

CONFIRMATION SPONSOR: HIGH SCHOOL

The primary responsibility of the Sponsor is to provide the candidate prayerful support and guidance in his or her faith and to “take care that the confirmed person behaves as a true witness of Christ and faithfully fulfills the obligations inherent in this sacrament” (canon 892).

A significant way the Sponsor fulfills this responsibility is to take on the mindset of a **mentor**. The Sponsor guides by example and holding the student accountable to his or her desire to be confirmed in the Catholic faith and all that desire entails.

Specific Responsibilities of the Sponsor:

- ✝ Periodically check that the student is participating regularly in Sunday Mass. The Sponsor should also occasionally attend Sunday Mass with the student.
- ✝ Periodically meet with the student outside of Mass to engage in spiritual conversation and reflection about how life and faith intersect, using the student’s own specific daily life experiences as a jumping off point for discussion, reflection, and understanding.
- ✝ Encourage the student in his or her devotion to their chosen Confirmation Name. The Sponsor and student may even agree to call the student by his or her Confirmation Name in their times together.
- ✝ While Sponsors are not required to attend Wednesday evening Faith Formation sessions with their student, Sponsors are welcomed to join their student on Wednesday evenings.
- ✝ Work with and encourage the student on his or her ***Romans 12 Project(s)***.
- ✝ Periodically quiz the student on the standard Catholic prayers they should know.
- ✝ Sponsors should regularly pray with and for his or her student, especially for the intention that they grow in relationship with the Lord Jesus and move from knowledge “about” God to knowledge “of” God.
- ✝ Sponsors participate in the Confirmation Mass and present the student to the Bishop to receive the Sacrament.
- ✝ The Sponsor provides good example of Catholic living in today’s world, and shares his or her own faith—the joys and struggles—with their student.

Selection of a Confirmation Sponsor:

When the student is confirmed, he or she will be presented to Bishop by their Sponsor. ***The Sponsor represents the Catholic community*** and, by presenting the student to Bishop, basically testifies that the student is ready to be confirmed. Because of this, the Confirmation Sponsor **MUST** be an already practicing Catholic.

In choosing a sponsor, the student/candidate for the reception of Confirmation should select a person with the characteristics listed below. These characteristics come from the Canon Law of the Catholic Church and the guidelines for the Green Bay Diocese:

- ✝ The sponsor may be a male or female, but not a parent.
- ✝ The sponsor must be at least 16 years old.
- ✝ The sponsor **MUST**:
 - be baptized and confirmed in the Catholic faith
 - practice his or her faith by regular participation in Sunday Mass and Eucharist
 - lead a life in harmony with the Catholic faith

If the student is unable to find a suitable sponsor, he or she should contact Tina or Father. There are many parishioners at St. Gabriel who would be more than happy to serve in the role of Sponsor for confirmation students.