

Requirements of Godparents/Sponsors

There may be ONE or TWO sponsors. When there are TWO sponsors, one is male (Godfather) and the other female (Godmother). AT LEAST ONE OF THE SPONSORS MUST BE CATHOLIC.

A Godparent (Sponsor) must be someone who meets the following requirements:

- Has been chosen by the parents and consents to fulfill the role
- Is at least 16 years of age
- Be fully initiated in the Catholic Church (received Baptism, Eucharist & Confirmation)
- Leads a life in harmony with the Church
- Is a registered member and active member of his/her parish
- Regularly attends mass and participates in the sacramental life of his/her parish
- No penalties (i.e., a Catholic who has left the Catholic Church cannot be a sponsor and cannot be a "Christian Witness")
- Cannot be either parent

Each Godparent must provide a sponsor certificate. This is an official document, signed and sealed from the Sponsor's current parish certifying that the Sponsor meets the above requirements to serve in this important capacity. Only those providing a sponsor certificate can be admitted to serve in this capacity. Anyone else will be noted as a "witness". Only one sponsor can be a witness. There must be at least one Sponsor who can provide a sponsor certificate.