**Confirmation Sponsor Forms**

The following forms are included:

* Confirmation Sponsor Eligibility, Duties and Responsibilities (read carefully)
* Confirmation Sponsor Proxy Information
* Confirmation Sponsor Certificate of Eligibility (signed by the **Sponsor’s** **pastor**, must have the Parish seal) Call the Parish Office to obtain this form.
* Candidate’s Sponsor Interview: **Must include date of interview and signatures of both the sponsor and the** **candidate.** (If distance necessitates a telephone interview, a parent may sign as a proxy for the sponsor.)

**Confirmation Sponsor Eligibility**

**Duties & Responsibilities**

The sponsor for a Confirmation candidate is meant to provide spiritual help to the candidate (Catechism 1311). He or she should be willing to serve as a strong and lasting Christian influence on the candidate. The sponsor enters into a spiritual relationship with the candidate and acts as a spiritual parent and mentor. Therefore, it is both a great blessing and a responsibility to commit to the role of a sponsor.

Each candidate may choose **only one sponsor**; it may be either a man or a woman. A sponsor takes on a life-long commitment to help their candidate persevere in the Faith. According to the Code of Canon Law (892), “The sponsor is to take care that the confirmed person behaves as a true witness of Christ and faithfully fulfills the obligations inherent in this sacrament.” The Church states that it is desirable that the sponsor would be one of the person’s godparents; however, this is not a requirement (893, §2). The sponsor needs to be a registered member of a Catholic parish in order to get the Sponsor Certificate of Eligibility signed by the pastor. Moreover, a sponsor must have intellectual and physical facilities to be a sponsor.

According to Canon 874, a sponsor must meet the following criteria:

* Must be 16 years old or older
* Must have received the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Eucharist
* Must NOT be a parent of the one to be confirmed

This canon (874, §1, 1) also states that the sponsor must lead “a life of faith in keeping with the function to be taken on.” Therefore, the following persons are **not eligible** to act as a sponsor:

* Persons married outside the Catholic Church
* Persons who miss Sunday Mass and Holy Days of Obligation and/or consider Sunday Mass and Holy days of Obligation optional
* Persons cohabiting without the benefit and grace of Catholic marriage
* Persons who neglect the religious education of their children
* Individuals who neglect to fulfill their “Easter Duty” that is, Communion at least once a year during the Easter season and Confession once a year if in the state of mortal sin
* Those who give public scandal in any way

Your sponsor should be willing and able to participate in your formation for Confirmation. Your sponsor should be someone that you trust and feel comfortable turning to for help, advice and guidance, especially in regard to your spiritual life. After you receive the Sacrament of Confirmation your relationship with your sponsor DOES NOT END! You both are called to lead each other closer to God, to continue to grow in knowledge of your faith, and to challenge one another to lead lives of holiness and service.

**Confirmation Sponsor Proxy Information**

If the Confirmation Sponsor is unable to attend the Confirmation Liturgy, a proxy must be selected. The proxy may be a parent. The proxy must meet the same criteria as the Sponsor:

* I am a baptized member of the Roman Catholic Church.
* I am at least 16 years of age.
* I have made my First Holy Communion and received the Sacrament of Confirmation.
* I am not married outside of the Catholic Church, nor am I cohabitating (living outside of marriage with someone).
* I attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation, receive the Sacrament of Penance (Confession) at least once a year, and go to Holy Communion at least once a year during the Easter Season.

To select a proxy, the Sponsor must write a letter to the proxy using the following template and provide a signed copy of the letter to the Our Lady of Hope Religious Education office.

+++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++

Date

Dear [Proxy’s Name]:

I, [Sponsor’s Name], Sponsor for the Confirmation of [Candidate’s Name], designate you to be my proxy at the Confirmation Liturgy on [Date] at Our Lady of Hope Catholic Church.

Sincerely,

[Sponsor’s Name]



# Sponsor Eligibility Certificate

I

Please PRINT your complete name

am a registered member of the parish of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

In accepting the role of sacramental sponsorship I testify to Almighty God that:

I am a baptized member of the Roman Catholic Church. I am at least 16 years of age.

I have made my First Holy Communion and received the Sacrament of Confirmation.

# If married, I was validly married in the Catholic Church or with the Church’s permission.

I attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation, receive the Sacrament of Penance (Confession) at least once a year, and go to Holy Communion at least once a year during the Easter Season.

I understand and accept the responsibility which I undertake as a sponsor for:

Baptism Confirmation

Name of person being sponsored Church of Baptism and/or Confirmation City/State

I further profess my complete loyalty and fidelity to our Holy Father, the Pope, as the Vicar of Christ and the successor of St. Peter.

I solemnly promise to give my full support to the person I am sponsoring by the Christian example of my daily life as a Roman Catholic, so help me God.

Sponsor’s Signature Date

Priest’s Signature **PARISH SEAL**

**Candidate-Sponsor Interview**

**Instructions:**

* The Confirmation Candidate is required to interview the sponsor. This can be done in-person or over the phone. The purpose is to begin a personal conversation between candidate and sponsor regarding living the faith.
* Be sure to get specific answers, not “yes” or “no” responses.

Candidate Name (print): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor Name (print): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(of Sponsor or parent):

Date of Interview: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

***Interview Questions:***

***(Answers are to be handwritten by the Candidate on a separate piece of paper)***

**The questions are meant to start a two-way discussion.**

1. *Ask your sponsor:* How do you pray? Share about your prayer life. Discuss what it means to pray.
2. *Ask your sponsor:* Who has been influential in the growth of your Faith? Who is your spiritual role model?
3. *Ask your sponsor:* Have you ever had to defend your Faith? When? How?
4. *Ask your sponsor:* Are you active in your Church? How? Why is belonging to a community in the parish important?
5. *Ask your sponsor:* Do you participate in community service? What kind? How do you show love of God and others? You can share about your volunteer service for Confirmation.
6. *Ask your sponsor:* When and where do you encounter Jesus?
7. *Ask your sponsor:* Is there anything that you don’t understand or have a difficult time accepting concerning matters of faith? What and why? What do you do to strengthen your faith?
8. *Ask your sponsor:* How do you see God working in your life?
9. *Ask your sponsor:* What was your Confirmation like? Why did you want to be confirmed? What does being a confirmed Catholic mean to you?