



SELECTING A CONFIRMATION SPONSOR

It is an honor to be asked to serve as a sponsor for Confirmation. This privilege, however, does carry some responsibilities with it. Because of the close relationship between Baptism and Confirmation, one of your child's Baptismal godparents would be a good choice.

Whoever the candidate chooses, a sponsor should be a person who can take an active role in their preparation for Confirmation. They should demonstrate a genuine and observable commitment to their faith and model the behavior of a person striving to follow Jesus and his teachings.

REQUIREMENT FOR 7th GRADE – *Select a Sponsor (by Dec of Gr 7)*

What is a Sponsor?

- An individual who has more experience than the candidate in their faith.
- An individual who can share the candidate's search for the meaning of faith.
- An individual who demonstrates their commitment to God and his people through regular Mass attendance.

Guidelines for being a Sponsor:

- MUST belong to the Catholic Church, and be fully initiated – having received Baptism, First Eucharist and Confirmation
- MUST attend Mass regularly
- MUST be sufficiently mature in his or her faith commitment (over the age of fourteen) and be actively expressing it within the Christian Community (a "practicing Catholic")
- MAY be male or female for any candidate
- MAY NOT be a parent - but *can* be a grandparent.

REQUIREMENT FOR 8th GRADE – *Provide Sponsor Certificate of Eligibility (by Jan of Grade 8)*

Whether your sponsor is a member of our parish or another, we make every effort to verify that they meet the guidelines set forth by the church to act in this important role.

If your Sponsor is registered in another parish:

They must obtain a certificate of eligibility from their own parish attesting to their good standing in the church.

- We do not provide a form for this.
- The sponsor contacts their parish and requests the certificate of eligibility. Different parishes have different formats.
- The form must be turned in to the Religious Education Office by January of the 8th grade year.

If your Sponsor is a member of St. Joseph Parish:

- We will check to see that they meet the guidelines.
- Fr. Hank asks sponsors to introduce themselves to him before or after Mass so he can put a face to the name.
- If the sponsor is registered in our parish, but does not attend Sunday Mass regularly, Jim or Father Hank will probably want to conduct an interview to determine eligibility.

***If, for some reason, you do not have an eligible Confirmation sponsor in the area,
please contact Jim Jungels and we can help arrange for a sponsor.***