



CONFIRMATION SPONSOR ELIGIBILITY FORM



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

Place of Confirmation: _____

A sponsor may be male or female and must be a fully initiated, practicing Catholic, at least sixteen (16) years of age, who has received the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist and lives a life of faith. 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. (Canon 893 and 874)

Confirmation Sponsor Information

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

Address: _____
(Street # & name) (Apt #) (City, State, zip code)

Phone#: _____ Email: _____

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

Eligibility Requirements

- | | Yes | No |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. I am at least 16 years of age. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. I am a practicing Catholic and lead a life in harmony with the faith. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. I am a fully initiated Catholic(I have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist). | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Please initial one: _____ I am single *attach confirmation certificate copy
_____ I am married | | |
| 5. If married, I am married in the Catholic Church ___ Yes ___ No *attach marriage certificate copy | | |

(Name and place of Catholic Church of Marriage)

The Pastor of the potential sponsor's parish must sign this statement and affix their Parish Seal. By doing so the pastor affirms that the information given above is true and this person is eligible to serve as a sponsor.

Sponsor's Signature

Priest's Signature

Date

Date

Please return to:

Parish: _____

Parish mailing address: _____

Church Seal

Attention: _____

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.