



“Godparents serve as ministers representing the faith community
into which the candidate is being initiated”

(Many Gifts, One Spirit)

Dear Sponsor,

Thank you for your willingness to serve in this important ministry. Please carefully read this letter and consider your role as the sponsor of this child.

A sponsor is appointed to a very important task. You have been entrusted with the responsibility to participate in your candidate’s Christian life and education, second only to the parents. The sponsor provides spiritual and emotional support for the candidate. They pray with and for the candidate & give them encouragement. This ministry is not something to be taken lightly: you will be an apostle to your candidate and be an example of living the Catholic faith.

The most important task of a sponsor is to be an example of a lived faith. Therefore, it is essential that anyone appointed by the Church to be a sponsor is a practicing Catholic. A sponsor is also responsible for assisting the candidate in fulfilling the obligations acquired by the sacrament (see CIC, c. 872). To be a sponsor is a lifelong responsibility to help the candidate live the Catholic Faith.

As St. Pope Paul VI has said “*Modern man listens more willingly to witnesses than to teachers, and if he does listen to teachers, it is because they are witnesses.*” Be a witness to the Catholic faith for your Candidate.

Sponsor Requirements: (According to Canon Law. See CIC, c. 874)

To qualify as a sponsor, a Catholic must meet all the requirements listed below:

- A good example of living the Catholic faith, both spirituality and morality. This includes participating in Mass every Sunday.
- A practicing Catholic in good standing (fully initiated, and not bound by any canonical penalty).
 - o They have received the sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation.
 - o If they are married, they must be validly married in the Catholic Church (married before a Catholic priest or deacon). If they are not married, they cannot be cohabitating.
 - ☞ If a couple is not married in the church (or if they are unsure of their status), please have them contact the parish office. We can easily help them bring their marriage into the church.
- At least 16 years of age.
- Willing and able to work with the baptized on his/her spiritual journey.
- Parents/legal guardians cannot be Sponsors. (IB 19, see CIC, c. 874 §1, 5°).
- A candidate may have one or two sponsors. If there are two, one must be male, and one must be female. (CIC, c. 873).

Sponsor Checklist:

- Be chosen by the candidate or parents
- Ensure you meet the requirements listed above. If you do not meet one or more requirement, please contact the parish office.
- Complete & have this form signed by your Pastor if you are not registered at St Nicholas.
- Return this form and copy of Confirmation certificate and Marriage certificate to the Parish office before the deadline. Incomplete forms cannot be accepted.
 - o If you have difficulty getting these documents, please contact the parish office.

Questions? Contact: Chloe Iverson: chloe@stnicholascc.org 253-851-8850 x2



Sponsor Application
to be filled out by Godparent

Name of Candidate: _____ Baptism Confirmation

Full Legal Name of Sponsor: _____ Phone Number _____

Address _____ M F
Street City State Zip

Confirmed? Yes No Marital Status: _____ Sacramentally married in the Catholic Church? YES NO

Parish where registered: _____
Name City State

You must include with this form:

- A photocopy of the sponsor's Confirmation certificate.
Certificates can be obtained from the parish you were confirmed or baptized.
- If married, a photocopy of the Church Marriage certificate indicating a Catholic wedding.

Please contact the parish office if you have any difficulty obtaining these documents.

SPONSOR'S COMMITMENT

I understand my commitment to the above and accept the responsibility of being a sponsor to the candidate named above. I have read and understand the responsibilities and requirements of the sponsor. I meet all the requirements (listed on the reverse of this sheet).

Signature of Sponsor

Date

PASTOR'S PERMISSION TO BE A SPONSOR

If this sponsor is not a registered parishioner of St. Nicholas the following must be completed by the pastor from his/her home parish.

The person named above is a member of this parish in good standing and is eligible to act as a sponsor for the Sacrament of Baptism or Confirmation. I am not aware of any canonical impediments to their participation in the sacraments.



Pastor's Signature _____
Or delegate

Print Pastor's Name _____
Or delegate's name & Title

Parish _____ Phone _____
Name City State