

Confirmation Guide for Sponsors

Congratulations! You have been asked to mentor a candidate in his/her journey to full participation in the Sacrament of Confirmation. Confirmation, often called the Sacrament Of the Holy Spirit, renews, strengthens and bears great gifts to enable a person to truly live out their life as a Catholic Christian. At Baptism a parent speaks for the child. As the child matures and is able to speak for themselves, he/she can choose to be Confirmed in our faith by accepting the Gifts and Fruits of the Holy Spirit, aiding him/her to become the best version of themselves.

Your role as the Sponsor will be:

1. To show **interest and support** in aiding the development of a strong faith life. Being a sponsor is more than a one day activity. It is a lifelong responsibility to lead and guide the candidate to a greater knowledge of his/her faith.
2. **Lead** by example to help prepare the candidate to receive this sacrament. Attend weekly Mass and participate in the sacraments. Partaking in sacraments of the Eucharist and Reconciliation are of the greatest importance.
3. **Pray**. Share with your candidate that you are praying for him/her and ask that they pray for you as well. Reinforce the amazing power and need for prayer.
4. **Cultivate and encourage** a relationship that shows your support by taking an active part in their life - ask about their day, friends and what is happening. Be open to them by assuring them that they can come to you with any questions or problems.
5. **Nurture and support** the family in their efforts to attend Mass weekly and in their child's development of a good and moral conscience.
6. **Help** them explore and choose a Saint's name to take for themselves. Ask what characteristics of this saint have impressed and inspired them.

It is important to realize it is not only the candidate who is becoming one with this sacrament, you are as well. As the Bishop/Priest calls on the Holy Spirit to fill the candidate with the Gifts and Fruits of this sacrament, with your hand on his/her shoulder, you acknowledge that they are ready to celebrate their full membership in the community of the Catholic Church.

A Sponsors Prayer



**Spirit of Wisdom,
guide me on this journey
that I may be a true witness to the Gospel of Jesus
and the mission of the Church.
Put your thoughts in my heart
and your words in my mouth
that I will fulfill this ministry
with goodness, generosity, and grace.
Amen**