

Discerning a Sponsor

Choosing a sponsor for the sacrament of Confirmation is another important decision you will make this year. Canon Law, which is the law of the Church, requires you to have a sponsor for Confirmation. In ancient times, a sponsor literally walked with the candidate through a lengthy preparation period before the candidate was accepted into the Church. Today a sponsor is a person who will also walk with you in preparation for Confirmation. The person you choose will be a mentor, guide, and coach, helping you with questions you have about your faith and the Church. Therefore, the sponsor's role is not just an honorary one. The person you choose must be willing to participate in your preparation process.

Specifically, the Church requires the following of sponsors:

- Must be at least 16 years old.
- Must be fully initiated in the Church (Baptism, Eucharist, Confirmation)
- Must be a practicing Catholic.
- Cannot be your parent.

Prayer of the Candidate

O Holy Spirit, you have been with me and have counseled me ever since my Baptism. I thank you for this. Now that I am about to be confirmed in my faith, I ask your aid. Inspire me and my parents to choose a sponsor who will help me to prepare well for the Sacrament of Confirmation. Be with us as we weigh the different choices. I desire to live as a strong, faithful Christian. Lead us to the person who will be the best guide for me.

Prayer of the Parents

O Holy Spirit, You have entrusted (name) to us. Our role as parents is to guide and nurture (him/her) in every way. Give us grace to know who would be the best partner in carrying out our responsibility to guide and nourish (his/her) faith life.

1. Under sponsor possibilities write the names of possible sponsors. Base your choices on the above requirements.
2. Use the information to list the pros and cons of each choice in the respective column.
3. Reflect on and discuss the pros and cons of each choice.
4. Consult others.
5. Choose the best sponsor.

Remember, the Church believes the preferred choice for our confirmation sponsor is one of your baptismal sponsors.

Name	Pro	Con
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Fall, 2009

Dear Confirmation Sponsor,

The Immaculate Conception Parish Community thanks you for agreeing to be a sponsor. As a representative of the larger Christian community, you are asked to support, guide and listen to the candidate who has chosen you as a mentor, role model, and guide. We ask you to do so in the following ways:

- Pray for the candidate daily.
- Support the candidate's parents as they help their child live a full Christian life.
- Be available by phone, email, or in person to discuss any questions the student may have, or to help the student find answers to questions.
- Openly share your own faith journey including struggles you have had with your faith.
- Attend the Rite of Enrollment on the weekend of Oct. 17th and 18th, 2009 if you are available.
- Attend the "An Evening with Your Sponsor" on January 27th or January 28th, 2010. It will be held from 7:00 -9:00 pm in the parish hall.
- Attend the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis on May 15th, 2010 @ 1:30 pm.

We thank you for walking with these young people as they prepare for the fullness of the Holy Spirit in their lives. Know that we pray for you as you walk your journey of faith!

Barbara Morgan, SFO
PSR Principal

Pat Hennessy
CRE Day School

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

7707 Hwy. N.

Dardenne Prairie, MO 63368

Fall 2009

Dear Father,

The person presenting this form to you has been chosen to be a sponsor for the sacrament of Confirmation by a student from Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Dardenne Prairie, MO.

We are asking for your recommendation for this person as a qualified sponsor who will act a guide and mentor to the young person desiring the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Thank you for your endorsement of this person as sponsor. We pray for the sponsors and candidates daily and will also remember you in prayer. God's blessing and peace!

In Christ Jesus,

Barb Morgan SFO
PSR Principal

Pat Hennessy
CRE Day School

Sponsor Name (Please print)

Candidate Name

I verify that the above named sponsor is a member in good standing at

_____ Parish

Pastor's Signature _____

Date _____

Parish Seal:

Sponsor: Please return to Immaculate Conception Catholic Church by January 11, 2010