

Church of Saint Leo the Great
Lincroft, New Jersey



Your Role as Confirmation Sponsor

Come Holy Spirit.

Fill the Hearts of Your faithful.

Kindle in us the fire of Your Love.



Blessings and prayers!

You have been asked to accept the role of Sponsor for a Candidate for the Sacrament of Confirmation. This truly great honor carries with it profound spiritual responsibilities. The entire faith community of Saint Leo the Great joins you in supporting and celebrating the Candidate's completion of the Sacraments of Initiation into the mature Christian life as an adult member of Christ's Holy Church. This Sacrament strengthens the Candidate through the Holy Spirit to witness to the love of God by word and deed, and to share the Good News of our salvation in Christ Jesus. As Sponsor, you are called in a special way to make this journey of formation with the Candidate. You are to be a model and guide for the Candidate's choice to deepen his/her personal relationship with Jesus.

Requirements to Be a Confirmation Sponsor

- † You *must* be at least 16 years old
- † You *must* have received all of the Sacraments of Initiation in the Roman Catholic Church
- † You *cannot* be the parent of the Candidate
- † If married, your marriage *must* be recognized as valid in the Roman Catholic Church
- † You *must* be an active member of a Roman Catholic parish, faithfully attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation, and regularly receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation
- † You *must* demonstrate by the quality of your life conformity with the doctrines and moral teaching of the Roman Catholic Church.

If you cannot in good conscience confirm that you meet these criteria, please do not accept the role of Sponsor.

Ways to Actively Support the Faith Development of the Candidate

- † **Freely share** your life of faith with the Candidate, and **walk as a fellow pilgrim** with the Candidate on his/her life-long journey of faith.
- † **Nurture and support** the Candidate's faith growth by encouraging the Candidate to maintain an active prayer life, and by modeling healthy, life-giving, virtuous choices and relationships in your own life.
- † **Attend Mass and religious devotions** (e.g. Stations of the Cross, Eucharistic Adoration) with the Candidate, particularly during the penitential seasons of Advent and Lent.
- † **Support the Candidate** in assuming leadership roles in the parish through CYO or ministry.
- † **Encourage and assist** the Candidate to be active in works of mercy, charity and social justice.
- † **Help the Candidate grow in faith** by offering books and materials on faith, spirituality, prayer and various devotions (Rosary, Novenas, Chaplet of Divine Mercy), and by sharing films or music with Christian themes.

Let God Surprise You

By asking you to be a Sponsor, the Candidate is looking to you for guidance on the right way to live a life of mature faith. This is an exciting and challenging time for both of you. By saying yes to being a Sponsor, you agree to be a full partner and companion to the Candidate on this wonderful journey in Christ. Our prayers are with you that both you and the Candidate will come to know Our Lord Jesus Christ more intimately. Invite Him into your lives together, and prepare yourselves to be surprised by what His love will do!



God bless you