

# Sponsor Requirements

Acting as a godparent for Baptism or as a sponsor for Confirmation is an honor and responsibility. The church does not take these roles lightly and has established clear criteria for the fulfillment of these roles.

Any member of St. Joseph Church, who wishes to act as a godparent for the Sacrament of Baptism or as a sponsor for the Sacrament of Confirmation, must contact the Parish House Office. The person who will be acting as the godparent or sponsor must be the one to call. Calls from parents, spouses, the candidate for which you are to serve, or a family member of the sacramental candidate will not suffice.

*From the 1983 Code of Canon Law Canon 874:*

To be admitted to the role of sponsors, a person must:

1. Be at least 16 years old.
2. The sponsor must be a fully initiated member of the Catholic Church – the sponsor must be baptized and confirmed and the sponsor must have already received the Sacrament of Eucharist.
3. The sponsor must live a life in keeping with the laws of the Catholic Church, leading a life of faith. The sponsor must observe the precepts of the church. The sponsor must be a practicing Catholic and must attend Mass every Sunday and on holy days of obligation.
4. If married, the sponsor must be in a valid marriage.

Upon calling the Parish House, a Certificate of Sponsorship will be issued for those who meet the requirements set forth by the Code of Canon Law of the Roman Catholic Church.