

# Choosing a Confirmation Sponsor

## **What is a confirmation Sponsor and why do I need one?**

A Sponsor is a person who walks with the candidate on the journey of faith leading to Confirmation. A Sponsor represents the larger Church – the entire community of believers.

You, the candidate, choose a Sponsor who is a special kind of friend to you, with whom you can share your faith. If the person whom you have chosen to be your Sponsor lives out of state or a distance where they cannot easily travel to attend events with you, please also choose someone that can be a proxy sponsor to participate with you on a more regular basis. Please still communicate with your sponsor and talk. But part of a journey is shared experiences, so we ask that you have someone close that can share these regular experiences and communicate about them.

Sponsors should be willing to share their own faith, knowledge, and experience of being Catholic with you. The Church, knowing the basic need of people to feel secure and welcome, require a sponsor to assist you on the final stages of the initiation process – your journey of faith.

During the Rite of Covenant (November 24) and at the Rite of Confirmation (date TBD) your sponsor will be your sign of readiness to receive the sacrament. Ideally your relationship with your sponsor will not end with the ceremony but flourish as you continue to grow in your faith. Faith growth is a life long process.

## **Who can be a Confirmation Sponsor? / What should I look for?**

- Someone designated by the one to be confirmed.
  - Be at least 16 years old
- A sponsor must be a fully initiated Catholic (one who has celebrated Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist), who leads a life in harmony with the faith and the role to be undertaken.
  - One who witnesses to their faith by participation in worship and involved in the life of their parish community.
- A sponsor may not be the parent of the candidate but could be, a brother, sister, aunt, uncle, godparent, parent of a friend, neighbor or parishioner you have come to know and trust.
  - A person you have a comfortable and positive relationship with so you can share your faith and life experiences.
    - A person willing to help you live as a follower of Christ.
- A person willing to engage in the confirmation process as a means of enhancing their own growth as a Catholic adult.
  - A person who will be willing to pray for you on your journey.
  - A person who will be able to attend required meetings, Confirmation Rehearsal and Confirmation Mass.