

Confirmation Name/Sponsor Information

Please fill out the information requested and return this form to the Faith Formation Office.

Candidate Information:

Name _____ Telephone _____

Address _____ Zip _____

Confirmation Year _____ Catechist _____

Confirmation Name _____

Today's Date _____

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Sponsor Information:

Name _____ Telephone _____

Address _____ Zip _____

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Please see reverse side of this sheet for information regarding qualifications for sponsors.

You may return this form by mail to the Faith Formation Office, 440 Adams St., Milton MA 02186; *or* drop it at the Rectory (mark "Confirmation" on the envelope).

You may also fax this form to 617-696-1517 *or* e-mail the information: FaithFormation@StAgathaParish.org.

Once you've submitted this information, if you need to make changes to it, simply notify the Faith Formation Office by phone (617-696-1388), fax or e-mail.

It is important to define what the roles of the parents/guardians and sponsors are in the catechesis for the sacrament of Confirmation.

ROLE OF THE PARENTS/GUARDIANS

1. Parents/guardians live out the commitment made at the child's Baptism, when they accepted the "responsibility of training them in the practice of the faith". (*Rite of Baptism for Children*) Parents/guardians should be open to continued and renewed growth in their own faith through participation in the sacramental life of the church, especially in regular Sunday celebration of the Eucharist, and in daily prayer. Parents/guardians should make every effort to be involved in the parish Confirmation preparation program for their children.
2. Parents/guardians take seriously their responsibility as primary educators of their children and raise them in the practice of the Catholic faith. This includes providing for a formal program of instruction in Catholic doctrine, and promoting family participation in the liturgical life of the Church.
3. Parents/guardians give prayerful support and encouragement to the candidate in matters pertaining to the practice of the Catholic faith.
4. Parents/guardians support the candidate through confirmation preparation and continue that support in post-Confirmation continuing faith development. This involves an appreciation of the sacramental life of the Church and an understanding of what that means in the candidate's everyday life (e.g., moral decision-making).

ROLE OF THE SPONSOR

1. The sponsor is a confirmed member of the Catholic Church and in good standing and is, if possible, the same person who served as the candidate's godparent at Baptism.
2. The sponsor is a living witness to the Catholic faith through regular participation in the sacramental life of the church.
3. The sponsor has an ongoing, caring relationship with the candidate, not only during the Confirmation preparation process, but also after the reception of the sacrament.
4. The sponsor communicates to the candidate the importance of daily prayer, regular reception of the sacraments, Christian service and all else that pertains to the preparation process, as well as to continued Catholic living after reception of the sacrament.
5. The sponsor should have a good knowledge of the candidate's readiness for reception of the sacrament so as to testify in the candidate's behalf. (This presumes that the sponsor has met and discussed matters of faith with the candidate).

Also –

"The sponsor's duty is to see that the one confirmed acts as a true witness to Christ and faithfully fulfills the duties inherent in the sacrament." (Canon 892) Sponsors must fulfill the qualifications found in Canons 872-874, which include that the sponsor:

- Be a confirmed Catholic, who is living a life befitting the role of a sponsor,
- Is not under a canonical penalty,
- Is not a parent of the candidate,
- Be, if possible, the person who served as the candidate's baptismal sponsor.

These canonical qualifications indicate that the chosen sponsor should, in some way, be a model of the Christian life. This exemplary dimension of the sponsor's role, along with the canonical requirements, should be explained to the candidates, and to their parents, early in the catechetical program so that suitable sponsors can be chosen. When this is done, there is no need for Testimonial letters, except when a doubt arises regarding suitability.