

Confirmation Sponsor Certificate

Confirmation Candidate's Full Name _____

Sponsor's Full Name _____

I. Some Basic Church Rules Concerning Sponsors

It is the very ancient custom of the Church that at the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation, a sponsor is present. The function of the sponsor is: a) together with the celebrant who confirms, to represent the Church in receiving the person into the full communion of the Church; and b) to assist the person in Christian initiation. In accord with Canon 874 of the Code of Canon Law, the Church can admit a person to the role of sponsor if: a) he or she is not less than sixteen years of age; and b) is a Catholic who has been confirmed and has already received Eucharist and lives a life of faith which befits the role to be undertaken, and c) is not either the Father or Mother of the person. Given the functions and role a sponsor exercises, a non-Catholic Christian cannot be admitted as a sponsor but is welcome to be present at the ceremony. Note that the Catholic seeking to be admitted as a sponsor "lives a life of faith which befits the role to be undertaken." This phraseology means that the candidate for sponsor: a) sincerely believes and strives to put into practice the Word of God as taught by the Catholic Church; b) regularly takes part in the Mass and c) if married, was married in accordance with the requirements of the Catholic Church.

Consequently,

1. Those Catholics who are not actively affiliated with a worshipping community.
2. Those Catholics who are invalidly married, as for example, before a Justice of the Peace, or without proper dispensation, before a minister of a Protestant church or before a Rabbi.
3. Those Catholics who are divorced and invalidly remarried, and
4. Those Catholics who have not received Confirmation and Eucharist

Do not qualify to be admitted as a sponsor.

II. Affirmation of Prospective Sponsor

If therefore, you seek to be admitted as a sponsor and are convinced that you qualify in accord with the conditions listed above, kindly make the following solemn affirmation:

I, (print full name) _____, a practicing Catholic seek to be admitted as a sponsor, solemnly affirm that I fulfill the requirements of the Catholic Church for this role as presented above. I intend, with the grace of God, to continue the practice of my Catholic Faith, and I will, to the best of my ability, carry out the obligations of my role as sponsor.

(Sign) _____ (Date) _____

Please Note: If the sponsor is not a member of St. Edward the Confessor RC Church Community the following section must be completed by their parish.

I testify that the above named is a member of _____ Parish and in my judgment fulfills all the requirements to be a sponsor for the celebration of Confirmation.

(Signature of Parish Pastor)

(Date)

Seal