Selection of a Sponsor

Every Candidate for Confirmation must have a sponsor. The role of a sponsor is very special and not just an honorary position. When choosing a sponsor, you should consider your options carefully and prayerfully. Many people are good, kind, caring, loving, and nice; but those things do not automatically qualify them to be a Confirmation Sponsor. A sponsor must strive to exhibit all of those qualities and, at the same time, seek to be a witness to their Catholic faith.

**According to the Code of Canon Law, a Sponsor must:**

* Be at least 16 years of age
* Have completed the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation)
* Be a practicing Catholic
* If married, they must have been married in the Catholic Church or had the marriage blessed by the Catholic Church
* Cannot be a parent of the Candidate

**A Sponsor is:**

* Someone who is willing to be a witness to the Catholic faith for the candidate
* Someone who will take an interest in the spiritual growth of the candidate both before and after the celebration of Confirmation
* Someone who is actively involved in a faith community
* Someone who can help the candidate to understand the importance of participating in the life of the church

**Other things to consider:**

* Is your sponsor a person who you see on a regular basis and have a strong relationship with?
* Are you comfortable talking to this person about issues of faith, morality, and Christian living?
* Will you be able to easily meet with your sponsor for faith sharing opportunities?
* Will your sponsor be able to obtain a Certificate of Eligibility from his/her current parish?
* Your sponsor does not need to be of the same gender as you
* Your Baptismal Godparent is an option for a Confirmation sponsor
* If no one in your family or close friends meets the criteria of the Code of Canon Law, please feel free to consider members of our parish community.

Remember to think long and prayerfully before making your selection.