

Immaculate Conception Church
211 Summit Street
Norwood, New Jersey 07648
1-201-768-1600
iccsoc@aol.com

Guidelines for Choosing a Confirmation Sponsor

A sponsor is required for the candidate being confirmed. Canon 872 and 874 of the Code of Canon Law lists those requirements for valid and lawful sponsorship in Confirmation:

- * The sponsor's role is to assist the person in Christian initiation.
- * The sponsor's role is, together with the parents, to present the child for the sacrament and help him/her live a life befitting a baptized Catholic Christian.

Being a confirmation sponsor is not just an honor given to a good friend or relative. Sponsorship implies a real appreciation of the faith, a practice of the same, and a sense of responsibility toward the person being confirmed.

A sponsor also plays a vital role in the candidate's continuing initiation into full membership in the Christian community. A sponsor of a Confirmation candidate:

- * Supports and guides the candidate in their commitment to be a disciple of Christ.
- * Must know the candidate and be willing to serve as a strong and long-lasting Christian influence on the candidate.
- * Help the candidate prepare for Confirmation through prayerful participation / example.
- * Presents the candidate to the Bishop during the Confirmation Mass.

Parents cannot be sponsors for their own children because they are already the child's most important teacher. The first choice for a Confirmation sponsor would be one of the candidate's godparents, to show the close connection between Baptism and Confirmation. *If this is not possible, a second choice would be a confirmed Catholic whom the candidate admires and who bears witness to the Gospel in his or her everyday life.* If the sponsor is a high school student, he or she must be an active member of the youth ministry/religious education at their parish.

See the next page for Sponsor Certification Form

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DUE: SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2018
SPONSOR CERTIFICATION FORM

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING, SIGN, AND HAVE YOUR PARISH PRIEST CERTIFY

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT I,

(SPONSOR'S NAME)
OF

(NAME OF PARISH)

(CITY AND STATE)

ACCEPT THE INVITATION TO BE A SPONSOR AT THE CONFIRMATION OF

(CANDIDATE'S NAME)

I AFFIRM THAT I AM BAPTIZED AND CONFIRMED CATHOLIC, THAT I PRACTICE MY RELIGION REGULARLY, AND THAT I AM IN GOOD STANDING IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH.

I UNDERSTAND THAT I AM ACTING AS A WITNESS TO THE PUBLIC ACCEPTANCE OF THE CATHOLIC RELIGION BY THIS CANDIDATE.

I AGREE TO ACT AS A GUIDE AND ADVISOR TO THIS CANDIDATE, MOST ESPECIALLY BY MY OWN CATHOLIC EXAMPLE AND WITNESS.

I FURTHER AGREE TO PROVIDE FOR THIS CANDIDATE'S RELIGIOUS TRAINING SHOULD CIRCUMSTANCES REQUIRE IT.

(SIGNATURE OF SPONSOR)

PRIEST'S CERTIFICATION

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT _____ (NAME OF SPONSOR) IS IN GOOD STANDING IN YOUR PARISH, AND THAT HE/SHE MEETS THE ABOVE REQUIREMENTS FOR SPONSORSHIP AT CONFIRMATION.

(SIGNED): REV. _____

PARISH: _____

(PARISH SEAL)

CITY AND STATE: _____