fitting for the role; and, if married, must have been married in the Catholic Church.

Confirmation Sponsor Information

*A sponsor may be male or female, *at least sixteen (16) year of age, *practicing Catholic by living a life of faith, ***must be a registered member of their parish for at least one year.** *If married, the sponsor must have been married in the Catholic Church and must provide a copy of the marriage certificate. *Parents may not serve as sponsors for their own child.

If you do not meet all these requirements, please let the parents know immediately.

Candidate's Name: _____
(First) (Middle) (Last)

Church of Confirmation: _____

Sponsor Name: _____
(First) (Middle) (Last)

Sponsor's Parish: _____
(Parish Name and place) (Parish Phone #)

Eligibility Requirements

- | | Yes | No |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. I am fully initiated Catholic(I have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation) | ☐ | ☐ |
| 2. I am at least 16 year of age. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 3. I attend Mass on Sunday and on Holy Days of obligation, and regularly receive the sacraments of Holy Communion and Reconciliation | ☐ | ☐ |
| I am a registered member for at least one year of _____ | ☐ | ☐ |
| 4. Sponsor must be in good standing with the Catholic Church: | | |
| • If single, must be living according to Church teaching. NOT living with someone outside of marriage. Based on these guidelines, are you in good standing with the Church? _____ | ☐ | ☐ |
| * If Married, must be married in the Catholic Church: | | |
- *attach confirmation certificate copy

Date: _____ Church Name: _____ *attach marriage certificate copy

☐ I have truthfully answered the above questions and declare that I fulfill the Catholic Church's requirements of a Sponsor. I Commit to the responsibility of acting as a Sponsor.

Sponsor's Signature

Date

The person who has signed this form above has testified that they fulfill all canonical requirements to serve as a sponsor in the Catholic Church. To be signed and sealed by the sponsor's Parish of Record.

Priest's Signature

Date

The Requirements of Sponsor

The role of a *sponsor* is an important one for the sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation.

The Church sees the *sponsor* as a fully-initiated Catholic who supports the one receiving the sacrament with example and instruction. Because of the seriousness of this ministry, the Church has the following requirements:

- The sponsor must be a fully-initiated member of the Catholic Church through Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist.
- The sponsor must be at least sixteen (16) years of age.
- The sponsor must have an active life of faith in the Church and provide a good example by attending Mass regularly and receiving the Eucharist.
 - Someone married outside the Church is not able to receive Communion and is not able to be a sponsor.
 - Also, a Catholic who has left the Church is not able to be a sponsor of a new member into the Church.
 - Therefore, a Catholic who has left the Catholic Church cannot be a sponsor and cannot be a “Christian witness” if they join another Christian communion.
- The sponsor cannot be either parent.
- When there are two sponsors, they are “spiritual parents” and are to be a godfather and godmother.

Christians Witness – (A baptized non-Catholic Christian)

Provided there is one Catholic sponsor, a baptized non-Catholic Christian may serve as a Christian witness for Baptism only. This person is a *Christian witness* and **not** a *sponsor*.

- Requirements to be a Christian Witness:
 - At least sixteen years old
 - A validly baptized Christian
 - Living an upright life
 - Cannot be either parent
 - Cannot be a Catholic who has left the Church
- A Christian witness may never be a non-baptized person. For example, Jewish or Muslim godparents are not permitted by universal church law.
- The notation “Christian witness” is placed under the name of the non-Catholic Christian witness in the baptismal register.