



Saint Joseph Catholic Church

567 Saint Joseph Lane + Manchester, MO 63021

636.227.5247 www.stjoemanchester.org

Pastor's Explanation of the Purpose of Letters of Good Standing

I often receive requests to sign a statement that declares a certain individual as a practicing Catholic and eligible to serve as a godparent, Confirmation sponsor, or RCIA sponsor. This is generally referred to as a LETTER OF GOOD STANDING.

To be considered a parishioner and therefore able to receive a LETTER OF GOOD STANDING from the parish, you will need the following. We will gladly help you with accomplishing any of the following.

1. Register as a parishioner. If you grew up in the parish and have moved out of your parents' house and now both you and they are parishioners, please be sure to register yourself here or wherever you attend Mass.
2. Become involved in a parish activity or ministry.
3. Participate at weekly Sunday Mass and Holy Days, by either using your envelope at Mass or write a check which allows us to track your attendance (Please understand this is not about your giving, but about verifying your regular attendance).
4. If you come from another parish and would like us to offer a Letter of Good Standing for you, please bring some statement from your previous parish that you are a practicing parishioner there.
5. Finally, if you move, please notify us that you have moved and register at your new parish.

The purpose of a LETTER OF GOOD STANDING is to show that we value the example and commitment of being a godparent or a sponsor, and that we intentionally practice what we profess. The letter assures the parish seeking it that the godparent or sponsor is intentional & serious about the practice of his or her Catholic faith and will deliberately share that faith with the one to be baptized or confirmed.

Finally, please note that our parish registrations are used only by our parish and our diocese. In no way do we ever share the information you give us with the government or any outside organization.

Thank you and God bless

Fr. Tom Pastorius
Pastor of St. Joseph Parish



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GODPARENT / SPONSOR CERTIFICATE CANON 874: To be admitted to the role of Sponsor or Godparent, a person must be a Catholic who has been confirmed and has already received the sacrament of the Most Holy Eucharist and leads a life in harmony with the faith and the role to be undertaken.

Complete and return to church office either by drop off, mail or fax to 636-391-8393.

I, _____, am a registered member of _____

Catholic Church. I have been asked to stand as Sponsor/Godparent (*circle one*) for _____

(child's name) as she/he receives the Sacrament of Confirmation/Baptism (*circle one*) on _____ (date).

In accepting this responsibility, I affirm that: *(please check each that apply)*

____ 1. I have received the three Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation).

____ 2. I am at least 16 years of age.

____ 3. I participate regularly in weekly Mass and give witness to my faith in Christ Jesus by receiving Him in Holy Communion.

____ 4. I believe all that the Catholic Church professes and teaches and I truly make an effort to incorporate these teachings into my daily life.

____ 5. I am aware that I am assuming responsibility to be a good role model for the person I am sponsoring by my life of prayer and by my Catholic example.

____ 6. If married, I was married in accordance with the requirements of the Catholic Church.

____ 7. I am not the mother or father of the one to be Confirmed/Baptized.

Signature of Sponsor/Godparent: _____ Date: _____

Sponsor/Godparent's

Address: _____

& Email: _____

Pastor's Acknowledgement:

____ As Pastor, I verify that the above-named person(s) registered on _____ (date).

____ As Pastor, I am unable to verify that the above-named person(s) is/are active Catholics in my parish.

Please apply church seal here

Pastor signature: _____ Date: _____