

Confirmation Sponsorship

Christ Our Hope Catholic Church

What is a sponsor?

- A SPONSOR at Confirmation witnesses the commitment to Christ which you are making. Your sponsor will accompany you these last months as you prepare for the sacrament of Confirmation. Your sponsor will present you to the Archbishop and stand with you as you are anointed. Your sponsor will journey with you beyond Confirmation.

One image of a sponsor is that of a mentor. A mentor is a person who may coach you, encourage you; it is a person who has learned by experience to live the Christian life. Your sponsor as mentor may give you advice, challenge you to try harder and encourage you to develop your gifts and talents.

- A Sponsor is one who offers support and care to the candidate and models for the candidate what it means to be a fully initiated Catholic.
- In addition, the sponsor's function is to take care that the person confirmed behaves as a true witness of Christ and faithfully fulfills the duties inherent in the sacrament. Please note therefore, this is not an honorary role. The sponsor should know the candidate will and can witness before God and the parish community to the person's readiness to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Who may be a sponsor?

- A sponsor should be at least 16 years of age and fully initiated through the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist
- A sponsor may be the same as the candidate's baptismal godparent. This is an encouraged practice. As the godparent was present when the child was baptized into the faith, they can now witness to and support the young adult as she/she commits to the responsibility of their own faith journey.
- A sponsor may be male or female. (A male candidate does not necessarily have to have a male sponsor, a female candidate a female sponsor)
- A sponsor should be actively practicing their faith.
- A person may be a sponsor by proxy. If they are unable to attend the ceremony, someone may stand in for them.
- Parents may not be sponsors.

Sponsor Preparation

- A sponsor whether living locally or at a distance, need to be adequately prepared in the roles and responsibilities of being a sponsor
- Attend Sponsor/Candidate Session (date TBA)
- Attend Confirmation Rehearsal
- Attend Confirmation Candidates Celebrate Saint Name Ceremony at Mass.
- Complete Sponsor Certification Form