

## SPONSOR ROLE, RESPONSIBILITIES AND SELECTION



**THE SPONSOR IS AN INVALUABLE ASSISTANT TO PARENTS IN TRANSMITTING THE FAITH. THE SPONSOR NEEDS TO BE ABLE TO FULFILL SEVERAL REQUIREMENTS.**

- Canon Law dictates that a sponsor must have received the Sacraments of Baptism, First Eucharist and Confirmation. The Church recognizes that a person cannot transmit what the person does not have, believe or live. A sponsor must be in *“harmony with the teaching of the Catholic Church”*.
- The sponsor **CANNOT** be the Candidate’s mother or father.
- Canon Law dictates that *“a sponsor must have **completed their 16<sup>th</sup> year**”* (be at least 16 year of age).
- A sponsor needs to be an **active, practicing member of the Catholic Church**.
- It is recommended that the sponsor have a mature and informed faith.
- The sponsor needs to be willing to meet with the candidate on a regular basis prior to the celebration of Confirmation and make a commitment to continue the faith journey after the celebration of Confirmation.
- The sponsor needs to be willing to attend special ceremonies with the candidate.
- The sponsor is willing to share his/her faith with the candidate.
- The sponsor is an assistant to the parents as the primary transmitters of the faith.
- The sponsor is to *“walk and talk”* with the candidate on the faith journey.
- The sponsor should be someone that the candidate is comfortable with and able to confide in.
- The sponsor needs to be an open, honest, caring, committed, and encouraging person who will help the candidate grow in his/her understanding of the faith as a young person coming to a greater and deeper appreciation of God in his/her life.