

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF RICHMOND

USE OF THE SPONSOR ATTESTATION FORM FOR CONFIRMATION

Dear Confirmand,

You have chosen a sponsor to assist you in carrying out the responsibility associated with the Sacrament of Confirmation. In doing so, you recognize his or her maturity and practice of the faith to help you, as a recipient of a special gift of the Holy Spirit, to “never be ashamed to confess Christ crucified before the world.”¹

In choosing a sponsor, you should carefully consider the person’s capacity to undertake this role. The specific qualifications of a sponsor, according to Church law,² are as follows:

1. At least 16 years old
*A pastor may grant an exception to the age requirement for a just cause.*³
2. Have received the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist in the Catholic Church
May a member of the Eastern Orthodox Church serve as a sponsor (as in Baptism)? No.
3. Not be bound by any canonical penalty
4. Be leading a life of faith befitting the role to be undertaken (e.g., regularly attending Sunday Mass; if married, be in a marriage recognized by the Catholic Church)
5. Not be a parent of the confirmand; however, a parent may accompany his/her child in lieu of a sponsor, including at the chrismation.

The above criteria reflect the Church’s view that living the faith is taught best by example. Your chosen sponsor is asked to testify that he or she meets these qualifications by completing the **Sponsor Attestation Form for Confirmation**. Please provide the sponsor with this document in a timely manner so that it can be returned to the parish before the celebration of the sacrament.

¹ *Order of Confirmation*, nos. 33, 49.

² *Code of Canon Law*, canons 874 §1, 893 §1; *Order of Confirmation*, no. 5.

³ *Code of Canon Law*, canon 874 §1, 2°.



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SPONSOR ATTESTATION FORM FOR CONFIRMATION

FOR USE IN THE DIOCESE OF RICHMOND ONLY

Congratulations! The witness of your Catholic faith now calls you to a sacred role in the life of a confirmand as a sponsor. You will present the confirmand for Confirmation and help him or her to live according to the grace received in the sacrament. Please complete this form to attest to your readiness to accept this role. May God bless you abundantly!

I (print full name) _____

a member of (name of parish) _____

in (location of parish) _____

having been chosen as the sponsor for (print name) _____

who will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation,

affirm that I possess the qualifications listed below, and that I willingly undertake this role.

Qualifications of a sponsor:⁴

1. At least 16 years old (unless the pastor has granted an exemption)
2. Have received the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist in the Catholic Church
3. Not bound by any canonical penalty
4. Leading a life of faith befitting the role to be undertaken (e.g., regularly attending Sunday Mass; if married, be in a marriage recognized by the Catholic Church)
5. Not a parent of the confirmand; however, a parent may accompany his/her child in lieu of a sponsor, including at the chrismation.

I have read and understand the above qualifications. Should I have questions about the qualifications, I will seek clarification from the pastor or his delegate. With my signature below, I swear before God that I am eligible to serve in the role of sponsor, and I assume this responsibility willingly.

Sponsor's signature _____ Date _____

Pastor may request signature be witnessed by the godparent's pastor/delegate affirming that the person signing the form is the same individual as the person who will undertake the duty of godparent.

NOT REQUIRED WITHIN CLUSTER PARISHES

Signature OF PORTSMOUTH + CHESAPEAKE _____ (No Seal Necessary)

This form should be destroyed once the sponsor's information has been inscribed in the register of the parish where the Sacrament of Confirmation has been recorded.

⁴ Code of Canon Law, canons 874 §1, 893 §1; Order of Confirmation, no. 5.