

ON CHOOSING A SPONSOR.....

Whom should I choose? Let's first begin with Canon Law. These are the minimum requirements based on Canon law #893.

- **A sponsor must be at least sixteen years old**
- **A sponsor must be a fully initiated Catholic (meaning one who has celebrated Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist) who “leads a life in harmony with the faith and the role to be undertaken.”**
- **A sponsor must not be bound by any church penalty.**
- **A sponsor must not be a parent of the one to be confirmed.**

NOTE: Canon 893 also states that “it is desirable that the one who undertook the role of sponsor (Godparent) at baptism be sponsor for confirmation.” The reasoning behind this principle is the connection between baptism and confirmation as sacraments of initiation as well as the promise of the Godparent to help guide the child in their Catholic faith.



Now, go beyond the *minimum* identified by canon law and think about selecting someone who reflects the following characteristics:

- **Local residency is important to ensure consistent involvement throughout the Confirmation process. It would be an ideal situation to have a sponsor who is able to participate in a service project with you. Minimally though you should meet with your sponsor periodically just to talk.**
- **Your sponsor needs to be an open, honest, caring, committed, and encouraging person who will help you grow in understanding of your faith.**
- **Your sponsor must be willing to share his or her faith with you.**
- **Your sponsor should be more mature, more informed, and more experienced than you are. It is recommended that your sponsor be an older person who has some experience with his or her faith and, hence, a clearer perspective from which to speak.**
- **Your sponsor should already have a trusting relationship with you.**

And, don't forget about the power of prayer! Pray about who should be your Confirmation sponsor. You will know who to choose if you ask God to help you.

Please do not choose your sponsor only because they are a favorite relative or because someone “urged” you to choose that person. Choose your sponsor because they practice, express, and honestly try to live our Catholic faith.

Please call Mrs. Spiezio in the Youth Ministry Office at 964-0216 x1210 if you have any questions.

YOUR SPONSOR MUST BE CHOSEN BY TBD