



SPONSOR APPLICATION FORM for the SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

I, _____, have been asked to be a Baptism Sponsor for
Sponsor's First Name, Middle Name, Last Name

_____, who will receive the Sacrament of Baptism at
Candidate's First Name, Middle Name, Last Name

_____ on _____
Name of Parish Date

As one willing to be a **BAPTISM SPONSOR** I affirm that:

(Please check the boxes as appropriate)

- I have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist in the Roman Catholic Church.*
- I will be at least sixteen years of age on the day of the Baptism ceremony.*
- I participate regularly in Sunday Mass and receive Holy Communion as a practicing Roman Catholic.*
- I actively strive to live out my commitment to Christ and the communal life of the Church through my loving response to those with whom I encounter daily.*
- I fulfill my obligations to my parish to the best of my ability in support of the Gospel message.*
- (If married) My marriage was celebrated according to the norms of the Catholic Church.*
- I am not married.*

My relationship (aunt, uncle, friend, grandparent, etc.) with the candidate _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail address _____

My parish is _____ located in _____
(City/State)

I promise to give my support to my godchild through prayers, my continued interest in his/her growth as a Catholic, and the Christian example of my daily life. I do hereby solemnly declare that I fulfill all the above requirements to act as a Baptism Sponsor.

Signature of Baptism Sponsor

Date

TO BE COMPLETED BY PASTOR OF BAPTISM SPONSOR

To the best of my knowledge, I certify that the information above is correct.

Signature of Catholic Priest

Date

PARISH SEAL

Kindly return this completed, signed form to Saint Jude the Apostle Parish, 7171 Glenridge Dr. Sandy Springs, GA 30328 or scan and email it to Grace Pasden at gpasden@judeatl.com

REQUIREMENTS FOR BAPTISM SPONSORS

Why the Sacrament of Baptism? Before his ascension into heaven, Jesus commissioned his apostles to make disciples of all nations, “baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit” (Mt 28:19). Through Baptism, God enables us to participate in his life in Jesus Christ and makes us his children. Through this sacrament, we receive the Holy Spirit and become members of the People of God, of the Body of Christ, which is the Church. An infant or child is baptized in the faith of the parents, godparents, and the Church. Baptism becomes our commitment to grow in this new life and to strive to acquire spiritual maturity. By baptism, God purifies us from sin. “Baptism is birth into the new life in Christ. In accordance with the Lord’s will, it is necessary for salvation, as is the Church herself when we enter by Baptism.” (CCC 1277) “Baptism imprints on the soul an indelible spiritual sign, the character, which consecrates the baptized person for Christian worship. Because of the character, Baptism cannot be repeated (cf. DS 1609 and DS 1624).” (CCC 1280)

What is the role of a Baptism Sponsor? Whenever a person is baptized, as an infant, as a child, or as an adult, there should be at least one person present who will act as a sponsor for the one being baptized. The sponsor, commonly referred to as one’s godmother or godfather, accepts the responsibility of helping the person grow in the Catholic faith. One who acts as a sponsor for an infant or child agrees to help the parent teach their child about the faith and how to live as a practicing Catholic. One who acts as a sponsor for an adult agrees to encourage and support the person, pray with and for the person, and offer whatever help, information, or support is needed while the person is preparing to enter the Church and then is living out the rest of his or her life as a practicing Catholic.

What are the requirements of the Church for being a Baptism Sponsor?

- At least one sponsor is required for baptism. If there are two sponsors, then they must be a man and a woman.
- A sponsor must have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Eucharist.
- A sponsor must be at least 16 years of age and may be male or female, regardless of the sex of the candidate.
- A sponsor must be leading a life in harmony with the faith and the role to be undertaken; therefore, if married, must be married in the Church and if single, must be striving to live a chaste life and therefore cannot be living with a person outside of marriage.
- A sponsor must be a practicing Catholic, registered in a parish, who regularly attends Mass on Sundays and Holy Days and receives the Holy Eucharist.
- A non-Catholic Christian cannot officially be a godparent, but if they are living their Christian faith, they can stand with a godparent as a “Christian Witness” to the baptism.