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# Sponsor Certification Form for Catholic Godparents

Dear Godparent,

When a parent chooses you as a godparent that means you are thought of as a very special Catholic. Being called to be a godparent is not merely a choice because of family ties or friendship rewards. The call to be a godparent bears the responsibility of giving a spiritual witness to your godchild of how to live out the Catholic faith in every day of life. As a confirmed, adult Catholic, you are a guide and model of how a mature Catholic ought to live. By being faithful to God's law, being active in the life of your parish, participating in Mass weekly, and living the Gospel values, you offer tremendous personal support to parents who commit themselves, in Baptism to faithfully passing on the Catholic faith to their child.

Therefore, it is important that you prayerfully consider the serious responsibility, which you take on as a godparent. If you are unable to live up to Catholic ideals, you may wish to decline this responsibility.

## REQUIREMENTS:

The Catholic Church's Code of Canon Law lists these requirements for a person to be a valid and lawful godparent in Baptism:

- Canon 872 - The godparent's role with the parents is to present the infant for the sacrament of Baptism and help the child live a life befitting a baptized Catholic Christian.
- Canon 873 – There may be only one male godparent or one female godparent or one of each.
- Canon 874
  - §1 To be permitted to take on the function of godparent a person must:
    1. Be designated by the parent and must be mature enough to undertake this responsibility;
    2. Be at least 16 years of age;
    3. Have received the three sacraments of initiation namely Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation and live 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 by the Church;
    5. Must not be the father or mother of the one to be baptized;
  - §2 A baptized person who belongs to a non-Catholic Christian community may not be admitted as a godparent but as a witness to the Baptism together with a Catholic godparent.

All of the information that I have given above on this form is completely true.

Sponsor's Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

I will be a Godparent for: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor's Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Sponsor's Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that \_\_\_\_\_ is a registered member or lives within the boundaries of this parish; is a practicing Catholic in good standing; and is eligible to serve as a Sponsor for the Sacrament of Baptism

Name of Parish: \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor's signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(Parish Seal)

To be completed by the Pastor of the Sponsor's church parish & then returned Fr. Mark Stec, 220 S. Elliott St., Olney, IL 62450

## Arrangements for a Baptism

The date for the Baptism will be confirmed by the church office ONLY after the Sponsor Certification forms are received.

Requested Date for Baptism:
Requested Church of Baptism
Full Name of the Child: (First, Middle, Last)
Circle One:      Male                      Female
Date and Place of Birth:

Name of the Father:
Religion of the Father:
Name of the Mother (with maiden name):
Religion of the Mother:

Parents' Full Mailing Address:
Parents' Phone Number and E-Mail:

Parish Membership Status:
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Name and Religion of the Godfather:
Sponsor Certificate Form Received:
Name and Religion of the Godmother:
Sponsor Certificate Form Received:

<b>Parents' Statement of Intention Regarding Baptizing their Child in the Catholic Church</b>
In presenting our child for Baptism in the Catholic Church, we are making the commitment of raising our child in the Catholic Faith. We promise to conscientiously fulfill our duty to share the Catholic Faith with our child by word and example, and to enroll our child in a Catholic School or Religious Education Program, especially in preparation for our child's First Confession, First Communion, and Confirmation.
<b>Signature of the Father:</b>
<b>Signature of the Mother:</b>