

Congratulation on having been asked to serve as a sponsor for Confirmation! This is a wonderful privilege and not one to be taken lightly. We offer the following information to you for your consideration as you become more involved in this new role.

The Role of the Sponsor

The sponsor is to take care that the confirmed person behaves as a true witness of Christ and faithfully fulfills the obligations inherent in this Sacrament.” (Canon 892)



A sponsor for a Confirmation candidate is meant to provide spiritual help to the candidate (Catechism 1311). He or she should be willing to serve as a strong and lasting Christian influence on the candidate. The sponsor enters into a spiritual relationship with the candidate and acts as a sort of spiritual parent and mentor. Therefore, it is both a great blessing and a responsibility to commit to the role as a sponsor.

You are called-

- To witness, by your life, how a Catholic Christian lives in today's world. Your concern for life, justice, and peace, for the poor and oppressed, and your involvement in doing good for others are the strength of your life as a witness.
- To guide in times of doubt, indecision, confusion, to be a good listener, ready to give advice as a Christian adult when asked.
- To be a friend, one who is "there" when needed, one who can be trusted.
- To take an interest in the Confirmation program your young friend is involved in.
- To get to know the candidate in a new way, as a sincerely interested young Catholic, freely coming to Confirmation and ready to take on a mature responsibility as a Catholic in his or her sphere of influence.
- To share your faith story with your young friend.
- To be ready to publicly vouch for the Candidate's readiness to take on the role of one sent forth to bring the Good News of Jesus Christ to others by the quality of his or her Catholic life.
- Above all, it is expected that, as a person of regular prayer, one celebrates the Sunday Mass with a parish church and leads a sacramental life, you will begin to pray each day for your young friend.
- **Attend Confirmation Mass on TBD. Refer to your student for Mass time.**

Canonical Requirements for Sponsors (Canon 874)

- Must be 16 years old.
- Be a Catholic who has received the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist.
- Lead an active life of faith (e.g. weekly attendance at Sunday Mass, regular reception of the sacraments of the Eucharist and Reconciliation, etc.)
- Not be the father or mother of the one to be Confirmed. (Parents can stand as proxy for a sponsor of record)
- Godparents are the desired choice for a sponsor.

Parish Requirements for Sponsors

1. Sponsor must provide a Sponsor Certificate of Eligibility/Sponsor Referral initiated **from their home parish**, sealed/signed by the pastor, stating that he or she is a practicing Catholic in good standing. **Due November 5, 2023. A form is attached for your convenience.**

Form can be submitted the following ways:

- 1) Hand in
- 2) Mail To: St Joan of Arc Catholic Church
PSR Office Attn: Margie Gesell
10700 Liberty Rd South
Powell, Ohio 43065
- 3) Emailed to: mspaperwork@stjoanofarcpowell.org

NOTE: Sponsors who were Confirmed at St. Joan of Arc do not need to submit a form.

If needed, a form can be found on our website:

For Sponsor Referral/Certificate Form go to stjoanofarcpowell.org

- Under the Ministries tab go down to Youth Faith Formation
- over to Parish School of Religion
- click on Confirmation

2. Candidate may choose only ONE sponsor.
We recommend one sponsor per candidate as the relationship demands a significant time commitment and personal attention from the sponsor that it would be difficult to meaningfully develop the relationship envisioned by the Church if a sponsor had more than one candidate. However, if there are extenuating circumstances please contact the middle school coordinator.
3. Complete the Sponsor Interview questions with the Confirmation candidate.