

Sacred Heart Parish

Sacred Heart Church - St. Joseph the Worker Mission
P.O. Box 38 Battle Ground, Washington 98604 (360) 687 - 4515

SPONSOR/GODPARENT ELIGIBILITY CERTIFICATE

Role of a Godparent/Sponsor

To be a godparent/sponsor is both an honor and an awesome responsibility, as it calls one to draw even deeper into the heart of Christ to gain wisdom in guiding the spiritual life of the candidate in the ways of Christ and His Church. The godparent/sponsor, together with the parents, must be willing to help the baptized/confirmed grow in love for Christ and neighbor. By word and example, the godparent/sponsor will encourage the candidate to live the Christian life and fulfill faithfully the obligation connected with it. (cf. *Code of Canon Law*, c. 872)

"To be admitted to the role of sponsor (godparent), a person must be able to profess with the parents the church's faith when the child is being baptized and be able to help the parents as necessary to bring up the child as a good Christian. They must have completed the sixteenth year of age, unless the diocesan bishop has established another age, or an exception is made for a special reason. **Be a Catholic who has been confirmed and has already received the most holy sacrament of the Eucharist and leads a life of faith in keeping with the role of the sponsor**; not be bound by any canonical penalty legitimately imposed or declared; not be the father or the mother of the one to be baptized." (cf. *Code of Canon Law*, c. 874)

Therefore, I, _____, desiring to assume the obligation of godparent/sponsor for the Sacrament of Godparent for Baptism Sponsor for Confirmation

On behalf of [*name of person to be sponsored*] _____, do here declare that I understand the responsibilities of godparent/sponsor and that I am willing by prayer and example to encourage and instruct her/him in living our Catholic faith.

Furthermore:

- I have received the Catholic Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist.
- I attend Mass regularly on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation
- I have attained the required minimum age of sixteen years.
- I am not the parent of the person being baptized /confirmed.
- My manner of life is in harmony with the faith and the role to be undertaken.
- [*If married*: My current marriage is canonically valid and recognized as such by the Catholic Church.]

I hereby testify before God and God's minister to the truth of what is stated here above.

Signature of Applicant

This is to certify that _____ has attested to the above requirements in my presence, and, to the best of my knowledge, is qualified to act as godparent/sponsor for the Sacrament of Baptism Confirmation

Signature of Pastor or Parish Representative

Date

(Affix HERE Parish Seal of Godparent/Sponsor's Parish)