

# Walk With Me:

## Choosing a Sponsor

### Why a Sponsor?

From the earliest days of the Church, those seeking communion with the Church were supported by specific people chosen from the community. At your baptism those significant people were your parents and godparents (your baptismal sponsors) who promised that you would be raised in the faith. They professed *their* faith because you could not speak for yourself. Your parents accepted the responsibility of training you in the practice of the faith. Your godparents promised to help your parents. In Confirmation you will speak for yourself; you will renew your baptismal promises. You will be supported by a sponsor who will stand with you and present you to the bishop for Confirmation.

### Choosing a Sponsor

The Church encourages you to choose, if possible, one of your baptismal godparents to be your sponsor for Confirmation, because this expresses more clearly the link between your Baptism and Confirmation. This person would be a good choice if she/he:

-  has been close enough to you to have been supportive of your life so far;
-  is a baptized Catholic who has received Eucharist and has been confirmed;
-  is a practicing Catholic who participates in the Eucharistic celebration every Sunday;
-  lives a good Catholic life;
-  is at least 16 years of age.

### Role of a Sponsor

Your sponsor should be someone you see as a mentor, spiritual guide, and companion in faith and someone who knows you well enough to be able to testify, by his or her presence before the community, that you are someone who wishes to be fully incorporated into the Church as a believing, practicing Catholic; that you are one who takes part faithfully in the Church's worship, witness, and mission. When you are anointed with the chrism during Confirmation your sponsor will be beside you with a hand placed on your shoulder. This is a sign of your spiritual relationship.

Before you choose your sponsor, take time to think about your choice. Ask yourself:

-  Is this person someone with whom I feel comfortable?
-  Does this person live near enough to me to truly be able to be a guide and a support?
-  Will this person be willing and able to be my sponsor—to take an active role in my faith life?

Adapted from *The Spirit Sets Us Free*, Sadlier Sacrament Program, William H. Dadlier, Inc.

**Sponsor Form due in class on November 1.**