

# Confirmation Sponsor Requirements

1. Sponsors represent in a personal way the witness and support of the parish community. Opportunities for catechesis should be offered to the sponsors in order to assist them in fully understanding their role in the ongoing formation of the candidates. The sponsors should participate with the candidates in their preparation, as well as the celebration. It is desirable to choose as sponsor the one who undertook the same function in baptism. (C.893.2)
2. To perform the role of sponsor, it is necessary that a person:
  - a. be designated by the one to be Confirmed, by the parents or the one who takes their place or, in their absence, by the pastor or minister and is to have the qualifications and intention of performing the role.
  - b. have completed the sixteenth year, unless a different age has been established by the archdiocesan bishop or it seems to the pastor or minister that an exception is to be made for a just cause.
  - c. be a Catholic who has been Confirmed and has already received the Sacrament of the Eucharist and leads a life in harmony with faith and the role to be undertaken. *(An example of not living the life of faith is being in an irregular marriage or relationship.)*
  - d. not be bound by any canonical penalty legitimately imposed or declared. *(if married, invalid marriage).*
  - e. not be the father or the mother of the one to be Confirmed. (C 874)

### 3. **More than one Sponsor:**

More than one can be used but only one is designated as the liturgical sponsor, standing with the candidate at Confirmation.

### 4. **Sponsor-Proxy:**

A proxy may be used, but it is recommended that someone nearby be chosen to sponsor, so that he/she can become more involved in the candidate's preparation.

### **Taking Another Name:**

As greater emphasis is placed on the intimate connection between Baptism and Confirmation, the Baptismal name is seen as having greater significance. Candidates may choose a Confirmation name if they so desire. This is especially true if the Baptism name is not a saint's name.