

WHAT IS A CONFIRMATION SPONSOR?

The sponsor assists in preparing the candidate to celebrate Confirmation. They present the candidate to the bishop on the day of Confirmation, and continue to support the confirmed afterwards. The sponsor serves as an example for the candidate of actively and joyfully living their Catholic faith in daily life.

WHO CAN BE A SPONSOR?

Because Confirmation is a reaffirmation of the promises made at baptism, the child's godparent is the most appropriate person to be the sponsor. However if the child's godparent is not available, together with your child, consider a Catholic who already encourages and assists the child in their faith. Sponsors should be: at least 16 years old; not the child's parent; a Catholic who has been confirmed, received communion; and who lives a life of faith.

WHAT ARE THE SPONSOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES?

1. Be a good example of living your faith.
2. Pray for the child as they prepare to receive the sacrament of Confirmation. Remember to also pray for yourself.
3. Share time with the child. Build a relationship with them that fosters communication and sharing about the faith. Going out to eat, skyping to chat about the preparation sessions, and asking questions are all ideas to help build this relationship.
4. Go to Mass together.
5. You as sponsor presents the child to the bishop at Confirmation.
6. Support the newly confirmed after Confirmation. After the Confirmation ceremony, your sponsor's duties have just begun. You continue to be a support person for the young Catholic, maintaining their relationship of trust and helping them grow in the faith. Remember birthdays and confirmation day anniversary – send a card or make a phone call.
7. From time to time work together on a project that uses your 'Gifts of the Spirit'.