

## **SPONSOR ROLES, RESPONSIBILITIES AND SELECTION**

- **The sponsor is an invaluable assistant to parents in transmitting the faith and must be able to fulfill several requirements:**
  - **Requirement Summary:** It is required that the sponsor be an active, practicing Catholic; is at least 16 years of age, has already received the sacrament of Confirmation; is not a parent of the candidate, and, if married, is married in the Catholic Church. The Church recognizes that a person cannot transmit what the person does not have. Candidates are to choose only one sponsor.
  - **Baptismal Sponsor:** “It is desirable that the one who undertook the role of sponsor at baptism be sponsor for Confirmation” (CCL 893.2). However, another qualified sponsor may be chosen.
  - **Relationship:** The sponsor should be a person who already has a trusting relationship of some sort with the candidate, an older friend or relative (not a parent) in whom the candidate can confide. The sponsor is expected to maintain an ongoing relationship with the candidate in order to support the candidate’s lifelong spiritual growth.
  - **Maturity:** It is important that the sponsor be more mature, more informed, and more experienced in the ways of our faith and culture than the candidate is. It is recommended that the sponsor be an older person who has some experience with his or her own faith, hence a clearer perspective from which to speak.
  - **General Characteristics:** The sponsor needs to be an open, honest, caring, committed and encouraging person who will help the candidate grow in his or her understanding of the faith as the young person comes to a deeper appreciation of God in his or her life.
  - **Knowledge of Readiness:** The sponsor should have good knowledge of the candidate’s readiness for reception of the Sacrament so as to testify on the candidate’s behalf.

**Five people that I would consider as my sponsor:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

**Five things I would like to learn from, or talk about with, my sponsor:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
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2. \_\_\_\_\_  
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3. \_\_\_\_\_  
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4. \_\_\_\_\_  
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5. \_\_\_\_\_  
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