

Choosing a Confirmation Sponsor

You, with the help of your parents, are responsible for choosing a Confirmation sponsor. While it is not a decision that we want you to rush into making, we recommend that you decide and ask your sponsor as soon as possible. They will be a valuable resource throughout the preparation for your Confirmation, not just on the day of your Confirmation. Here are a few guidelines to help:

- Church law states that sponsors must be the following:
 - At least 16 years of age
 - A Confirmed Catholic
 - Living in accordance with the teachings of the Catholic faith
 - If married, be in a valid marriage recognized by the Catholic Church
 - Practices their faith by receiving the Eucharist weekly and on holy days of obligations
- It is recommended, but not required, that you ask one of your baptismal sponsors (godparents) to be your Confirmation sponsor. This emphasizes the strong connection between the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation and furthers their role in your life. However, you should also keep in mind the rest of these guidelines.
- There is no requirement that sponsors for boys must be men and sponsors for girls must be women. You may choose either a man or a woman.
- Sponsors may be asked to have a form completed and signed by their pastor stating that they meet the requirements required by Church law.
- Your sponsor should be available to be present at your Confirmation in the Spring, 2020 at St. Mary's Cathedral in Peoria. They should also be able to get together to complete the Sponsor/Candidate handbook during your 8th grade year. It is best if your sponsor can be an active part of your life, especially over the next year and a half.
- If you are having trouble choosing a sponsor, ask yourself some of these questions:
 - Who do I look to as a model in my faith?
 - Who challenges me to become the man/woman God wants me to be?
 - Who has been a constant support to me in my faith over the years, and who do I see supporting me for the rest of my life?
 - Who has time to dedicate to helping me grow to love the Lord more during this time of preparation, as well as after my Confirmation?
 - Who has influenced me to want to be an active part of the Catholic Church?
- Think about this, pray about it, and talk to your parents. You will need to turn in the Sponsor Information Form to Ileen by December 1 of this year.

Unless your chosen sponsor is a member of St. Mary of Lourdes, he/she must ask their pastor to send a letter verifying that they meet the requirements for a Confirmation Sponsor to:

Ileen Grebner
Dir. of Faith Formation
St. Mary of Lourdes
424 Lourdes Church Road
Germantown Hills IL 61548