

## Sponsor/Godparent Certification for Baptism and Confirmation

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (name) have been asked to be the Godparent/Sponsor for \_\_\_\_\_ (name of child) who will receive the Sacrament of \_\_\_\_\_ Baptism \_\_\_\_\_ Confirmation. I am aware of my responsibility to support the person who is receiving this Sacrament by my example, involvement and prayers, and to assist him/her parents in raising him/her in the Catholic faith. I am aware of the requirements for being a Godparent/Sponsor and so attest to the following:

Please initial each of the following:

\_\_\_\_\_ I am at least 16 years of age.

\_\_\_\_\_ I have received the Sacrament of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation in the Roman Catholic Church.

\_\_\_\_\_ I practice the Catholic faith by attending Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation.

\_\_\_\_\_ I sincerely try to follow the moral teachings of the Catholic faith and try to lead a Catholic life with integrity.

\_\_\_\_\_ (If married) I was married in the Catholic Church.

\_\_\_\_\_ I am not one of the parents of the child receiving the Sacrament.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Tel. \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**RETURN THIS FORM TO YOUR PASTOR TO COMPLETE.**

**THEN FORWARD TO THE PASTOR OF THE CHURCH WHERE THE SACRAMENT IS TO TAKE PLACE.**

To be filled out by the Pastor of the Sponsor:

(Name of sponsor/godparent) \_\_\_\_\_ assures me that the above requirements are fulfilled.

\_\_\_\_\_ He/she is a registered and active member of our parish.

\_\_\_\_\_ He/she has recently registered and promises to make the parish his/her spiritual home.

\_\_\_\_\_ I have discussed being a Catholic Godparent/Sponsor with the Godparent/Sponsor who has promised to us this invitation to rekindle their faith.

Signature of Priest/Delegate \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_ Parish \_\_\_\_\_

City/State \_\_\_\_\_

**CHURCH SEAL HERE**

# Policy for Sponsors/Godparents for the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation

1 January 2024

On recommendation of the Presbyteral Council, and in accord with the Code of Canon Law (Canons 872, 873, 874 §1.2, 892, 893) the following outlines the requirements for sponsors/Godparents for the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation in the Diocese of Oakland.

## For Baptism

**Can. 872** Insofar as possible, a person to be baptized is to be given a sponsor who assists an adult in Christian initiation or together with the parents presents an infant for baptism. A sponsor also helps the baptized person to lead a Christian life in keeping with baptism and to fulfill faithfully the obligations inherent in it.

**Can. 873** There is to be only one male sponsor or one female sponsor or one of each.

## For Confirmation

**Can. 892 §1.** Insofar as possible, there is to be a sponsor for the person to be confirmed; 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.

**Can. 893 §1.** To perform the function of sponsor, a person must fulfill the conditions mentioned in can. 874 (see below)

## For Baptism & Confirmation

**Can. 874 §1.** To be permitted to take on the function of sponsor a person must:

- 1/ be designated by the one to be baptized, by the parents or the person who takes their place, or in their absence by the pastor or minister and have the aptitude and intention of fulfilling this function;
- 2/ have completed the sixteenth year of age, unless the diocesan bishop has established another age, or the pastor or minister has granted an exception for a just cause;
- 3/ be a Catholic who has been confirmed and has already received the most holy sacrament of the Eucharist and who leads a life of faith in keeping with the function to be taken on;
- 4/ not be bound by any canonical penalty legitimately imposed or declared;
- 5/ not be the father or mother of the one to be baptized.

§2. A baptized person who belongs to a non-Catholic ecclesial community is not to participate except together with a Catholic sponsor and then only as a witness of the baptism.