

Confirmation

Choosing a Sponsor

Just as your parents chose godparents for you at your Baptism to help you grow in your faith, so now, you get to choose someone who will be a special spiritual support for you. What person in your life do you admire for their faith and their efforts to live in a way that pleases God? Is this someone you can relate to, who cares about you, who you are comfortable speaking with?

We all need help in our lives, in many ways. God never intended us to make our journey towards heaven alone. He Himself accompanies us, but He also knows we need other people in our lives to teach, challenge, guide, encourage, rejoice with, and simply share the journey with.

As you are making an important step in claiming this faith journey as your own, you have the opportunity to invite someone to be a travel companion for you. This is your sponsor. Consider the following criteria. Talk to God about it. Maybe talk to your parents or friends about it. Once you have decided who you want to ask, ask them!

Criteria:

- Must be at least 16 years of age
- Must belong to the Roman Catholic Church and be fully initiated themselves (having received Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist), be sufficiently mature in their own faith commitment, and be an active member of their parish
- May not be a parent of the Confirmation candidate, but may be a Baptismal Godparent (a sign of the link between Baptism and Confirmation; the Church actually encourages this).
- Must know the candidate and be willing to serve as a strong and long-lasting Catholic influence for the candidate

Sponsors should be ready to:

- Support the candidate for Confirmation in their commitment to a Catholic life-style
- Communicate with the candidate about the themes discussed in their Confirmation classes and any other topics or questions the candidate may want to talk about
- Commit to praying regularly for and/or with the candidate, particularly during, but not limited to, the time of sacramental preparation
- Assist the candidate in choosing and researching a patron saint and in finding service opportunities
- Attend mini retreats with the candidate (as COVID protocols allow at the time)
- Attend the Confirmation Rehearsal and Mass

Please spend the next few months praying to God to help you decide who to choose as a sponsor. **Be prepared to have a decision when you start 8th grade in September.**