

Confirmation Sponsors

Sponsor Information

Not too long ago, the sponsor for Confirmation was a friend or relative who showed up at the ceremony of Confirmation and that was about it. Well, an ancient way of sponsoring has been rediscovered. In the early years of the Church, sponsors played a practical role in the initiation process. A person often wanted to join the Church because of a Christian's personal example. Naturally, that Christian became the interested person's sponsor.

The sponsor walked with the new member helping him or her understand the way of Christ and the Church. The sponsor served as a model of what it meant to be a person committed to traveling on the way of Christ.

Today the Church has reclaimed this ancient way of sponsoring new members. The Church recognized sponsors as people who are guides, models, friends, companions, and witnesses - responsible people the parish entrusts to accompany the candidates on the way to Confirmation.

Qualities of a Sponsor

- *Hospitality.* A sponsor must be a welcoming and inclusive person - a host. The sponsor needs to be open to accepting and discovering the person and the gifts - sometimes hidden - of his or her candidate. The sponsor needs to help the candidate discover both the comfort and challenge offered by the community of faith and help establish a sense of belonging in the candidate.
- *Prayerfulness.* The sponsor is a person of prayer. By being willing to pray and trying to pray - the sponsor will be responsive to the needs of the candidate and to the messages of the Holy Spirit.
- *Respectfulness.* The sponsor needs to remain open and considerate. To value and esteem the opinions, ideas, gifts, talents, hopes, fears, and feelings of the candidate. And to show respect by treating the sharing with confidentiality.
- *Generosity.* In the hustle and bustle of today, to be a sponsor takes a certain generosity. A sponsor is someone who can be called upon to be generous with many precious commodities - time, talent, patience, prayer and feelings.
- *Faithfulness.* Faithfulness does not mean perfection. A sponsor's faith does not have to be perfect, solid, or totally secure. Rather it must be steadfast, seeking, open and growing. The community is made up of people on the way - people who have not yet arrived!

Remember: Sponsors should not be parents, grandparents or in a special relationship with the candidate. It is most appropriate to have your Baptismal sponsor, (godparent) be the Confirmation sponsor. Remember that a sponsor must be an active, registered, practicing, confirmed Catholic who is able to get the eligibly form signed by the priest in his/her parish. If the sponsor is a St. Alphonsus parishioner, turn the sponsor form in without a priest's signature and Fr. Moroney will review the form.

Sponsor for Confirmation Certificate of Eligibility

St. Alphonsus

Please Print

Name _____ Date _____

In which Confirmation Year are you currently enrolled? 1 2 3

Name of Sponsor _____

Address of Sponsor _____

Sponsor's Phone Number _____

Catholic Parish where registered _____

Sponsor, please read and complete the following:

As a sponsor for _____, I declare that I am a baptized and confirmed Catholic and that I am formally registered in the Catholic church parish listed above.

I believe all that the Catholic Church believes and teaches, and I truly make a serious effort to live a good moral life worthy of imitation.

As a practicing Catholic, I participate at Mass on Sundays and Holydays, and I receive the Sacraments of Eucharist and Reconciliation regularly. (If married) I have celebrated the Sacrament of Marriage in the Catholic Church. Or I am working with a priest to have my marriage blessed in the Church.

I realize that I assume a great responsibility before God and the Church in becoming a sponsor. I intend to encourage and support the one I am sponsoring in the practice of the Catholic faith by my word and example.

Signature of the Sponsor _____

Signature of Parish Priest _____

(If sponsor is registered at St. Alphonsus return the form without a priest's signature)

Date _____ **Remarks** _____

Please bring, mail, or fax your Sponsor Form to:

St. Alphonsus Liguori Catholic Church
Attention: Cindi Schlatre
14040 Greenwell Springs Road
Greenwell Springs, LA 70739
Fax 225 261.5650