

St. Matthew the Apostle Parish
335 Dover Chester Road
Randolph, NJ 07869
Phone: (973)584-1101 ◦ Fax (973)584-0499



Baptismal Preparation

REQUIREMENTS FOR BEING A SPONSOR

Canon Laws 873 and 874 require the following:

1. The sponsor must be baptized and confirmed, have the use of reason and the intention to be a sponsor for the Sacrament of Baptism and Confirmation.
2. He/she must not be the father, mother, wife or husband of the one to be baptized or confirmed.
3. He/she must be in their 16th year or more.
4. He/she must know the fundamental truth of the Faith and be a Practicing Catholic who goes to Mass on Sunday and Holy Days, receives the Sacraments according to the minimum requirements and sees to the religious instruction of his/her own family.
5. He/she must not be bound by any canonical penalty legitimately imposed or declared.
6. Sponsor must be one male and/or one female. You cannot have two Godmothers or two Godfathers.

It is important to understand that being a sponsor is not just an honor given to a good friend or relative. Sponsorship implies a real appreciation of faith, a practice of the same and a sense of responsibility toward the person being baptized/confirmed. Therefore, one should not ask relatives to be a sponsor simply because he/she is a relative.

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St. Matthew the Apostle Parish – Godparent Certification

Dear Baptismal Sponsor:

When a parent chooses you as a Baptismal Sponsor (Godparent), it is an honor and means that you are thought of as a special Catholic. Being called to be a Godparent is not merely a choice of family ties or friendship. The call to be a sponsor bears the responsibility of providing spiritual witness to your Godchild as to how to live the Catholic faith in everyday life. As a confirmed adult Catholic, you are a guide and model as to how a mature Catholic should live. By being faithful to God's law, being active in the life of your parish, participating in Mass weekly and living Gospel values, your offer personal support to parents who commit themselves in Baptism, to faithfully passing on the Catholic faith to their child.

It is important that you prayerfully consider the serious responsibility which you take on as a Godparent. If you are unable to live the Catholic ideals, you may wish to decline this responsibility.

I, _____ of _____ Parish accept

the invitation to be a Godparent to _____ for the Sacrament of

Baptism at St. Matthew the Apostle Parish, Randolph, NJ.

I affirm that I am baptized and confirmed Catholic, living my Catholic faith and that I am in good standing with the Catholic Church. I understand that I am called to serve as a companion, guide and role model especially by my own example and witness.

(Signature of Godparent)

(Date)

Godparent Pastor Certification

This is to certify that _____

_____ is in good standing at this parish and meets the requirements for being a Godparent.

_____ is registered in our parish as a practicing Catholic.

*Parish
Seal*

Parish: _____

City: _____

Telephone: _____

Date: _____ Signature: _____

This certification must be completed at the Godparent's Church Parish and returned prior to the Baptism.