

GODPARENTS AND SPONSORS IN THE DIOCESE OF PUEBLO

Baptism Sponsors (Godparents)

Can. 872 Insofar as possible, a person to be baptized is to be given a sponsor who assists an adult in Christian initiation or together with the parents presents an infant for baptism. A sponsor also helps the baptized person to lead a Christian life in keeping with baptism and to fulfill faithfully the obligations inherent in it.

Can. 873 There is to be only one male sponsor or one female sponsor or one of each.

Can. 874 §1. To be permitted to take on the function of sponsor a person must:

- 1/ be designated by the one to be baptized, by the parents or the person who takes their place, or in their absence by the pastor or minister and have the aptitude and intention of fulfilling this function;
- 2/ have completed the sixteenth year of age, unless the diocesan bishop has established another age, or the pastor or minister has granted an exception for a just cause;
- 3/ be a Catholic who has been confirmed and has already received the most holy sacrament of the Eucharist and who leads a life of faith in keeping with the function to be taken on;
- 4/ not be bound by any canonical penalty legitimately imposed or declared;
- 5/ not be the father or mother of the one to be baptized.

§2. A baptized person who belongs to a non-Catholic ecclesial community is not to participate except together with a Catholic sponsor and then only as a witness of the baptism.

That the following indications are necessary to show that you are ready to fulfill the role of Godparent/Sponsor.

1 Valid Recent (within 6 months) Baptism Certificate*

2. Have been designated as sponsor by the candidate (or by parents/guardians or by pastor/minister according to circumstance)

3. Am 16 years old or older, am not bound by canonical penalty, and am not the father or mother of the candidate

4. Have received Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmation

5. Lead a life in keeping with the function to be taken on, namely:

a. Have a relationship with Jesus Christ as His disciple

b. Consistent Mass attendance on Sundays & Holy Days

c. Regular Confession

d. Daily Prayer

e. If married, my marriage is recognized as valid by the Catholic Church.**

f. If not married, I am not living conjugally with someone.**

** N.B. – If the couple is in marriage preparation in the Catholic Church and has a date set for their wedding through the Church, the pastor may, at his discretion, make an exception and allow them to become Godparent/Sponsors.

6. Intend to fulfill the functions of a Godparent/Sponsor by:

a. Praying for my Godchild/Sponsee

b. Setting a good example of a life of discipleship

c. If Godparent to a minor child, assisting the parents in their duty of raising the child in the Faith.

d. If Sponsor for Confirmation, taking care that the confirmed person behaves as a true

witness of Christ and faithfully fulfills the obligations inherent in this sacrament

* This Baptism Certificate should be obtained from the parish where the potential Godparent/Sponsor was Baptized and should include any notations that are found in the Baptism Register.