

The Role of a Sponsor

The Sponsor represents the support and prayers of the entire Catholic Church. He or she will be the Candidate's "spiritual friend". Choosing the right Sponsor is a key to having a fulfilling Confirmation experience.

Qualifications of a Sponsor:

- a practicing Confirmed Roman Catholic (i.e.. attending Mass weekly, living the faith daily, walking with the Lord).
- at least 16 years old.
- may be the child's Godparent, but not required.
- willing to pray for and with the Candidate while leading him/her closer to Jesus Christ and His Church.
- able to attend the Large Group Classes. (Candidates are encouraged to choose someone who lives close by.) If a Sponsor is chosen who can not attend due to traveling distance, a proxy (usually a parent) may be chosen. A proxy is expected to fulfill the same qualifications as the Sponsor.
- a person who is prayerful, loving, and is comfortable sharing with the young person as well as supportive of the parents in raising the young person in the Catholic Church.
- Note: A Candidate's parent may not be a Sponsor.

Duties of a Sponsor:

The following is asked of the Sponsor:

1. Attend CFF Classes (See calendar for dates).
2. Complete a Eucharistic Adoration Reflection hour with the Candidate using the provided handout.
3. Complete an act of service that shows "Faith in Action" with the Candidate. Faith in Action instructions will be provided.
4. Assist the Candidate in choosing a Confirmation Patron Saint. Instructions will be provided.
5. Write a letter of Recommendation to Fr. Mark Bauer but submitted to the Middle School Coordinator about the Candidate. Instructions provided in Sponsor packet.
6. Attend the Confirmation Retreat with the Candidate.
7. Present Candidate during the Confirmation Mass at The Cathedral of St. Andrew.
8. Continue to be available for the Candidate to lend spiritual support after the Sacrament of Confirmation ceremony is over.

Celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation

Preparation and Celebration
Information for
Parents, Confirmandi & Sponsors



October 16, 2011

Holy Family Parish

Confirmation
is just the beginning
of the faith journey,
not a graduation
from it.



Sacrament of Confirmation

Eligibility for the Sacrament of Confirmation

The young person seeking to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation must

- be baptized
- participate in Mass and receive Eucharist weekly

Preparation Process

- Be enrolled as a Candidate for Confirmation on - *Saturday, November 5 at the 5:00pm Rising Mass*
- Complete and submit Sacrament of Confirmation registration
- Attend and participate in the weekly Faith Formation program - *Program time is Sundays from 5:00-7:00pm.*
- Declare a Sponsor - *This is presented at the parent meeting.*
- Experience Eucharistic Adoration - *This is an opportunity for the Candidate and Sponsor to spend some time in the presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. (handout provided in sponsor packet)*
- Complete a Faith in Action - *This is a service project done by Candidate and Sponsor. As Catholics, this is an important part of fulfilling our baptismal call of service to others. (instructions provided in sponsor packet)*
- Declare a Patron Saint - *This research is done with the help of the Sponsor. (instructions provided in sponsor packet)*
- Attend a one day Confirmation Retreat, both sponsor and candidate together

Celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation

Sacrament of Confirmation Mass at the Cathedral of St. Andrew in Grand Rapids

*Date TBA by Diocese of Grand Rapids (Spring of 2012)

Calendar for the Sacrament of Confirmation

Oct 16, 2011	Parent and Student Meeting, 6:00PM in the church
2011-2012	CFF classes
Oct. 31, 2011	Sponsor Declaration due (started during parent meeting)
Oct. 31, 2011	Confirmation Registration and Baptism Information due
Nov. 5, 2011	Confirmation Enrollment at 5:00PM Rising Mass
Nov. 2011	Mail Sponsor packets to Candidates and Sponsors
Nov. 20, 2011	Confirmation Large Group (Sponsors to attend)
Dec. 11, 2011	Confirmation Large Group (Sponsors to attend)
Jan. 22, 2012	Confirmation Retreat 11:00AM Mass to 7:00PM (Sponsors to attend)
Mar. 13, 2012	Preparation materials due: - Faith in Action - Eucharistic Adoration Sheet - Patron Saint Declaration - Sponsor Recommendation Letter
Spring 2012	Sacrament of Confirmation Mass at the Cathedral of St. Andrew, Grand Rapids (TBA)

Candidate's Full Name: _____

Baptized at _____

() Holy Family; Date _____

() Other than Holy Family* _____

Church name _____

Address _____

Street

City, State, Zip

Date of Baptism _____

Father's Full Name _____

Mother's Full Maiden Name _____

Email _____

Best Contact Phone _____

Note: If candidate was not Baptized or received first Eucharist at Holy Family, a copy of the Candidate's Baptismal Certificate is required by the Diocese. If you do not have a copy of the Baptismal Certificate, please contact the Baptismal Parish to request a new certificate be sent to you, and then forward a copy to the CFF office.