

## Qualifications of Sponsors - Code of Canon Law

The Code of Canon Law, specifically Canons 873, 874, 892, and 893, require the following:

1. The sponsor must be chosen by the one to be baptized or confirmed or even by the pastor.
  2. The sponsor must be capable of being the sponsor (i.e., have the use of reason) and must intend to fulfill the obligations of being a sponsor.
  3. The sponsor must be a fully initiated member of the Catholic Church – the sponsor must be baptized and confirmed and the sponsor must have already received the Sacrament of Eucharist.
  4. The sponsor must live a life in keeping with the laws of the Catholic Church, leading a life of faith. The sponsor must observe the precepts of the church. The sponsor must be a practicing Catholic and must attend Mass every Sunday and on holy days of obligation. If married, the sponsor must be in a valid marriage.
  5. The sponsor must not be bound by any canonical penalty legitimately imposed or declared.
  6. The sponsor must be at least 16 years old.
  7. The sponsor cannot be the mother or the father of the one to be baptized; however, the mother or the father may present a child for Confirmation (in the event the sponsor cannot be present.) The church highly encourages that a baptismal sponsor also act as a confirmation sponsor.
  8. There is to be only one male sponsor or one female sponsor or one of each.
- If the chosen sponsor is not a member of St. Paul's parish, the sponsor will be required to have a letter sent from their Pastor stating that they are an active member in good standing.

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Candidate Name: \_\_\_\_\_

After much thought and prayer, we, the Candidate and family have chosen the following person to be a Confirmation Sponsor:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ (Candidate)

\_\_\_\_\_ (Parents)