

THE ROLE OF SPONSOR



Each candidate, with the guidance of his/her parents, is responsible for choosing a sponsor. Since the reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation is the completion of your Baptism it is recommended that, if possible, your godparent be your Confirmation sponsor. This choice would express more clearly the relationship between Baptism and Confirmation and would make the function of the sponsor more effective; however, this is just a recommendation.

Church law states that a sponsor must be at least 16 years of age, be a confirmed Catholic and be living according to the Catholic faith. It is the responsibility of the sponsor to give assurances of his/her qualifications. There is no regulation determining that men must sponsor boys or women must sponsor girls. The worksheet on page 4 of this packet will assist you with the process of discerning a sponsor.

During the time of preparation, sponsors are to take an active role in the Confirmation program and communicate with their candidate on a regular basis for faith sharing. Faith sharing topics may be found on the Sponsor's Page of our parish website: www.stgilesparish.org/confirmation/sponsorspage

Just prior to the celebration of Confirmation each Confirmation Sponsor is asked to write a letter to Fr. Carl Morello, the pastor, on behalf of the young person they are sponsoring for the sacrament.

In the letter the Confirmation Sponsor is asked to give evidence regarding:

- The candidate's readiness to receive the sacrament,
- How they have seen the candidate grow in their spiritual lives,
- If the candidate fully understands the commitment they are about to make and their willingness to make that commitment freely, sincerely and without reservation.
- How they as sponsors will continue to nurture and support the faith life of the candidate.

Letters are to be received by February 16, 2011

Letters may be mailed, faxed or emailed to:

Fr. Carl Morello
St. Giles Parish
1025 N. Columbian Ave.
Oak Park, IL 60302
708-383-8669 (fax number)
frcarl@stgilesparish.org