
ROLE OF THE SPONSOR

“The sponsor’s function is to take care that the person confirmed behaves as a true witness of Christ and faithfully fulfills the duties inherent in this sacrament.”

A sponsor is:

1. A role model; a person who fully embraces and lives their faith fully.
2. A mentor, someone to help guide and encourage the Candidate, walking side by side as the Candidate seeks to respond to God’s call.
3. A trusted adult who is willing to stand with the Candidate not only during a ceremony, but throughout life’s journey.

Canon 874 states:

“To be admitted to undertake the office of sponsor, a person must:

1. Be appointed by the candidate for baptism, or by the parents or whoever stands in their place, or failing these, by the parish priest or minister. To be appointed, the person must be suitable for this role and have the intention of fulfilling it;
2. Not be less than 16 years of age;
3. **Be a Catholic who has been confirmed and has received the Blessed Eucharist, and who lives a life of faith which befits the role to be undertaken** - (Must attend Sunday liturgy every week, valid marriage if married);
4. Not labor under a canonical penalty, whether imposed or declared - (Must be in a state of Grace);
5. **Not be either the father or mother of the person to be confirmed.**”

Each Candidate may only have ONE sponsor for Confirmation.

SPONSORS ARE ASKED TO:

- PRAY FOR and WITH the Candidate!
 - Actively participate in the process, discussing what has been learned throughout Confirmation and learning how to apply this to daily life, while sharing their faith with their Candidate.
 - Attend the sessions and Day of Reflection with their student. (A parent may come in place of sponsor if sponsor is unable to attend)
 - Be an active member within their local Catholic community.
 - Attend Sunday Mass every week.
 - Complete the Diocese of Austin Sponsor Covenant form.
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