

## Guidelines for Choosing a Confirmation Sponsor

Candidates for Confirmation choose a sponsor to assist them in their faith journey, particularly in the year of preparation for the sacrament. The sponsor will act as a mentor, a spiritual example and guide, as the candidate discerns this facet of the journey.

A sponsor must be a faithful, faith-filled, practicing Catholic.

According to Canon Law, a sponsor for Confirmation must be:

- a. A Confirmed Catholic *leading a life of faith; registered in a parish.*
- b. Designated by the candidate; (someone the candidate has a relationship with)
- c. Capable of carrying out the role of sponsor: (someone who will challenge their faith before and after Confirmation)
- d. Of a minimum age set by the diocesan bishop (16 in the Diocese of Cleveland). And, as previously mentioned, already Confirmed.
- e. Free of any restrictions (if married, marriage must be recognized by the Catholic Church);
- f. Someone other than the mother or father of the candidate.

The decision to ask someone to be your Confirmation sponsor should be a prayerful one. It should also be a request that is made in a formal way (Don't take for granted that someone *knows* you want them!). We suggest you start with Baptismal godparents, consider a grandparent, an aunt or uncle, an older sibling, a Life Teen Core Staff member, a former PSR teacher, or a family friend, someone whose faith stands as an example to you. You should consider a long term reality (years from now). Don't be hasty in this decision.

***NOTE:*** If you choose a sponsor who is NOT a member of St. Mary Parish, he/she will need to obtain a “Confirmation Sponsor Certificate” from his/her parish. A simple call to that parish's office will arrange for this. Have it sent to:

St. Mary Parish - Life Teen Office  
340 N. Main St.  
Hudson, OH 44236

If they **are** a registered member of St. Mary Parish, I will be emailing them a online Sponsor form to complete at their earliest convenience, so please make sure the email address you give below is accurate and they know to check it.

**SPONSOR NAME AND FULL ADDRESS ARE  
DUE TO LIFE TEEN OFFICE BY JANUARY OF JUNIOR YEAR!**