



Diocese of Pittsburgh: Confirmation Sponsor Guidelines

SPONSOR

- 91 .1 A sponsor is to accompany the candidate for the Sacrament of Confirmation. The sponsor sees to it that the confirmed person acts as a true witness to Christ and faithfully fulfills the obligations connected with the Sacrament. (CJC 892)
- .2 All conditions and **requirements** for a godparent at Baptism are applied to the sponsor for Confirmation. (CJC 893.1;cf.. CJC 874; RC 6)
- To be a sponsor one must:
- 1) be designated by the candidate, parents or guardian, or in their absence by the pastor or minister;
 - 2) have the intention of performing this role;
 - 3) be at least sixteen years of age; (With good cause, exceptions may be granted by the pastor or minister of this Sacrament.)
 - 4) be a Catholic who has been confirmed, has already received the Eucharist, and leads a life in harmony with the Faith;
 - 5) be free from any impediment of the law in fulfilling the office of sponsor;
 - 6) not be the father or the mother of the candidate.
- .3 The pastor of the designated sponsor is normally responsible for the determining that the designee understands the sponsor's role and is qualified to assume it, providing a letter of eligibility when the Confirmation is to be celebrated in another parish.
- .4 It is desirable that the one who undertook the role of **godparent at baptism** be the sponsor for Confirmation. (CJC 893.2; RC 5)

CONFIRMATION NAME

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According to the *Rite of Confirmation*, it is preferred that the **name** given at baptism be used at the time of Confirmation. This indicates the unity of the Sacraments of Initiation and the nature of Baptism as the origin of Christian identity. Therefore:

- 1) Candidates are not to be required to select a new name for Confirmation
- 2) A candidate who, of their own accord, chooses to claim a name with a Christian meaning, is permitted to use this name in the Rite of Confirmation.