

Choosing Your Sponsor

Being a sponsor is a special role and one that takes thought and prayer as you discern your choice. The sponsor should be a person chosen by your child who is a good example of living a Christian life, in harmony with the Catholic Faith and willing to walk with them even beyond their sacraments as a mentor in the faith.

The requirements for being a Godparent or Sponsor are:

- Must be at least sixteen years old of age
- Must have received all sacraments of Initiation in the Catholic Church (Baptism, Confirmation and the Eucharist) and be good standing with the Church
- Display a visible commitment to living out the Catholic faith and have the ability and intention to carry out his/her responsibility as a spiritual guide in the candidate's life
- Does not need to be the same sex as the candidate; however, they CANNOT be a parent of the candidate.
- Godparent/Sponsor may be single but if they are married, they must be married in the Catholic Church.
- Canon Law also states that a sponsor/godparent must not be bound by any canonical penalty. (Cannot be married outside of the Catholic Church)

The sponsor/godparent should be a Catholic in good standing with whom you will have an ongoing relationship. Each Confirmation candidate will have one Sponsor. Although only one Godparent is required for Baptism, students may choose 2 Godparents. Please have the sponsor/godparent fill out the attached form, if you will be having two godparents for baptism, **each person must fill out their own form in order for it to be accepted and valid.**

Godparent/Sponsor Information

My Name (First and Last) _____
(Full name: This is how it will appear on the student's certificate)

I am a Godparent/Sponsor for (Candidate's Name) _____

Contact Information

Address _____

(City) _____ (State) _____ (Zip) _____

Phone (daytime) _____ (Cell) _____

Email _____

Name of Parish where you currently attend weekly Mass: _____

Are you registered at your Parish? Yes _____ If not, I will register now _____
My Parish does not have registration _____

Sacramental History

I have received Baptism in the Catholic Church Yes _____ No _____

I received Baptism in another faith denomination & have made a Profession of Faith in the Catholic Church Yes _____ No _____

Name of Church of your Baptism/Profession of Faith _____ City/State _____

I have received Holy Communion in the Catholic Church Yes _____ No _____

Name of Church you received Holy Communion _____ City/State _____

I have received Confirmation in the Catholic Church Yes _____ No _____

Name of Church you received Confirmation _____ City/State _____

Check the appropriate statement(s) below and provide any information requested beneath each statement. Please check all that apply:

1. I have never been married. I am not cohabiting.

2. I am engaged to be married in the Catholic Church.

For **you**: This is my first marriage. I have been married before.

For your **Fiancé(e)**: This is his/her first marriage. My fiancé(e) has been married before.

3. I am married in the Catholic Church.

(a) Your Spouse's Name & The Name of the Catholic Church where you were married:

4. I am married, but separated from my spouse. 5. I am divorced, and I have not remarried.

6. I am a widow/widower, and I have not remarried since my spouse's death.

I understand that as a godparent or sponsor I am to live a life in harmony with the nature of my beliefs as a Catholic Christian. Given the importance of this responsibility, I attest that I regularly attend Sunday Mass; I receive the Eucharist regularly; I make use of the sacrament of Reconciliation; I am not in an irregular or unlawful marriage (meaning that if I am Catholic, I am married in the Catholic Church); I seek to the best of my understanding, to uphold and live out the teachings of the Catholic Church; **I attest that I have received the sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Communion;** I also attest to the fact that **I am 16 years old or older.**

Furthermore, I understand that being a godparent/sponsor is a commitment of time. I will attend the required celebrations of liturgical rites and other initiation-related events to the best of my ability as well as do my best to attend class with my candidate when possible. I commit to fostering a relationship that assists in the spiritual growth of the both myself and the person I am sponsoring. I promise to the best of my ability to be a faithful witness of the Catholic faith to the person God has called me to serve as a godparent/sponsor.

Congratulations on being asked to be a Godparent or Sponsor.

In the Catholic faith, the Godparent/Sponsors takes on a special role of witnessing to the faith and participating in the Baptismal/Confirmation Rites. In order to serve as a Godparent/Sponsor, you must be a fully initiated Roman Catholic (baptized, confirmed and receiving the Eucharist), at least 16 years of age, and who lives a life of faith which befits the role to be undertaken (Canon 874). In order to be a faithful witness and to be properly qualified to accept the responsibilities asked during the Baptismal/Confirmation Rites, Godparents/Sponsors should be active in their faith, possess and active prayer life, attend Mass, and receive the Eucharist regularly.

In summary, it is important to know that: 1) If you are not a fully initiated Catholic; 2) If you are from a different faith tradition; or 3) If you are a married Catholic who was not married in the Catholic Church, you are not eligible to be a godparent/sponsor in the Catholic Church at this time. If you have any concerns or questions about your ability to serve as a Godparent/Sponsor please contact us at faithformation@simonjude.org

Please sign below that you have read the above paragraphs and filled out the paperwork completely and honestly for being Godparent/Sponsor.

Signature

Date

Faith Formation Office (602) 433 7610

“Go therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age.” (Matthew 28: 19-20)

