



## Certification for Godparents/Sponsors for Baptism and/or Confirmation

Person to be baptized or confirmed (print):

Church where sacrament(s) will be celebrated: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

**Qualifications:** Godparents/sponsors not only serve as witnesses at the ceremony of Baptism and/or Confirmation but also assist the person in leading a Christian life. Therefore, Church law requires that godparents/sponsors be people who are living the Catholic faith and meet the following qualifications (*Code of Canon Law*, canons 872-874):

- 1. They should ordinarily be at least 16 years of age.
- 2. They must be Catholics who have received Baptism, Confirmation, & first Holy Communion.
- 3. They must lead a life in harmony with the Catholic faith.
- 4. If they are married, they must be married in the Catholic Church.
- 5. Parents of the person to being initiated may not serve as godparents/sponsors.

## I hereby declare before God that I meet the above qualifications. I also promise to assist the person being initiated in living the Christian life as a faithful Catholic.

Godparent/sponsor signature:	Date:
Godparent/sponsor name (print):	
Name of your Catholic parish:	
Your city: Your state or country:	

Notes:

- Not qualified? Please speak to your pastor about receiving the sacraments and getting qualified!
- Christian Witnesses for Baptism: If only one godparent is chosen for Baptism, someone validly baptized in a non-Catholic ecclesial community may serve as a Christian witness to the ceremony, along with the Catholic godparent. This form is <u>not</u> required for Christian witnesses. (Baptized Catholics who no longer practice their faith or who have joined another ecclesial community may not serve as Christian witnesses.)
- Orthodox Christians: Orthodox Christians may serve as godparents/sponsors like a Catholic.
- **Proxies:** If the godparent/sponsor cannot be present for the ceremony, a proxy may stand in as a witness at the ceremony. This form is <u>not</u> required for proxies.