

Who can be a Confirmation Sponsor?

What is a Sponsor?

Sponsors share a special, spiritual bond with their godchild. They accept the privilege of helping form them in the faith and help their godchild to discover who they are and whose they are. This is a lifelong commitment to a lifelong relationship based on shared Catholic faith. Being a sponsor is a serious responsibility whereby sponsors promise to pray for and witness to their godchild throughout their life. Sponsors are good examples of Catholics who live as authentic witnesses of life in Christ. Sponsors encourage their godchild to live the way of faith, through the reception of the sacraments and through service.

A sponsor is a person who encourages and assists a candidate to embrace and actively practice the Catholic faith, both before and after Confirmation. The sponsor also presents the candidate to the Bishop (or his delegate) at the celebration of Confirmation.

Who Can be a Sponsor?

Being a sponsor is not just an honour. The sponsor must be an active, practicing Catholic who can be a role model for the candidate. Ideally, you should choose **one** of your godparents from Baptism, provided he or she meets the above guidelines. If it is not possible to choose a godparent as your sponsor (e.g. they are deceased, live too far away, or are no longer a practicing Catholic), then you might ask someone else whom you see as an example of a committed, practicing Catholic. This could be a grandparent, aunt or uncle, other relative, family friend, parent of one of your friends, or a teacher.

A sponsor must be:

- at least 16 years of age
- baptized Roman Catholic
- practicing Roman Catholic who has been confirmed and received the Eucharist

*There is to be only one male sponsor or one female sponsor or one of each.
(Code of Canon Law 873)*

Sponsors:

- obtain testimony of suitability by parents.
- receive instruction on the meaning of the sacrament.
- participate in the preparation by helping with the work that is sent home, and attending Mass or other preparatory events with the child or youth.



A Prayer to Help Choose a Sponsor

Holy Spirit, helper and guide,
give me wisdom as I choose my Confirmation sponsor.

Help me to choose a person of prayer
who will teach me also to be a person of prayer
who will support me in difficult times,
who will guide me to make good choices,
and who will challenge me when I do not.

Help me to choose someone who will love me and teach me to love Jesus.

Thank you for giving me a community of people around me
to support and guide me as I take this important step
in becoming more fully a member of your Church.

Amen



Confirmation Sponsor



St. Thomas More Parish