



Baptism Sponsor (Certificate of Eligibility)

Child's Name: _____

Canon 872 and 874 of the *Code of Canon Law* lists those requirements for a valid and lawful sponsorship in Baptism:

- *The Sponsor's role is to assist the person in Christian initiation.
- * The sponsor's role is, together with the parents, to present the child for the sacrament and help him/her to live a life befitting a baptized Catholic Christian.

- A sponsor:
1. Must be mature enough to undertake this responsibility
 2. Must have received the three sacraments of initiation: Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation.
 3. Must be no less than 16 years of age
 4. Must believe all that the Catholic Church believes and teaches, and truly make a serious effort to live a good moral life worthy of imitation: and to the religious instruction of his/her family.
 5. Must be an actively practicing Catholic, participation at Mass on Sundays and Holydays, and receiving the sacraments of Eucharist and Reconciliation regularly.
 6. Must be canonically free to carry out this office, this means that Catholics publicly living in an invalid marriage (not according to Catholic Church Regulations) and those that are co-habiting (living together without marriage) cannot serve as a sponsor.

Being a sponsor is not just an honor given to a good friend or relative. To be a sponsor means having a true appreciation of the Catholic faith and a sense of responsibility towards the spiritual well being of the person being Baptized.

Please provide an **updated Baptismal Certificate** from the church you were baptized or brought into full communion with the Catholic Church. The certificate must be signed and must include church seal.

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"I declare that I am a registered member of the Parish listed below and that I meet all the requirements (listed above) to be a sponsor."

Sponsor Name: _____
(Please print)

Sponsor's Church Parish: _____

Complete Address of Church Parish: _____

Parish of Confirmation/Date: _____

Sponsor Signature: _____ Phone #: _____

To be completed by your Pastor:

I hereby certify that _____ is a registered member of this parish, is a practicing Catholic, and is eligible to serve as a sponsor for the Sacrament of Baptism.

Name of Parish _____ (Parish Seal)

Date: _____ Rev _____