

Prince of Peace Parish Sponsor Eligibility Certificate

Name of Child/Candidate: _____

Name of Sponsor/Godparent: _____

Sponsor/Godparent Mailing Address: _____

Sponsor's Phone: _____ Sponsor's E-mail: _____

I have been asked to serve as a Godparent/Sponsor in the celebration of the sacrament of

Baptism

Confirmation

I understand that this is an important opportunity for me to witness to my faith and to grow in my own understanding of who I am as a disciple of Jesus Christ. I know that in this role, I am called to give a good example of Catholic life. Therefore, I attest that I am:

- At least 16 years old.
- A fully initiated Catholic Christian through the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist,
- A practicing Catholic who participates in Mass regularly and who believes and lives according to the teachings of the Catholic Church,
- If married, I have been validly married according to the laws of the Catholic Church, before a priest, or before a Minister or Rabbi with permission of the Bishop, and
- A registered member of

_____ Parish/Catholic Church in

_____ City/State

Sponsor's Signature

For the Parish Priest:

I attest that the above-signed person is a registered member of the parish and understands the requirements and the importance of being a Godparent/Sponsor.

Parish Priest Signature

Parish
Seal

Date

ON BEING A GODPARENT/SPONSOR IN THE CATHOLIC FAITH

CONGRATULATIONS! Someone has appreciated your faith enough to ask you to share that faith with them or with their child. The Roman Catholic Church values godparents/sponsors so much that you should be very clear about what your role of sponsoring someone for Baptism or Confirmation involves.

This is what Canon Law, the official law of the Church, states in Canons 872-874:

The one to be baptized is to be given a sponsor who will . . . help the baptized to lead a Christian life in harmony with Baptism, and to fulfill faithfully the obligations connected with it. To be admitted to the role of sponsor, a person must . . . have completed the sixteenth year, and must be a Catholic who has been baptized, confirmed and has already received the Sacraments of the most Holy Eucharist and leads a life in harmony with the faith and the role to be undertaken.

As you can see, being a godparent or a sponsor is far more than an honorary role. You will help the parents provide a living example of Christian life. In other words, you and the parents represent the Church to this person and he/she will know that they are not alone in the quest to know God and to do God's will.

Prayer and regular reception of the Eucharist and other Sacraments will help you best fulfill your role as a sponsor to this person. Being an active participant in your own faith will help you lead by example, not only for the candidate for this sacrament, but also for everyone around you.

Once again, congratulations and God bless you.