

ST. MARTIN OF TOURS CATHOLIC COMMUNITY, FT. LEE, VIRGINIA
USE OF THE SPONSOR ATTESTATION FORM FOR
CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES OF THE OCIA PROGRAM

Dear Confirmand,

In choosing a sponsor, you should carefully consider the person's capacity to assist you in your Christian formation. The sponsor's duty is to see that the confirmed acts as a true witness to Christ and faithfully fulfills the obligations inherent in the Sacrament of Confirmation (Canon 892).

The qualifications of the sponsor at confirmation are the same as for the godparent at baptism (893. §1 and 874). It is desirable that a baptismal godparent also serve as Confirmation sponsor to emphasize the relationship between Baptism and Confirmation (Canon 893.2). Nonetheless, the choice of a special sponsor for confirmation is not excluded (Rite of Confirmation #5).

Pastors will see that the sponsor is spiritually qualified for the office (Rite of Confirmation #6). The sponsor for any candidate may be male or female, is to be sufficiently mature (at least 16 years of age), a fully initiated Catholic and living a life of faith which befits the role to be undertaken, and is not prohibited by Canon Law from exercising the role of sponsor. A parent may not act as a sponsor for his or her child (Canon 874).

The above criteria reflect the Church's view that living the faith is taught best by example. Your chosen sponsor is required to testify that he or she meets these qualifications by completing the Sponsor Attestation Form for Confirmation Candidates of The OCIA Program. Please provide this document to the sponsor in a timely manner so that it can be returned to the military installation Catholic Coordinator to validate before the celebration of Confirmation.

May God bless you abundantly!

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The witness of your Catholic faith now calls you to a sacred role in the life of a confirmand as his or her sponsor. The sponsor's duty is to see that the confirmed acts as a true witness to Christ and faithfully fulfills the obligations inherent in the Sacrament of Confirmation (Canon 892). Please complete this form to attest to your readiness to accept this role. May God bless you abundantly!

I (print full legal name) _____,

a member of (name of parish) _____

in (location of parish) _____,

having been chosen as the sponsor for (print full legal name)

_____,
who will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, affirm that I meet the qualifications listed below, and that I willingly undertake this role.

Qualifications of a sponsor (Canon 874):

1. Be designated by the Confirmand, parent/guardian, or priest and have the aptitude and intention of fulfilling the role;
2. Have completed their 16th year of age;
3. Be a Catholic who is confirmed and has received the sacrament of the Most Holy Eucharist and leads a life in harmony with the role to be undertaken (for example, regularly attending Sunday Mass; if married, be in a marriage recognized by the Catholic Church);
4. Be in good standing with the Catholic Church; that is, not bound by any canonical penalty legitimately imposed or declared;
5. Not be the father or mother of the person to be confirmed.

I have read and understand the above qualifications. Should I have questions about the qualifications, I will seek clarification from my priest, pastor, or his delegate. With my signature below, I swear before God that I am eligible to serve in the role of sponsor, and that I assume this responsibility willingly.

Sponsor's signature _____ Date _____

The sponsor's signature is to be witnessed by the priest, pastor, or delegate of the sponsor, to verify that the person signing the form is the same individual who will undertake the duty of sponsor.

Priest/Pastor/Delegate Printed Name _____

Priest/Pastor/Delegate Signature _____ (No Seal Necessary)