

St. John Neumann Roman Catholic Church

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF WILMINGTON

Rev. Joseph MPR Cocucci, Pastor

11211 Beauchamp Road

Berlin, Maryland 21811

Christian Witness Eligibility Certificate

I, _____, a Christian baptized into the
(please print name here)

_____ faith, am a member of _____
(please print name of church)

in _____ . I have been asked to serve as
(city, state)

a Christian Witness to the Baptism of _____.
(please print name of person to be baptized)

In signing this form, I truthfully state the following:

- *I have been baptized "in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."*
- *I am a registered member of my church.*
- *I regularly attend Sunday services.*
- *I believe that Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.*
- *I am open to the living Word of God in Sacred Scripture and in the Church.*
- *I try to live according to Gospel values, even when those values are in conflict with the values of our culture and society.*
- *I am at least sixteen years of age.*
- *I am not a Catholic and have never been a Catholic.*

Signature of prospective Christian Witness: _____

My full name: _____

My home address: _____

The name and address of my church:

***This form, along with a copy of your baptism certificate,
must be sent to St. John Neumann Church at the above address
no later than two weeks prior to the baptism.***

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Rev. Joseph MPR Cocucci, KHS, Pastor

11211 Beauchamp Road

Berlin, Maryland 21811

Telephone: (410) 208-2956 / E-Mail: parishoffice@stjnrcc.com / Fax: (410) 208-4584

Dear Friend in Christ,

Congratulations! A member of St. John Neumann Parish has asked you to serve as a Christian witness to the baptism of their child!

As a Christian Witness you will have the privilege of “witnessing” to the fact that God has called a beautiful creature made in His image and likeness to a new life as a son or daughter of God. You will be right there when the child is brought into the same divine life that you received when you were baptized into the Body of Christ.

This is not a privilege to be taken lightly, and there are requirements involved. Those requirements are delineated on the other side of this form. There you will find a statement that you need to sign and return to me, along with a copy of your own baptism certificate. While the other side is fairly clear, let me add a few thoughts here.

- A Christian Witness cannot be a Catholic or an ex-Catholic. If a person were Catholic and in good standing, they would be a potential Godparent; an ex-Catholic would not be in good standing and thus could not serve in either role.
- A Christian Witness needs to be “Christian.” That might seem obvious, but it involves more than just “liking” Christ or thinking that His teachings are good. A Christian is a person who has been baptized validly into Jesus Christ; that means that he or she has been baptized “in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.” A Christian recognizes that Jesus is the only-begotten Son of God and the Lord of his/her life.
- A Christian Witness needs to live according to Gospel values. If the sacred Scriptures are not an important part of a person’s life, they would not be eligible to serve in this role.

In order to serve as a Christian Witness you’ll need to be able to complete the form on the other side of this page. Then send it, along with a copy of your own baptism certificate or a letter from your pastor confirming that you’ve been baptized *with the Trinitarian formula* to St. John Neumann Parish *no later than two weeks prior to the date of the baptism*.

Thank you for your willingness to serve. May God bless you, and may He bless the person whom you are preparing to sponsor!

In Christ Jesus,

Rev. Joseph MPR Cocucci, KHS

Pastor