



St. Kateri Parish

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(207) 454-0680

Sacramental Sponsorship Certificate for Baptism or Confirmation

Sponsor Declaration

**** See reverse side for church Canon Law regarding this declaration ****

In accepting the responsibility to stand as a Sponsor for Baptism or Confirmation,

I, _____, truthfully state the following:

- † If married, I was married according to the laws of the Catholic Church regarding marriage.
- † I am at least 16 years of age.
- † I have received the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation in the Catholic Church.
- † I attend Mass regularly on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation, and receive the Sacraments of the Church regularly.
- † I understand and accept the responsibilities that I undertake as a sponsor, and I promise I will support _____
(Name of person to be Baptized or Confirmed) in his or her efforts to live a Catholic life that reflects the spirit and teaching of the Catholic Church.
- † I am prepared to assist his or her parents in their Christian duty by my support, encouragement, and prayer.

From the Code of Canon Law: (effective First Sunday of Advent, December, 1983)

Excerpt from page 329, Chapter IV, "Sponsors" for Baptism and Confirmation.

Chapter IV – Sponsors

Canon 872

Insofar as possible, one to be baptized is to be given a sponsor who is to assist an adult in Christian Initiation, or, together with the parents, to present an infant at the baptism, and who will help the baptized to lead a Christian life in harmony with baptism, and to fulfill faithfully the obligations connected with it.

Canon 873

Only one male or one female sponsor or one of each sex is to be chosen.

Canon 874

Par. 1 – To be admitted to the role of sponsor, a person must:

- a. Be designated by the one to be baptized, by the parents or the one who takes their place or, in their absence, by the pastor or minister, and is to have the qualifications and intention of performing this role;
- b. Have completed the sixteenth year, unless a different age has been established by the diocesan bishop or it seems to the pastor or minister that an exception is to be made for a just cause;
- c. Be a Catholic who has been confirmed and has already received the sacrament of the Most Holy Eucharist, and leads a life in harmony with the faith and the role to be undertaken;
- d. Not be bound by any canonical penalty legitimately imposed or declared;
- e. Not be the father or mother of the one to be baptized.

Par. 2 – A baptized person who belongs to a non-Catholic ecclesial community may not be admitted except as a witness to baptism and together with a Catholic sponsor.

Canon 892

As far as possible a sponsor for one to be confirmed should be present; it is for the sponsor to see that the confirmed person acts as a true witness to Christ and faithfully fulfills the obligations connected with this sacrament.

Canon 893

Par. 1 – To perform the role of sponsor, it is necessary that the person fulfill the conditions mentioned in canon 874.

Par. 2 – It is desirable that the one who undertook the role of sponsor at Baptism be sponsor for Confirmation.