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## **Information about Choosing a Sponsor**

The choice of a sponsor for confirmation is a very important one. It is an honor to be chosen sponsor, but there is much more to the role than its being honorary.

The sponsor (1) witness and prays and celebrates Mass and the sacraments regularly; (2) is a real friend, someone whom you can trust and confide in, someone who is "there" when needed, the kind of person you would like to be; (3) is a guide, a good "listener" who is ready to give advice when asked; one whose experience as a practical Catholic is an invaluable source for helping you to make decisions about your own life as a Catholic; (4) takes an interest in the program you are following and will be ready to accept the invitations you extend to take part in the special activities during the preparation program; (5) knows you well enough to say before the parish when the time comes that you are someone who is choosing freely to celebrate confirmation.

After you have written to or contacted someone of your choice (consider first your godparent(s) at baptism) and have received a favorable reply, you will be asked to submit this person's name to the Confirmation Coordinator. If your sponsor is not a parishioner of Blessed Sacrament we must have a letter from your sponsor's parish stating he/she is a confirmed practicing catholic. Keep in mind that your godparents spoke for you at baptism. Since confirmation completes what is begun in baptism, it is most appropriate that a godparent also be the sponsor at confirmation. Your sponsor must be a confirmed Catholic, a person of faith who shares in the Eucharist and tries to live a Catholic Christian life. Parents may not be sponsors as they are considered primary teachers of the Catholic Faith.

May the Holy Spirit be with you as you choose your sponsor! Pray for this person that, moved by the same Spirit he or she will accept the role with a prayerful, enthusiastic response.

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### **CONFIRMATION NAME**

It is recommended that the candidate for Confirmation retain his/her baptismal name as a witness to the intimate relationship between Baptism and Confirmation as Sacraments of Initiation. However, candidates may choose to take the name of any other saint whose life has special meaning for them.