



Selecting Your Sponsor

The person you choose to be your sponsor is very important. It is not an honorary role but one with significance and responsibility. It helps to remember that your sponsor is a person who is representing our faith and our Church and as such is sponsoring you into the fullness of the faith and promising to guide you by word, prayer, and example. Because of this, there are some Church laws that we are all required to follow. Canon 874 of the Code of Canon law gives the qualifications necessary for a person to serve as a godparent or sponsor.

- ✓ Designated by the confirmandi for the role of sponsor
- ✓ Completed the sixteenth year of age
- ✓ A fully initiated member of the Catholic Church (that is, has received Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist). A married sponsor must be in a marriage recognized by the Church.
- ✓ Is registered and is able to obtain a sponsor form from their parish
- ✓ A practicing Catholic and willing to witness to Christ and the Family
- ✓ Not a parent of the one who is to be confirmed

If the person you choose does not meet these requirements, they cannot be a sponsor for confirmation. It is extremely important that you make your choice early so that you can make sure that the person to be your sponsor is able to do so and has plenty of time to get their sponsor certificate.

One option for a Confirmation Sponsor is one of the candidate's Godparents. This demonstrates the close connection between Baptism and Confirmation. Another option is a confirmed Catholic whom the candidate admires and who bears witness to the gospel in his or her everyday life.

The name, contact information, and home parish of your sponsor is due no later than July 6, 2020. Please submit the following form with the primary information about your sponsor. You can also email the information to jplaspohl@saintjoe.org. **In addition, if your sponsor is from a different parish, please have them contact their home parish to obtain a Sponsor Certificate.** The sponsor is asked to be at at the rehearsal and the celebration of the Sacrament and is encouraged to be at present at the Presentation of the Candidates (**July 25/26 at 5:00 p.m, 10:00am, or 12:00 p.m. Mass**). In addition to these events, there will be a few short questions or reflections for the sponsor to discuss with their candidate during the summer months.

—THIS FORM IS NOT A SPONSOR CERTIFICATE, PLEASE FILL OUT EVERY LINE—

Candidate's Name: _____

Sponsor's Name: _____

Sponsor's Email Address: _____

Sponsor's Phone Number : _____

Sponsor's Home Parish: _____

Here are a few questions that may help you choose your Confirmation sponsor:

- 1) Are your Godparents available? is one of them a good choice for your sponsor?
- 2) Is the person a good role model for the Catholic way of life? Do they regularly attend Mass? Do they actively participate in their Church community?
- 3) Does this person have time to spend with you as you prepare for Confirmation?
- 4) Are they available to come to the Presentation of the Candidates, rehearsal and Rite of Confirmation? (even if not a person may still be a good choice, check with a catechist about this.)
- 5) Does this person live near enough to me to be able to truly guide and support me? If not, will they be committed to communicate regularly with me despite the distance?
- 6) Would you be comfortable talking about your faith with this person, and have the ability talk to openly and honestly?
- 7) Will this person be able to fulfill all or most of the responsibilities of a sponsor?

Signing up for the Presentation of Candidates and Sponsor Meeting

The Presentation of Candidates takes place at Mass where the Candidates make their official commitment, before the parish community, to prepare for the sacrament of Confirmation. It also calls on the community to state that they will support these young men and women on this journey. Father will call the Candidates to come forward and be presented to the parish. A sign up will go out on July 6th to sign up for the July 25/26th 5:00 p.m., 10:00 a.m., or the 12:00 p.m. Mass. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns with this.

There will be a sponsor meeting on ZOOM at 6:30 PM on July 29th. I will email the sponsors directly with the link for the ZOOM invitation. If the Sponsor cannot attend, a Parent can attend and gather information for them. Candidates do not need to attend the Sponsor Meeting.



For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us.

ROMANS 12:3-6