



ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS

Cardinal Rigali Center
20 Archbishop May Drive
St. Louis, Missouri 63119

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Godparent/Sponsor Form

Congratulations! You have been asked to be a godparent for an upcoming sacrament. To be a godparent/sponsor is both an honor and an awesome responsibility, as it calls one to draw even deeper into the heart of Christ to gain wisdom in guiding the spiritual life of the candidate in the ways of Christ and His Church. The godparent/sponsor, together with the parents, must be willing to help the baptized/confirmed grow in love for Christ and neighbor. By word and example, the godparent/sponsor will encourage the candidate to live the Christian life and fulfill faithfully the obligations connected with it (cf. Code of Canon Law, c. 872).

Church law permits two godparents for Baptism. Only one is necessary. If two are chosen, there must be one of each sex (cf. Code of Canon Law, c. 873). Only one sponsor of either gender is permitted for Confirmation.

Therefore, I _____,

desiring to assume the obligation of godparent/ sponsor for the Sacrament of:

Check one: () Godparent for Baptism () Sponsor for Confirmation on behalf of: (insert name)

_____ do here declare that I understand the responsibilities of a godparent/sponsor and that I am willing by prayer and example to encourage and instruct her/ him in living our Catholic faith.

Furthermore:

- I have received the Catholic Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist.
- I attend Mass regularly on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation.
- I have attained the required minimum age of sixteen years.
- I am not the parent of the person being baptized/confirmed.
- My manner of life is in harmony with the faith and the role to be undertaken.
- If married: My current marriage is canonically valid and recognized as such by the Catholic Church.

I hereby testify before God and God's minister to the truth of what is stated here above.

_____ (Signature of applicant)



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To be admitted to the role of a Godparent what requirements do I need?

To be permitted to take on the function of sponsor(godparent) a person must:

- be designated by the one to be baptized, by the parents or the person who takes their place, or in their absence by the pastor or minister and have the aptitude and intention of fulfilling this function;
- have completed the sixteenth year of age, unless the diocesan bishop has established another age, or the pastor or minister has granted an exception for a just cause;
- be a Catholic who has been confirmed and has already received the most holy sacrament of the Eucharist and who leads a life of faith in keeping with the function to be taken on;
- not be bound by any canonical penalty legitimately imposed or declared;
- not be the father or mother of the one to be baptized. §2. A baptized person who belongs to a non-Catholic ecclesial community is not to participate except together with a Catholic sponsor and then only as a witness of the baptism (Canon 874).