



BAPTISM AND/OR CONFIRMATION SPONSOR AFFIRMATION

I. Some Basic Church Rules Concerning Sponsors

It is the very ancient custom of the Church that at the celebration of the sacrament of baptism or confirmation, a sponsor is present. The function of the sponsor is; A) together with the celebrant who baptizes or confirms, to represent the Church in receiving the person into the communion of the Church; and B) to support the person in living the Catholic Christian life.

In accord with **Canon 874 of the Code of Canon Law**, the Church can admit a person to the role of sponsor if; A) he or she is not less than sixteen years of age; B) is a baptized Catholic who has been Confirmed and has already received the Blessed Eucharist and lives a life of faith which befits the role to be undertaken; and C) is neither the father nor the mother of the person.

Given the functions and role a sponsor exercises, a non-Catholic Christian cannot be admitted as a sponsor; however, he or she can be a witness. A non-Christian cannot serve in this latter capacity, but is welcome to be present at the ceremony.

Note that the Catholic seeking to be admitted as a sponsor “lives a life of faith which befits the role to be undertaken”. This phraseology means that the candidate for sponsor: A) sincerely believes and strives to put into practice the Word of God as taught by the Catholic Church; B) regularly takes part in the Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation; and C) if married, was married in accordance with the requirements of the Catholic Church.

Consequently,

1. Those Catholics who have recently registered (less than 3 months) with the Cathedral of Christ the King;
 2. Those Catholics who are not actively affiliated with a worshipping community;
 3. Those Catholics who are invalidly married, as for example, before a Justice of the Peace, or without proper dispensation;
 4. Those Catholics who are divorced and invalidly remarried, and;
 5. Those Catholics who have not received Confirmation and the Blessed Eucharist;
- Do **not** qualify to be admitted as a Sponsor.

II. Affirmation of the Prospective Sponsor

If therefore, you seek to be admitted as a sponsor, and are convinced that you qualify in accordance with the conditions listed above, kindly make the following solemn affirmation:

I, (*print full name*) _____, a practicing Catholic seeking to be admitted as a Sponsor, solemnly affirm that I fulfill the requirements of the Catholic Church for this role as presented above. I intend, with the grace of God, to continue the practice of my Catholic faith, and I will, to the best of my ability, carry out the obligations of my role as sponsor.

(Please Print)

Church (Name and Address)

Name of Baptism or Confirmation Candidate

Date of Ceremony

Signature of Sponsor

Today's Date

Sponsor's email address

Sponsor's phone number

Upon completion of this form, please mail, fax (404) 233-9711 or email to tcarr@ctking.com. The completed letter of eligibility will be faxed and mailed to the appropriate church.