

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.

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

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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.

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
- Will need to attend **ONE** Spirit Sunday together with the candidate. Spirit Sunday's are faith building evenings shared with candidate & sponsor. They are an evening of prayer and connection as the candidate express their relationship with God, and discuss how it is integral to the Christian life moving forward toward Confirmation.

Please complete the sponsor registration provided at the link/QR code below. You can also find these live links at olvdelhi.org or stdominicdelhi.org under the Confirmation tab.

Note of dates for your reference:

- 1 SPIRIT SUNDAY: Choices of: October 19th, November 16th or December 14th (only need to attend one date. 7:00-8:15pm at St. Simon Plagge Hall)
- 2 SPONSOR FORM DUE: October 3rd
- 3 CONFIRMATION PRACTICE: Will take place at Spirit Sunday
- 4 CONFIRMATION DAY: February 11, 2026, The Cathedral Basilica-St. Peter in Chains, 7:00pm

