



Saint Raphael the Archangel Catholic Church

"Go, set the world on fire!"

-St. Ignatius of Loyola

RCIA - ADULT CONFIRMATION GODPARENT/SPONSOR FORM

(PLEASE PRINT)

Candidate/Catechumen's name: _____

Name of Godparent/Sponsor: _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

Godparent/Sponsor please answer the following questions by circling the appropriate response. For further instructions or clarification of any of the questions please see the reverse side of this form.

Please circle either YES or NO for each question that follows:

- YES NO Are you a Roman Catholic?
- YES NO Are you at least 16 years old? (See a priest or the baptism minister for exceptions.)
- YES NO Have you received Confirmation and Holy Eucharist in the Catholic Church?
- YES NO Are you free to receive Holy Communion when you come to Mass?

Answer the following only if married:

- YES NO Was your present marriage celebrated in the presence of a Catholic bishop, priest, or deacon or in another denomination with the written permission of a Catholic bishop? (If not, please provide a written explanation.)

Answer the following only if unmarried:

- YES NO Are you living with another person in a romantic relationship or as a couple?

I, _____ (Godparent/Sponsor's name) sign this document in the presence of a Catholic priest, deacon or pastoral minister at the Catholic parish where I am registered and understand that by my signature I attest that what I have circled above is truthful.

Godparent/Sponsor Signature: _____

Church Representative's Signature: _____

Church Representative's Title: _____

Church Representative's Parish: _____

Church City and State: _____

Date: _____

CHURCH SEAL

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE GODPARENT/SPONSOR FORM

A. INTRODUCTION:

The Godparent/Sponsor is a most important person in the life of an adult who is to be initiated or confirmed. The Godparent/Sponsor is a spiritual role model, an example of the Christian life and the official representative of the Body of Christ, the Church, into which the candidate is being confirmed.

Because of these three responsibilities, the Catholic Church has some minimum requirements it asks all Sponsors to fulfill in order to serve in this role. Each Sponsor is asked to complete the other side of this form using this side of the form to answer the questions.

NOTE ABOUT PROXIES: A Godparent/Sponsor is not required to be present for the celebration of the Sacrament(s). When a Godparent/Sponsor cannot be present, a candidate may ask someone to stand in as a proxy for the Godparent/Sponsor as long as the proxy is not one of the candidate's parents.

B. THE QUESTIONS:

- 1) **RELIGIOUS DENOMINATION:** A Godparent/Sponsor must be a Roman Catholic because the godparent is an official representative of the Catholic Church.
- 2) **MINIMUM AGE:** A Godparent/Sponsor must generally be 16 by the date of the baptism. For exceptions, see a Catholic priest or the coordinator of the preparation process.
- 3) **SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION:** A Godparent/Sponsor is a baptized Catholic who has received Confirmation and Holy Eucharist in the Catholic Church.
- 4) **FREEDOM TO RECEIVE THE SACRAMENTS:** The Godparent/Sponsor is a practicing Catholic who is free to receive Holy Communion when he or she comes to Mass.
- 5) **MARITAL STATUS:** A Catholic Godparent/Sponsor who is married must be in a marriage that is recognized by the Catholic Church. Those in their first marriage must have been married either a) in a Catholic Church ceremony or b) in a church/synagogue ceremony with the permission of the Catholic Church. Catholics in second marriages must have had their first marriage annulled and their second marriage recognized or validated by the Catholic Church. Catholics presently in civil or common law marriages are not eligible to serve as a Godparent/Sponsor.
- 6) **UNMARRIED STATUS:** If unmarried, a Godparent/Sponsor must be living a life consistent with a single person as defined by the Catholic Church. Anyone cohabitating with another person, e.g., living in a romantic relationship or as a couple, is ineligible to serve.
- 7) **SIGNING AND RETURNING THE FORM:** Bring the completed **UNSIGNED** form to the Catholic Church where the Godparent/Sponsor is registered and ask a priest, deacon pastoral minister of that parish to witness you signing the document. This witness must then sign the document and place the parish seal on it.