



Sacrament of Confirmation – Guidelines for Parents & Sponsors

The Responsibilities and Roles of Parents

- The initiation of children into the sacramental life is for the most part the responsibility of the parents. They are to form their children in the spirit of faith and encourage them by their example and by teaching to follow Jesus more closely.
- Parents and sponsors exercise their responsibility by their example of Christian living, family prayer, and their active participation in the celebration of the sacraments in the life of the parish community. You are your child's first and best educator! Faith is not "taught but caught", they will do as you do, not as you say.
- Parents are expected to bring their children to Sunday Mass.

The Responsibilities and Roles of Sponsors

- The role of the sponsor in Confirmation is to encourage and support the candidate in his/her efforts to be a true and faithful witness to Christ. The sponsor should be chosen because he/she is an exemplary, active member of the Catholic Church.
- A person, male or female, who has been fully initiated into the Catholic Church (Latin or Eastern Rite) and lives a life of faith may be a sponsor for Confirmation.
- The sponsor must be 16 years of age or older and may not be the parents of the candidate.
 - If the sponsor cannot be present for the Confirmation liturgy, parents or another suitable person can step in as proxy for the Confirmation celebration in the absence of the sponsor.