

Choosing a Sponsor

In our society, the role of sponsor is sometimes looked upon as a way of honoring a family member or close friend. However, the role of sponsor is much more than honorary. The sponsor is to be involved in the young person's life and journey in many ways. The person chosen as a sponsor should be:

- ◆ A person that will pray with the candidate regularly.
- ◆ A real friend; someone the candidate can trust and confide in; someone who can be there when needed.
- ◆ Someone the candidate looks up to; someone after which he/she would like to model his/her life.
- ◆ A person whose experience as a Catholic is an invaluable source for helping youth to make decisions in their life as a Catholic.
- ◆ A person who is interested in the candidate's preparation and who is willing to participate in special gatherings, meetings and liturgical celebrations during the preparation program.
- ◆ A person whose relationship with the candidate will continue after the celebration of Confirmation.

Qualifications for Sponsors

- ◆ Must be a confirmed, practicing Catholic.
- ◆ May either be male or female.
- ◆ Must be sufficiently mature to fulfill their function as a sponsor (even though the minimum age is sixteen, we encourage someone older)
- ◆ Must be a person who is an example and a witness of the Catholic faith in word and action.
- ◆ Must be friendly, trustworthy, and a good listener.
- ◆ Must be one who will attend liturgical celebrations, meetings, rehearsals, and Confirmation Day.
- ◆ May not be the mother or father of the person to be confirmed.

Expectations of the Sponsor

- ◆ Attend Mass with the candidate frequently.
- ◆ Attend meetings, workshops, training sessions, and days of prayer.
- ◆ Participate in liturgical celebrations, rehearsals, and Confirmation Rites during the Confirmation process.
- ◆ Meet with the candidate on a regular basis to encourage and assist the candidate to grow in knowledge, in prayer, in service, and in worship.
- ◆ Participate in other parish activities required of the two-year process with the candidate.

Note: It is to the benefit of the candidate that their sponsors live locally.