

# SPONSOR ROLE, RESPONSIBILITIES AND SELECTION

The sponsor is an invaluable assistant to parents in transmitting the faith. The sponsor needs to be able to fulfill several requirements.

- The Church requires that the sponsor be an active, practicing Catholic who has already celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation. The Church recognizes that a person cannot transmit what the person does not have.
- It is important that the sponsor be more mature, more informed, and more experienced in the ways of our faith and culture than the candidate is.
- The sponsor should be a person who already has a trusting relationship of some sort with the candidate.
- It is recommended that the sponsor be an older person who has some experience with his or her faith and, hence, a clearer perspective from which to speak.
- The sponsor needs to be willing to meet with the candidate on a regular basis prior to the celebration of Confirmation and to make a commitment to continue the faith journey after the celebration of Confirmation.
- The sponsor needs to be willing to meet with the candidate on a regular basis prior to the celebration of Confirmation and to make a commitment to continue the faith journey after the celebration of Confirmation.
- The sponsor is one who is willing to share his or her faith with the candidate.
- The sponsor is an assistant to the parents as the prime transmitters of the faith.
- The sponsor is to “walk and talk” with the candidate on the faith journey.
- The sponsor is to be an older friend or relative in whom the candidate can confide.
- The sponsor needs to be an open, honest, caring, committed, and encouraging person who will help the candidate grow in his or her understanding of the faith as the young person comes to a deeper appreciation of God in his or her life.