



## ST. JOSEPH PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM (PREP)

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Dear Parents,

Greetings!

As your child continues preparation to receive the sacrament of Confirmation, two of the most important items that must be submitted to the Religious Education office are the ***Sponsor Information Form*** (a copy is in your child's 8<sup>th</sup> grade binder) and the ***Sponsor Certificate***. **Please keep in mind that the Sponsor Certificate is obtained from the parish office of the church where the sponsor is registered.** These forms are due by January 28, 2026.

The Church asks that you and your child please keep in mind that the following are the requirements of the Catholic Church for a person to be a sponsor.

***Basic Church requirements to be considered as a sponsor:***

To be qualified as a Confirmation sponsor an individual must:

- Be at least fourteen years old
- Have been initiated in the Catholic Church through the three sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and the Eucharist
- Must attend Mass regularly
- If married, their marriage ***must*** be recognized by the Catholic church (be married in the Catholic 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 your life (Be in good standing with the Church)

***Other considerations when selecting a Confirmation sponsor:***

- † A sponsor CANNOT be a parent of the one to be confirmed.
- † Each Confirmation candidate may only choose ONE sponsor, the only exception being both baptismal godparents returning to be sponsors for Confirmation.
- † Because the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation are so closely connected, Church teaching states that it is "desirable that the godparent at Baptism also be the sponsor at Confirmation", however the selection of a special sponsor is also permitted.
- † The choice of who should be your sponsor is YOUR decision!

***Please do not choose someone just because they meet all of the requirements to be a sponsor!!***