

SELECTION OF A SPONSOR

Sponsors must be selected by November 7, 2007



The Role of a Confirmation Sponsor

Parents and Godparents have played an important role in your faith journey thus far. At the time of your baptism they pledge their help and support to raise you Catholic and teach you the faith. The role of Sponsor/Mentor is a very important part in the support and preparation of Confirmation candidates. The role of a sponsor is defined as an advisor, friend and spiritual companion who will mentor the candidate on their journey to Confirmation.

Your sponsor should be a person who can travel with you on your journey to Christian maturity. This person should really know you and be readily available to listen to your concerns and questions about your faith or about the Church. One of your Godparents, who may already be very much involved in your life, would generally be the best choice for the role. An aunt or an uncle might be an appropriate choice if he or she lives within a reasonable distance. Another choice could be a teacher, catechist or parishioner whom you admire, see quite often, and with whom you will likely have a long-term relationship.

Whomever you choose;

- Should be a mature person of faith (at least 16 years old), a Catholic in good standing. He/She must be initiated into the three sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation.
- Sponsor must be active in his/her faith and Christian life (active participation means that the sponsor regularly attends Catholic Mass and leading a life in harmony with the faith).
- Has enough knowledge of you to be able to testify before the whole faith community that you are indeed someone who knows what it means to be and live your Catholic faith.
- Sponsor/Mentor would ideally be the baptismal sponsor (Godparent), but is not required.
- Sponsor **cannot** be the natural or adoptive parent of the candidate.

Ideally, the person chosen for your Confirmation sponsor would live within the local faith community and 'mentor' you through your Confirmation journey.

If the **sponsor** you choose lives outside the local faith community, you need to select a person from within the faith community to **mentor** you through your preparation for Confirmation. This person (mentor) would take the role of your out-to-town Confirmation sponsor.

I have chosen _____ as my sponsor.

The qualities I admire most in my sponsor are:

Please have your sponsor complete the attached SPONSOR CERTIFICATE form. When completed, please return it to the Youth Minister's Office, the Religious Education Office or your catechist. **The Sponsor Certificate is due by November 7, 2007.**

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When asking a person to be your Confirmation sponsor, you should consider the following:

- You, the student preparing for the sacrament should ask the person. Your parents or guardian may help you in your decision, but **YOU** should be the one to ask.
- When deciding whom to ask, think of the good qualities you would like your sponsor to have. It is important to know **WHY** you asked a person to be your sponsor.
- Think of how you will ask your sponsor.
 - ❖ Why not make it a special occasion for your sponsor. **You know, it is a great honor to be asked to be a sponsor for someone receiving a sacrament.**
 - ❖ Perhaps you will make a card for the person you wish to ask and put the request in the card.
 - ❖ Maybe you could invite the person to dinner and ask the person during dinner.
 - ❖ Whatever you choose to do, **make it personal.** Avoid calling on the phone.

