

St. Thomas More Catholic Church Confirmation Preparation Program

Choosing A Confirmation Sponsor

The role of the sponsor is a powerful aspect of the sacrament of Confirmation. In a similar role as godparents in Baptism, the sponsor agrees to journey with youth not only in your process of preparation, but throughout your adult life in the church. For these reasons selecting the right sponsor is crucial to a meaningful experience of the sacrament.

The following general principles should be considered when selecting a sponsor: (as set forth in canon law)

- A sponsor must be a fully initiated Catholic (one who has celebrated Baptism, Confirmation and the Eucharist) who leads a life in harmony with the teachings of the church
- A sponsor must not be bound by any church penalty
- A sponsor must not be the parent of the one to be Confirmed

Some additional thoughts to consider in selecting a sponsor:

- Because of the connection between Baptism and Confirmation you may wish to consider one godparent to fulfill this role.
- You may want to consider someone who lives nearby, to ensure an opportunity for consistent involvement in the process and your life beyond the sacrament.
- You may wish to consider someone who is a member of this parish to further strengthen your connection to it and to each other.
- You should definitely choose someone with whom you are comfortable and have a positive relationship with, yet someone who can and does challenge you.
- Your sponsor should be someone who is seriously interested in not only helping you grow in your faith, but is constantly pursuing their own faith development.
- Your sponsor should be someone who accepts and actively lives the teachings of the Catholic church in a consistent and life-giving manner.

After prayerful consideration on these principles and thoughts you should seek out the individual you wish to share in this experience with you. Be sure to invite and not force or pressure anyone into this role. There is not one specific or best way to ask someone to be your sponsor. You may choose to do this face to face, over the phone or by means of a written invitation. Choose what is most comfortable for you to clearly express your wish. Once the individual has agreed to serve as your sponsor please complete the attached form and return it to the parish office.

We ask the sponsors to attend the second small group session on March 21st. Please have your sponsor chosen before the end February to ensure them time to plan.

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Sponsor Information Sheet

Please provide the information requested below. The sponsor or candidate may fill out the form.

Candidate's Name: _____

Personal Information:

Sponsor's Name: _____

Sponsor's Street Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Sponsor's Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

Church Parish (where currently registered) _____

Address _____

Sacramental Information:

Confirmed at (*Church Name and City*) _____ Year: _____

Sponsor Requirements:

- If possible, attend Sponsor Session with your Candidate on Sunday, Mar. 21, at 4:30pm at the St Thomas More Activity Center followed by 6pm Mass.
- If possible, attend Confirmation Rehearsal on Thursday, May 6, at 7pm in St Thomas More Church.
- Participate in the Confirmation Ceremony on Saturday, May 8, at St Thomas More Church at 5pm.

*This completed form must be returned to St. Thomas More parish office by **Sunday, February 28, 2010.** You may drop off, mail, fax or email this form.*

St. Thomas More Catholic Church
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