



St. Michael the Archangel Parish  
Religious Education

Dear Sponsor,

Congratulations on being chosen as a sponsor by your candidate to walk with them on their journey of faith! The Church describes the functions of a Confirmation sponsor as the following:

- developing a faith relationship with the candidate
- standing with the candidate before the bishop and the community at Confirmation
- helping the candidate live as a follower of Jesus

Here are a few suggestions as you journey with your candidate during this time of preparation:

- Be a model of sincere and authentic faith
- Arrange opportunities to spend time with the candidate – take a walk, get involved in a service project, go out for dinner, attend Mass together, etc.
- Discuss with the candidate the challenges and joys experienced in being a member of the Church. We all struggle with faith – why do you stay?
- Pray for your candidate, pray *with* your candidate
- After confirmation, keep in contact with your candidate

A Sponsor must meet the following requirements:

- at least 16 years of age
- a practicing Catholic who has received all the sacraments of initiation (Baptism, Eucharist, Confirmation)
- lead a life in harmony with the faith of the Catholic Church
- not the father or mother of the candidate.

**Please submit a sponsor eligibility certificate from your home parish where you are registered.** You should obtain this by contacting your parish office. St. Michael the Archangel parishioners (former St. Bernard and Our Lady of Grace) must contact our parish office, 412, 561-3300. Please make sure that the student's name whom you are sponsoring is on the form. **These are due by March 25, 2021.**

You are in my prayers!

## A Sponsor's Prayer

God of all ages,  
You send out Your Spirit  
to touch the hearts of all people,  
so that they may believe in You  
and in Jesus whom You sent.

Look kindly on all candidates for Confirmation  
as they listen to Your voice.  
Open their hearts to Your Spirit  
and bring to fulfillment the good work  
that You have begun in them.

As I reach out to my candidate,  
make me an instrument of Your love.  
Teach me to reverence what is holy in others,  
and to be patient with what I do not understand.

Deepen my faith in the Gospel  
and help me to pass it on by my example.  
With those who are hesitant or afraid,  
let me be a source of encouragement;  
and with those who are weak,  
let me be a pillar of strength.

I humbly accept the ministry of sponsor  
and pray that You will continue to guide me  
and sustain me.

