

ST. BENEDICT
CATHOLIC CHURCH AND SCHOOL



St. Benedict Catholic Church and School
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The Role of the Sponsor

Candidates for the sacrament of Baptism and Confirmation need a sponsor. Each candidate is responsible for choosing a sponsor. It is recommended that, if possible, the baptismal sponsor (godparent) also be the Confirmation sponsor. This choice would express more clearly the relationship between Baptism and Confirmation and would make the function of the sponsor more effective. There is no regulation determining that men must be sponsors for boys and women must be sponsors for girls. A parent cannot be chosen as the sponsor.

The sponsor is a Catholic who knows the ways of faith and will be able to help the person who is receiving the sacrament to begin living the faith in the Catholic Church more fully.

There are certain qualifications that Church has for sponsors. Consider choosing a sponsor after considerable reflection and responses to the following questions. The answer to the questions must be yes for your sponsor to be eligible according to the Code of Canon Law of the Catholic Church.

- My sponsor is 16 years old or older. (Yes or No)
- My sponsor is a baptized Catholic (or has made a profession of faith in the case of a conversion to the catholic Faith.) (Yes or No)
- My sponsor has been confirmed in the Catholic Church. (Yes or No)
- My sponsor is a practicing Catholic and attends Mass weekly. (Yes or No)
- If my sponsor is married, he/she was married in the Catholic Church. (Yes or No)
- My sponsor can obtain a certificate from his/her parish that they are a Catholic in good standing. (Every sponsor needs one.) (Yes or No)

If you answered “NO” to any one of the questions above, then that person cannot be a sponsor according to the Code of Canon Law (Church rules).

This guideline is given to you to help you in choosing a sponsor. Do not return it with answers. It is to help you choose a person who will be eligible.

Any questions can be directed to the Faith Formation office at 732/264-4712 X24 or cesario@stbenedictnj.org or contino@stbenedictnj.org

