



Saint Kilian Parish

INFORMATION ON CHOOSING A SPONSOR

Sponsor Requirements for Confirmation

- ✘ The sponsor must be designated by the candidate, parents or guardian (or in their absence by the pastor or minister)
- ✘ have the intention of performing this role
- ✘ be at least **16 years of age**
- ✘ be a **Catholic who has been confirmed**, has already received the Eucharist, and leads a life in harmony with the faith
- ✘ be free of any impediment of the law in fulfilling the office of sponsor
- ✘ **NOT be the father or mother of the candidate**

Additional Information Concerning Sponsors

1. If there were two godparents at the baptism of the candidate, it is acceptable for both of them to act as sponsors at Confirmation if the candidate so wishes, and if both Godparents remain qualified for this role. (Practicing Catholics in good standing with the Church)
2. In the event that the chosen sponsor is not able to be present the day of Confirmation a Proxy may stand in their place. The person chosen as the proxy must meet the same requirements as above. **Parents already have a special role in the life of the candidate and are NOT PERMITTED by Canon Law to stand as either a Sponsor or Proxy.** (Canon 874 §1 n. 5)
3. The sponsor may either be male or female for any candidate.
4. If the sponsor (or proxy) is **not a registered member of Saint Kilian Parish**, the sponsor is responsible for submitting the Confirmation Sponsor Verification Form. A copy of this form was emailed to parents and is available on the Faith Formation website. This form must be returned no later than March 1, 2017.

The Role of a Sponsor

You have the honor of being chosen as a witness to the candidate's initiation into full Christian life. Through this sacrament, the candidate is strengthened by the power of the Holy Spirit, made a true witness of Christ in word and deed, and invited more deeply into the life of the Church. Your most significant role in relation to him/her is to be a **ROLE MODEL** of such witness and unifying love.

Some ways in which you can nurture this spiritual relationship all through life are:

Celebrate the anniversary of his/her Confirmation (or Feast Day of their Saint) with a visit, call or a card.

Listen to and share in his/her maturing struggles and triumphs in living a Christian life, and keep yourself informed on Christian doctrine and values to be able to answer questions when they arise.

Encourage a maturing life of faith by talking about one's own experiences of faith, insights and actions. It also means listening attentively, so that he/she can also share. Schedule time to meet with your candidate, throughout their preparation months, to discuss their faith issues. Sharing prayer is an important part of faith sharing. Set a time during your meeting to pray.

Most importantly, become a role model of Christian living for the person you have sponsored, through daily prayer, virtue and **active** participation in parish life and liturgy.

Confirmation preparation is part of mentoring a future generation of Christians, of nurturing their idealism, affirming the promise of their lives, and immersing them in the Christian vision of building a community of love and justice in the world. These candidates are the future and the promise of our Church. It is our responsibility to call these young men and women into the future with us. They bring with them a passion to be somebody special, to do something that matters; they bring energy and enthusiasm when we adults sometimes bring weariness and cynicism. Share your faith with them, bring them to church, pray with them, and include them in the works of mercy and justice!

