



Abide in Christ. Love God & Neighbor. *Make Disciples.*

Godparent/Sponsor Endorsement Form

Please complete and return to Prince of Peace parish office at least two weeks prior to the scheduled baptism or before the date requested for Confirmation or OCIA.

I _____ (Please print) have been asked to be a godparent/sponsor for
_____ (Please print candidate's first and last name)

I am a registered parishioner of _____ in
_____, _____ (city, state).

A godparent/sponsor is an important person in the life of the person to be baptized/confirmed. They are: 1) a spiritual role model, 2) an example of the Christian life and 3) the official representative of the Body of Christ, the Church. They are to be a source of guidance, support, and inspiration to this candidate on his or her faith journey and, when appropriate, help the parents in the Christian formation of this candidate. Please read the back for more information on the requirements of a godparent/sponsor.

Circle either **Yes** or **No** for each question:

- | | | |
|------------|-----------|---|
| YES | NO | Are you a practicing Catholic who regularly participates in Mass on Saturdays/Sundays and Holy Days of obligation? |
| YES | NO | Are you at least 16 years of age? |
| YES | NO | Have you received the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist? |
| YES | NO | Will you support the candidate for whom you will be godparent/sponsor, by the Christian example of your daily life as a Roman Catholic? |
| YES | NO | Are you married? (please respond to statement below that applies to you) |
| YES | NO | If married , were you married in the Catholic Church? |
| YES | NO | If unmarried , are you living with another person in a romantic relationship as a couple? |

I affirm I meet the qualifications, and accept the responsibilities, of being a godparent/sponsor. I am an active and participating Catholic and promise, to the best of my ability, to serve as an example in encouraging this candidate to participate in the sacramental life of the Church.

Godparent/Sponsor Signature _____ Date: _____

Pastor/Delegate (please print) _____

Pastor/Delegate Signature _____ **Parish Seal:**

ARCHDIOCESAN POLICY: GODPARENTS FOR BAPTISM and CONFIRMATION SPONSORS

Godparents and Sponsors

- 1) At least one godparent is required for Baptism. There is to be only one male, or one female godparent, or one of each. (c.873). Godparents are to be designated by the parent(s) or guardian.
- 2) Each candidate for Confirmation is to have his/her own sponsor. To keep the connection with Baptism, it is recommended that the godparent also be the sponsor. However, it is permissible to choose another as sponsor. (c.873).
- 3) The godparent/sponsor are to be Catholic and have completed their 16th year. They are to have been a) Confirmed, b) received their first Holy Communion, c) not bound by canonical penalty, d) not the father and mother of the child. (c.874)
- 4) A Christian witness is a baptized person who belongs to a non-Catholic ecclesial community and is to participate only *together* with a practicing Catholic godparent at the baptism. (c.874)
- 5) A non-baptized person may never be a godparent or sponsor. (c.874)

Regarding the criteria for a Godparent/Sponsor:

- 1) A godparent/sponsor must be a Roman Catholic because they are an official representative of the Catholic Church. Christians of other denominations whose baptism is recognized as valid in the Catholic Church may serve as a Christian Witness for the baptism of a Catholic but not a godparent/sponsor.
- 2) The godparent/sponsor must generally be 16 by the date of the Baptism/Confirmation. They must be baptized and have received Confirmation and Holy Communion.
- 3) The godparent/sponsor is a practicing Catholic who is free to receive the Eucharist when he or she comes to Mass. They are to lead a life of faith in keeping with the function which they have been asked to assume.
- 4) Marital Status: A Catholic godparent/sponsor who is married must be in a marriage that is recognized by the Catholic Church. Those in their first marriage must have been married either a) in a Catholic Church ceremony or b) in a church/synagogue ceremony with the permission of the Catholic Church. Catholics in second marriages must have had their first marriage annulled and their second marriage recognized or convalidated by the Catholic Church. Catholics presently in civil or common law marriages (cohabitation) are not eligible to serve as godparent/sponsor.
- 5) Unmarried Status: If unmarried, a godparent/sponsor must be living in a life consistent with a single person as defined by the Catholic Church. Anyone cohabitating with another person in a romantic/sexual relationship is ineligible to serve as godparent/sponsor.