

## CHOOSING A SPONSOR

As a rule there should be a sponsor for each of those to be confirmed. These sponsors bring the candidates to receive the sacrament, present them to the Bishop and later help them to fulfill their baptismal promises faithfully under the influence of the Holy Spirit whom they have received.

In view of contemporary pastoral circumstances, it is desirable that the godparent at baptism, if available, also be the sponsor at Confirmation. This change expresses more clearly the link between baptism and confirmation and also makes the function and responsibility of the sponsor more effective.

Nonetheless the option of choosing a special sponsor for confirmation is not excluded.

*The Rites of the Catholic Church Vol. 1  
Rite of Confirmation, # 5.*

### GUIDELINES FOR CHOOSING A CONFIRMATION SPONSOR

1. The Sponsor is chosen by the candidate or family of the candidate.
2. The sponsor **MAY** be one of the Baptismal Godparents.
3. In accord with *the Revised Code of Canon Law*, **parents MAY NOT act as sponsors for their own children.**
4. The sponsor may be either male or female for any candidate and **MUST SATISFY THESE REQUIREMENTS**
  - A. He/she is sixteen years of age or older AND sufficiently mature for this role.
  - B. He/she is a practicing member of the Catholic Church AND has received the sacraments of Christian Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist.
  - C. He/she is not prohibited by Canon Law from exercising the role of sponsor.
  - D. IF in the event that the sponsor can not attend the Confirmation ceremony, a Proxy may be appointed. Proxies **MUST** fulfill the same requirements as a sponsor.
  - E. **EVERY SPONSOR MUST** get a letter of Eligibility from their home Parish. This letter must be submitted along with the Candidates application