

# The Sponsor's Role

A sponsor in the RCIA process is a friend and companion for someone walking the journey to the Sacraments of Initiation.

From the Rites of Acceptance and Welcome their role is:

- ❑ To be a bridge between the catechumen or candidate and the parish community
- ❑ To share with the catechumen or candidate the practices, traditions, and prayers of our Catholic tradition
- ❑ To assist the RCIA team



# Requirements

Be a Catholic who has been baptized, confirmed, and has received the Eucharist.

Lead a life in harmony with the nature of the ministry of a sponsor (regularly attend Mass, receive the Eucharist, etc)

Be available to attend weekly RCIA sessions, the celebrations of liturgical rites, and other initiation related events to the best of your ability

The RCIA Sponsors play a vital role in helping show what it means to be a Catholic and a Christian; **NOT** by being an **AUTHORITY** on religion, but by sharing through their own experiences how God touches us in our daily lives.



# Responsibilities

Keeping in regular contact with the candidates

Encouraging them

Listening to their faith  
and their doubts

Sharing time and experience  
in a friendly manner

Participating in the RCIA sessions

Praying with and for candidates

Introducing the candidates to the other members of the community.



# Sponsor and Mass

Pick up your catechumen for Mass or meet him or her at the entrance to the church. The catechumen shouldn't have to walk into church alone.

If your catechumen misses Mass, make a follow up call on Sunday afternoon. If you have to miss Mass, find a substitute to be with your catechumen.

Show your catechumen how to bless him or herself with holy water from the font.

Introduce your catechumen to at least one new parishioner each Sunday.

Show your catechumen how to genuflect and bow.

Show your catechumen how to use the parish worship aid or hymnal.

Always sing and respond to the ritual dialogue to provide a good example for the catechumen.

Through RCIA we are building  
people of faith into the Church,  
just as the apostles did!

Being an RCIA sponsor  
requires a substantial  
commitment but it also  
offers big rewards.



Besides helping someone  
join the church, you'll make  
new friends, have fun, and learn  
a lot about your own Catholic faith!