



# St. Mary's Visitation Parish

2459 146<sup>th</sup> Ave., Byron Center, MI 49315 – 616.681.9701

To be chosen as a Godparent or Sponsor for Baptism or Confirmation is a great honor that carries with it great responsibility. It is your role to help form the candidate for Baptism or Confirmation in the Catholic faith, to be a good role model and to inspire them to live an authentic Catholic Christian life. Thus, in accordance with the Code of Canon Law (C 872, 874, 893 and 982), the Catholic Church requires the following of Godparents/Sponsors.

### Sponsor qualifications:

- + *Must be at least 16 years of age*
- + *Have received all the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist)*
- + *If married, have been married in the Church or has had their marriage blessed in the Church.*
- + *Actively, practicing their faith. This means that the person follows the commandments of God by participating each week in Sunday Mass, frequents the Sacrament of Reconciliation.*
- + *Godparents must be someone other than the child's parents.*

As a Godparent/Sponsor for: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of child or youth you are sponsoring)

(With my initials below) I affirm the following:

- \_\_\_\_\_ I am a practicing Catholic, regularly attend Catholic Mass and receive the Eucharist.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I am over the age of sixteen and have received the Sacrament of Confirmation.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I am not a parent to the candidate who will receive the Sacrament.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I understand and accept the obligations of a Godparent/Sponsor, to lead a life of faith and to pray and assist my candidate in his/her spiritual growth.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I regularly celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I am not married **OR**
- \_\_\_\_\_ I am in a recognized Catholic marriage; (married in the Catholic Church or celebrated Convalidation of Marriage.)

I hereby solemnly declare that I fulfill all of the requirements and joyfully accept my role to act as a Godparent/Sponsor for the Sacrament of Baptism or Confirmation.

Name of Godparent/Sponsor \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Godparent/Sponsor \_\_\_\_\_

Date of declaration \_\_\_\_\_

Name of your home Parish if not St. Mary's Visitation Parish \_\_\_\_\_

**To be filled out and signed by Godparent's Parish Priest:** This certifies that the above named person is known to me as a parishioner in good standing and that he/she is qualified to serve as a sponsor for the Sacrament of Baptism or Confirmation.

Church of Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_