

The Role of a Sponsor

Candidate: _____

Sponsor: _____

You have the honor of being chosen as witness to the candidate's initiation into full Christian life. Through this sacrament, the confirmand is strengthened by the power of the Holy Spirit, made a true witness of Christ in word and deed, and invited more deeply into the life of the Church. Your most significant role in relation to him/her is to be a role model of such witness and unifying love.

In order to strengthen this spiritual bond, we ask that you and the candidate complete the following:

[1] **Visit another Church** other than OLA and write up a short summary of how you see the same faith being celebrated at Mass. We are a universal church. Each community has its own character, what are some of the things that you saw that were particular to this group?

Date of Visit: _____

Church visited: _____

Please attach your written summary to this page.

[2] **Read an article** in the diocesan newspaper, The Evangelist. Take time to discuss it. Jot down some of your reflections. How are the values of the Church different from the world's?

Title of Article: _____

Date: _____

Reaction: _____

If you need more paper, please attach.

[3] Share your faith.

Sponsors - talk to the confirmand about how your faith has helped you in your life ... or a moment in which you experienced the power and presence of the Lord. How and when do you pray? Briefly summarize this discussion.

Candidate - How is your sponsor Christ to others? In what ways can you as a Confirmation candidate show you are a disciple of Jesus Christ to others?

Date: _____ *Please attach your written report to this packet.*

[4] Find out what social services the Church provides in the area. Why does the Church reach out to meet the needs of a larger community – do you think?

Social Services available:

In your ongoing relation with your candidate, here are some ways in which you can nurture this spiritual relationship all through life:

- Celebrate the anniversary of this holy day of Confirmation with a visit, a call or card
- Listen to and share in the confirmand's maturing struggles and triumphs in living a Christian life, and keep yourself informed on Christian doctrine and values to be able to answer questions when they arise
- Encourage a maturing life of faith through special cards, letters, or gifts which celebrate holy events ... Christmas, Easter ... and personal growth events ... graduations, first job, engagement. (Gift suggestions: Bible, rosary, spiritual book, religious jewelry)
- Most importantly become a model of Christian living for the person you have sponsored, through daily prayer, virtue and active participation in parish life and liturgy.
- By living a Christian life in partnership with the one who you have sponsored for full Church membership, both of you will experience the great joy of sharing a life of faith.

Congratulations and may God bless you!