

Dear Sponsor,

In the early years of the Church, sponsors played a practical role in the initiation process. Often, a person wanted to join the Church because of the example of a Christian. Naturally, that Christian became the interested person's sponsor. The sponsor walked with the new member, helping them to understand the way of Christ and the Church, and served as a model of that commitment. Today, the Church recognizes sponsors as people who are guides, models, friends, companions and witnesses -- responsible people who accompany the candidates on the way to Confirmation. You are not expected to have all the answers about the Church or to be the "perfect" Christian, but rather you are expected to see your relationship with the candidate as one that takes your role as representative of the Church **seriously**.

What can you do to make this relationship more than just one of "showing up at the ceremony"? Some possibilities include:

- phone calls or contact that expresses encouragement and support.
- meeting occasionally for lunch, sporting events, a walk, ice cream etc, and have a conversation about the faith journey they are on.
- participating in a service activity together.
- discussing the choice of a "Confirmation name" with the candidate
- helping the candidate understand the importance of prayer and participation in the liturgy by attending Mass or other parish devotions together.

The most important thing you can do as a Confirmation Sponsor, however, is spend time each day in prayer for the candidate.

Be assured that your role in the Confirmation process is more than just a hand on the shoulder when the Bishop anoints with chrism. Your everyday presence and witness helps your candidate to feel, in a very personal way, the Church community which celebrates their choice to complete their initiation through the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Enclosed is the Confirmation Sponsor form with directions. Please review, complete and sign this form. Please return it on or before October 17th. You may turn it in by mail or in person at the parish center of your candidate OR you may also bring your completed form to Spirit Sunday, an evening for Sponsors and candidates on October 15th if that is easier.

If you have any questions or need additional assistance please don't hesitate to reach out!



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION TEAM
MARY, QUEEN OF ALL SAINTS FAMILY OF PARISHES

Julie Vaughn: Regional DRE, Our Lady of Victory
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Karen Brandstetter: DRE, St. Dominic
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Beth Schumacher: DRE, St. Simon
513.941.3656 | mbschumacher@fuse.net

Sponsor Form Directions

A sponsor for Confirmation is a witness to the commitment a candidate makes to follow Jesus. On the actual day of Confirmation, the sponsor presents the candidate to the bishop and stands by their side during the anointing with chrism. However, the role of the sponsor is so much more!

To be selected as a sponsor of a candidate for Confirmation in the Catholic Church is an honor and privilege. As a sponsor you will be asked to extend, in a very personal way, our Catholic community's welcome and support. You are making a commitment to help the candidate grow in their relationship with the Lord and with the Church. Thank you for the commitment you are making to help guide this candidate.

Because of the great responsibilities of a sponsor, the Catholic Church has some minimum requirements to fulfill in order to serve in this role. Please complete the following statement of Sponsorship and submit by the listed due date. (Directions for submission are located at the end of the form).

A sponsor is an important person in the life of someone to be Confirmed. They are: 1) a spiritual role model, 2) an example of Christian life and 3) the official representative of the Body of Christ, the Church, into which an individual is being welcomed. They are to be a source of guidance, support, and inspiration to this person on his or her faith journey and, when appropriate, help the parents in the Christian formation of this child.

Please note that Church Law states sponsor requirements are as follows:

- Must be committed to his or her Catholic faith and be baptized and confirmed in that faith
- Must be a Confirmed Catholic of at least 16 years of age
- May not be the parent of the candidate
- Must be registered in a parish
- If married, the marriage must have taken place in a Catholic Church or be recognized by the Catholic Church as a valid marriage
- Will be a model example of a committed and active Catholic and will be a support to the parents of the candidate in the practice of the faith

Attached is the Confirmation Sponsor form. Please review and sign this form. Please return it to Our Lady of Victory, St. Dominic or St. Simon Parish Office before October 17th.

Note of dates for your reference:

- 1 SPIRIT SUNDAY: October 15th – a day of reflection & activities with the candidate
- 2 SPONSOR FORM DUE: October 17th
- 3 CONFIRMATION PRACTICE: February 13th – Our Lady of Victory Church, 7pm
- 4 CONFIRMATION DAY: February 20th – Our Lady of Victory Church, 7pm

Confirmation – Sponsor Certificate

I (Sponsor printed name) _____, have been asked to be a Sponsor for (candidate's name & parish) _____

Sponsor's Home Address: _____

Sponsor's Phone#: _____ Email Address: _____

I hereby attest that I am committed to the Roman Catholic Faith. I recognize that in accepting the role of Sponsor, I become responsible for living my life as a good example to the newly confirmed as a committed and active Catholic and to support his/her parents in raising him/her in the faith..

I further attest that I: (please check all that apply)

- ☐ am at least 16 years old
- ☐ am not the parent of the confirmed
- ☐ am a registered and participating member of (name of parish) _____
in good standing with the Catholic Church and have completed the Sacraments of Initiation
(Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation)
- ☐ worship regularly at Mass on Sundays and Holy Days and give witness to my faith in Jesus Christ
by partaking in Holy Communion and by participating in the life of my parish

I affirm that I meet the qualifications, and accept the responsibilities of being a sponsor. I am an active and participating Catholic and pledge to the best of my ability to serve as an example in encouraging this child to participate in the sacramental life of the church.

Sponsor's Signature : _____ Date: _____

DUE DATE: OCTOBER 17TH

METHODS OF TURN IN:

1 Drop off or mail completed form to:

Our Lady of Victory – 810 Need Road 45233, Attn: Julie Vaughn
St. Dominic – 4551 Delhi Pike 45238, Attn: Karen Brandstetter
St. Simon – 825 Pontius Road 45233, Attn: Beth Schumacher

2 Bring completed forms to Spirit Sunday on October 15th

3 Give to candidate to turn in the their Religion teacher