

GODPARENTS AND SPONSORS

You may be asked to stand as a Godparent Baptism, or a Sponsor for Confirmation, or for someone entering the Catholic Church through the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA). It is an awesome privilege and should be considered after prayerfully reflecting on your love for the Lord, your active practice of the Catholic faith, and your involvement with the Church sharing your time, talent, and treasure (your weekly contributions).

Being asked to be a Godparent or Sponsor is truly a moment of grace to reaffirm and intensify one's practice of the Catholic faith.

To assist you in reflecting on your readiness to be a Godparent or Sponsor, please consider what the Church expects.

A sponsor must meet the following requirements:

- *Is at least 16 years old*
- *Is a Catholic who has received all the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation)*
- *Leads a life in harmony with the faith, that is, attends Mass regularly (Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation) and if married, was married in the Catholic Church or with the approval of the Catholic Church.*
- *Is not the father or mother of the candidate*

The sponsor's home parish has the right to verify that he/she is qualified to be a sponsor by issuing a Letter of Eligibility of Good Standing.

Unfortunately Letters of Eligibility cannot be issued at the last minute, especially if a person is not known by the Parish Priest to be an active, practicing and contributing member of the parish.

Your Parish Priest is always willing to help you grow in your relationship with the Lord, a relationship that leads to and flows from daily prayer, frequent reception of the Sacraments of Penance and the Holy Eucharist, weekly Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation, and performing of corporal and spiritual works of mercy.