

SPONSORS

Each candidate to be confirmed should have a sponsor. A sponsor is someone who shares his or her own faith, knowledge, and experience of being a Christian with the candidate.

REQUIREMENTS OF A SPONSOR

1. A person who has received the sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation.
2. Someone who is a practicing Catholic. This means that his/her life is in harmony with the practice of the Catholic faith, that his/her marriage, if applicable, is recognized by the Church as a true Sacrament.
3. Someone who is at least 16 years of age (14 years of age in the Archdioceses of New York), and sufficiently mature to guide and assist the candidate to be confirmed in his/her faith. Each candidate may have either a male or female as a sponsor.
4. A person other than the candidate's mother or father.
5. Those chosen to be sponsors are required to present a "Certificate of Eligibility" from the parish church where they attend Mass. (Certificate is attached)

SEARCHING FOR A SPONSOR

1. Ideally, a Confirmation sponsor should be one of your godparents because, hopefully, he or she has been an important person in helping you grow as a faithful member of the Catholic Church. If one of your godparents meets the above requirements, think of him or her first.
2. If you are thinking of another person, be sure that he/she meets the above requirements. Parents and candidates should speak together about the names of possible sponsors and carefully consider each one. The following questions could be used as a guide:
 - Does the person meet the above requirements?
 - If so, does he/she take an active interest in my faith life and will he/she continue to help me on my journey?
3. Pray to the Holy Spirit for guidance in helping you make an intelligent and faith-filled choice.

Holy Innocents
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Sponsor Certificate Form

This is to certify that I, _____

of _____
(Name of Parish) (City) (State)

accept the invitation to be the Sponsor of

(Candidate's Name)

I affirm that I am a member of the parish above. I realize that as sponsor, I will be a model and example of a committed and active Catholic, and I will support the Candidate and his/her parents in the practice of our mutual faith.

I hereby assure that I am committed to my Catholic faith, that I am myself Baptized and Confirmed in it, and that my marriage, if applicable, is recognized by the Church as a true Sacrament, nor am I otherwise compromised in my own sacramental life.

I meet my fundamental obligations as a Catholic by weekly participation in Sunday Mass, by reception of the Eucharist as often as possible and Penance as necessary. I adhere to the Word of God as revealed in Scripture and taught by the Catholic Church, by witnessing to the values of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and by seeking to be of service to others for love of Him.

I believe that what the Catholic Church teaches as revealed by God and necessary for salvation is true and I am not in dissent from it. I promise to give my full support, by the Christian example of my daily life, to the candidate I am sponsoring.

(Sponsor's signature)

(Date)

After completing this form, please bring it to the pastor of your parish for certification

I certify that _____ is in good standing in this parish and that he/she meets the above requirements for sponsorship.

PARISH SEAL

(Pastor's signature)

(Parish)