

CONFIRMATION SPONSOR GUIDELINES

According to canon law, sponsors must have the following qualifications (based on canon 893, which in turn refers to canon 874, a description of the qualifications for baptismal sponsors):

- A sponsor must be at least 16 years old
- A sponsor must be a fully initiated Catholic (one who has celebrated Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist who “leads a life of harmony with the faith and the role to be undertaken.”)
- A sponsor must not be bound by any church penalty
- Being a sponsor is not just an honor given to a good friend or relative. Sponsorship implies a real appreciation of the faith, a practice of the same, and a sense of responsibility toward the person being confirmed.
- Parents cannot be sponsors for their own children because they are already the child’s most important teacher

Therefore, the following persons are **not eligible** to act as a sponsor:

- - Persons married outside the Catholic Church
- - Persons who habitually miss Sunday Mass
- - Divorced persons who have remarried outside the Catholic Church
- - Persons cohabiting without the benefit and grace of Catholic marriage
- - Persons who neglect the religious education of their children
- - High school students who do not attend their parish’s Faith Formation classes or Youth Group (not striving to grow in their faith)
- - Individuals who neglect to fulfill their “Easter Duty” that is, Confession once a year if in the state of mortal sin
- - Those who give public scandal in any way

Please note the following:

- A sponsor should be someone with whom the Candidate can talk easily and who will model the faith for the Candidate
- Sponsors (or their “stand-in”) are to be present at the *students sash decorating evening, the Confirmation rehearsal, and the Rite of Confirmation*
- Sponsors and the Candidates are asked to participate in service to the greater community together at least 2 times for 2-4 hours each time. They should also have regular meetings to discuss the candidate’s formation
- If the Sponsor lives out of town and cannot be available for regular meetings with the Candidate, the Candidate should also choose a mentor who can be available to stand in for the sponsor at the above mentioned events.

Sponsors must provide St. Henry with the attached, completed, Sponsor Acceptance form which indicates that the Sponsor is a member of their parish in good standing.

Please bring the acceptance form to the Confirmation orientation on September 8, or mail it to:

St. Henry Catholic Church
P. O. Box 181
Owasso, OK 74055

Attn: Faith Formation

St. Henry Catholic Church

Faith Formation

P O Box 181

Owasso, OK 74055

Phone 918-272-3740

Fax: 918-272-1966

Katie: katie@sthenryowasso.org Kathy: kat@sthenryowasso.org

Sponsor Acceptance Form

This is to certify that I,

(Sponsors full name printed)

accept the invitation to be a sponsor for the Confirmation of

(Candidates Name)

I am a full and active practicing Catholic (see attached qualifications) and a registered member of

(Parish Name)

Parish Address _____

I realize that I assume great responsibility before God and the Church in my role as a sponsor. I intend to encourage the above mentioned Candidate in the practice of the Catholic faith by word and example.

I affirm that I have received the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation) in the Catholic Church and I am at least 16 years old. If married I am in accord with the laws of the Catholic Church.

I regularly attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation and give witness to my faith in Jesus by receiving Him in the Eucharist.

I actively strive to live out my commitment to Christ and to the community life of the Church by my loving response to those whom I come in contact.

I agree to support and guide this candidate as he/she prepares to be Confirmed as a Disciple of Christ.

(Sponsor Signature and date)

Witnessed by Parish Priest:

_____ Date: _____

This document must bear the Church seal to be valid.