



Sacred Heart Church

A Roman Catholic Christian Community of Faith and Worship

Baptismal Sponsor Covenant Form

PLEASE PRINT: I, _____
First Middle Last

live at _____
Street Address Apt. # City State Zip Code

and in the Parish of _____
Name of Parish City State

I have been asked by _____ to be the
Name of Parent(s) of child to be baptized

Baptismal Sponsor/Godparent for his/her/their child: _____
Name of child to be baptized

As a Baptism Sponsor/Godparent, my role is to be an exemplar in life and in faith and encourage and help my Godchild "to live a Christian life befitting the baptized and faithfully to fulfill the duties inherent in baptism" (Can. 872). To further attest, I declare that I ...

_____ am fully initiated, have received **all** of the *Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Eucharist & Confirmation)* in the Catholic Church (Can. 874 § 1.3)

_____ am **currently and actively living and practicing** my Christian Catholic faith (Can. 874 § 1.3)

_____ have a prayer life and worship regularly with my parish community (Can. 874 § 1.3)

_____ firmly believe in the **true, real & substantial presence** of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist and the Blessed Sacrament, as taught by the Catholic Church (Can. 1413)

_____ am at least 16 years of age (Can. 874 § 1.2)

_____ am not the parent of the person to be baptized (Can. § 1.5)

_____ am currently **MARRIED** or _____ **SINGLE/DIVORCED/WIDOWED & NOT LIVING WITH ANYONE**

If married, did the marriage take place in a Catholic Church? _____ Yes _____ No (If marked no, Sponsor is a Christian Witness)

If yes, please name the church: _____ City/State: _____

Date of Marriage: _____

It is my intention, desire and will to fulfill my commitment to live my Christian Catholic faith and help my Godchild develop and grow in the Christian faith (Can. 872 & 874 §1.1) So help me, God.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

The Value + Importance & Role of GODPARENTS

Who May Be Godparents and Why

The role of the godparent is SPIRITUAL, it is religious; it is all about prayer, about teaching our faith, about giving witness to our faith about being an example of a good Catholic-Christian.

The first role of the godparents (Sponsors) is to promise (and keep that promise) that they will attempt to pray every day for the rest of their lives for the: Mom + Dad + BABY.

Another duty of the godparent (Sponsor) is to accept that the best prayer they can offer for the three of them is the Mass. Therefore, the godparents also promise to go to Mass regularly on Sunday and pray for the parents and child(ren).

The final duty is just as essential as the others; really, each is equally important. This role is to be a “role model” for the child in all matters of our Catholic-Christian faith. Godparents (Sponsors), therefore, should be men & women who live out fully our Catholic-Christian faith and traditions. It is necessary, therefore, that they be:

- Practicing Catholics: going to Mass regularly receiving the sacraments, especially the Eucharist and Confession; therefore, of course, they must already be Baptized and have been confirmed
- If married, **THEY MUST** be married in the Catholic Church
- If single, they **MAY NOT** be living with a partner

HOW MANY GODPARENTS ARE REQUIRED?

The official term is “Sponsor” and only one is required (godparent is a popular term, “sponsor” is the official term).

WHAT IS A CHRISTIAN WITNESS?

As long as there is one Sponsor (Roman Catholic), there may be one other person, a non-Catholic Christian who acts as a godparent – PROVIDED: they are good Christian role models – worship regularly, married, or if single, not living with a partner

Non-Christians may not serve as godparents or as Christian Witnesses because they are asked in the ceremony if they believe in Jesus Christ, and as they cannot say they do, we would not want to embarrass them (Ex. Jehovah Witness, etc.)

ARE GODPARENTS ALWAYS A COUPLE?

They do not need to be married to each other. It can be the child’s grandmother and uncle,

- Two godparents may consist of one male or one female, **two males or two females together are not allowed to be godparents.**

As an example, friends (do not have to be family members). They must be at least 16 years of age and cannot be two men or two women. The baby’s parents may not be its godparents as we want to add a new and beautiful spiritual dimension of praying for the parents and child.