



Saint Teresa of Calcutta Parish

Catechetical Office

1 Munn Street, Montclair, NJ 07042

JanetNatale@MtcImmaculate.org

973-744-5650 ext. 118

Confirmation Sponsor Form
Due November 3, 2017

*Please give this letter and form to your Confirmation Sponsor. The Sponsor Verification Form on the reverse side should be completed by your sponsor and returned to the Catechetical Office by **November 3, 2017**.*

Dear Sponsor,

Being selected as a Sponsor for the Sacrament of Confirmation is a great honor and a special privilege. By accepting this role you enter into a covenant, not just with the Confirmation candidate, but with their parents and entire family.

According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, the role of the Confirmation sponsor is to, *“Continue to help the candidate along the road of Christian life, to safeguard and develop the grace given at Baptism and now sealed with the Holy Spirit.”* (CCC, 1320). In practical terms, there are two aspects to the role of sponsor: 1) To set an example for the candidate, by the life they live and the decisions they make, and 2) To pray for their candidate, especially during this time of Confirmation but also throughout his or her life.

It is important that the candidate you are sponsoring experience your presence and support as they prepare to receive the gift of the Holy Spirit at Confirmation. Although you may not be able to be physically present during this time of preparation, your interest and involvement in the preparation process will send a powerful message of support for your candidate. Pray for your candidate and their family, and ask them to pray for you.

It is desirable that the godparent at Baptism, if available, also be the sponsor at Confirmation. In this way the link between Baptism and Confirmation is more clearly expressed and the role and responsibility of the sponsor are exercised more effectively. (OC, 5; CCC, 1311)

Nonetheless, the option of choosing a special sponsor for Confirmation is in no way excluded.

In accord with Canon 874 of the Code of Canon Law, a person is eligible to be a sponsor if he or she is:

- ☐ at least sixteen years of age
- ☐ a Catholic who has been confirmed, received the Eucharist, and lives a life of faith as befits the role of sponsor
- ☐ not the father or the mother of the candidate.

Note that the Catholic seeking to be a sponsor “lives a life of faith which befits the role to be undertaken.” This means that the sponsor sincerely believes and strives to put into practice the Word of God as taught by the Catholic Church. The sponsor regularly takes part in the Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation and if married, was married in accordance with the requirements of the Catholic Church.

Consequently, the following do *not* qualify to fulfill the role of sponsor:

- ☐ Those Catholics who are not actively affiliated with a parish community,
- ☐ Those Catholics who are not validly married in the Catholic Church. (i.e. before a Justice of the Peace, or, without proper dispensation, before a Protestant minister or rabbi)
- ☐ Those Baptized Catholics who have not received Confirmation and Eucharist

If you are willing and qualified to become a Confirmation sponsor for your candidate, please complete the document on the other side of this letter. Then take this letter to your home parish and request your pastor’s signature and parish seal to signify your parish involvement.



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Please complete and sign this form. Please take this form to your parish to have it **signed with the raised seal of the parish.** This original copy with signatures and raised seal must be received in the Catechetical Office at the address listed above by **Friday, November 3, 2017**

If you have any questions please email Janet Natale at janetnatale@mtcimmaculate.org

Confirmation Sponsor Application

I, _____, a registered member of the Roman Catholic
(*Print your name as it is to appear in the Confirmation Register*)

parish of _____
Name of Church *City/State*

have been asked to be a Sponsor for: _____
Candidate's Name

as he/she receives the Sacrament of Confirmation on **Saturday, April 21, 2018 at 5:30 pm.**

As a Sponsor, I am accepting the responsibility to be a visible representative of the Catholic Community, the Body of Christ. I will assist the parents in raising this child in the spirit and teaching of the Roman Catholic Church. I intend to encourage this child in the practice of our Catholic Faith by being a role model in the Catholic way of living through my love, example, support, and prayers.

Please check all that apply:

- ☐ I am at least 16 years of age and not the parent of this child.
- ☐ I am a Catholic who has received the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist.
- ☐ I regularly participate in the celebration of Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation.

Are you married? Circle *yes* or *no*

If yes, were you married in the Catholic Church? Circle *yes* or *no*

If yes, name of Catholic Church _____
Name of Church *City/State*

I attest that the information provided above is accurate. _____
Signature

Street Address *City/ State/ Zip*

Phone Number *Email*

I certify that, to the best of my knowledge, this person is capable of assuming the duties and responsibilities of the role of Sponsor.

Signature of Priest/Deacon *Date*

Church Seal