



Secretariat for Catholic Formation

Office of Family & Respect Life

Godparent/Sponsor Eligibility Form

Congratulations on being asked to be a Godparent/Sponsor! By accepting this role, you are committing to play a significant role in this person's life, sharing the faith and encouraging him/her in his/her journey as a Catholic.

Name of child receiving sacrament:

First Name Middle Last Name

Godparent or Sponsor:

First Name Middle Last Name

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____ Email _____

Name of Your Catholic Parish:

Parish Name _____ City _____ State _____

Qualifications of a Godparent/Sponsor

In accord with Canon Law 874, please provide the following information. If you do not meet all of these requirements, please let the parents know immediately.

1. A Godparent/Sponsor must be fully initiated into the Catholic Church. Please indicate whether you have received the three Sacraments of Initiation.

Baptism: Yes No Confirmed in the Catholic Church: Yes No First Eucharist: Yes No

2. A Godparent/Sponsor must be at least 16 years old. Are you 16 or older? Yes No

3. A Godparent/Sponsor cannot be a parent of the child to be baptized.

Are you a parent of the child? Yes No

4. A Godparent/Sponsor must be in good standing with the Catholic Church.

- If married, he/she must be married in the Catholic Church and living in accord with Church teaching.
- If single, he/she must be living according to Church teaching.
- Catholics who were married by a Justice of the Peace, at another Christian church without special permission, and those cohabiting do not meet the requirements of this role.

Based on these guidelines, are you in good standing with the Church? Yes No

5. A Godparent/Sponsor must be a practicing Catholic.
Do you currently attend Mass regularly? Yes No

I have truthfully answered the above questions and declare that I fulfill the Catholic Church's requirements of a Godparent/Sponsor. I commit to the responsibility of acting as a Godparent/Sponsor.

Godparent/Sponsor Signature

Date

The person who has signed this form above has testified that they fulfill all canonical requirements to serve as a godparent in the Catholic Church.

To be signed and sealed by the Godparent's/Sponsor's Parish of Record:

Signature of Pastor or Pastor's Designee

Date

Parish Name

Parish City/State

Notes:

- Only one godparent is necessary.
- Christian Witnesses for Baptism: If only one godparent is chosen for Baptism, someone validly baptized in a non-Catholic ecclesial community may serve as a Christian witness to the ceremony, along with the Catholic godparent. This form is not required for Christian witnesses. (Baptized Catholics who no longer practice their faith or who have joined another ecclesial community may not serve as Christian witnesses.)
- A non-baptized person cannot be a witness. (Code of Canon Law, 872-874)
- Orthodox Christians: An Orthodox Christian may serve as godparent of a Catholic for a just cause, only along with a Catholic godparent. (See Code of Canons of the Eastern Churches, 685; and 1967 Ecumenical Directory, 48.)
- Proxies: If the godparent/sponsor cannot be present for the ceremony, a proxy may stand in as a witness at the ceremony. This form is not required for proxies. Proxies should be identified in writing by godparent(s) represented (cf. Diocese of Manchester Sacramental Records and Sacramental Registers Procedures Manual).