

Godparent Guidelines

Code of Canon Law

The Code of Canon Law requires that children to be baptized have at least one, but no more than two, godparent(s) or one godparent and one Christian Witness (a non-Catholic baptized Christian). When there are two godparents, they must be one male and one female. Catholic Godparents must provide a Certificate of Eligibility, a letter from his/her parish stating he/she is eligible to be a sponsor.

The requirements to be a godparent:

- Must be someone other than the parent of the one to be baptized.
- Must have received the sacraments of baptism, Holy Eucharist, and confirmation.
- Must be at least 16 years of age.
- If there will be two godparents, one must be male and one must be female.
- A godparent 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.
 - If single, must be striving to live a chaste life and cannot be living with a person outside of marriage.
 - Must be a practicing Catholic, registered in a parish, who regularly attends Mass on Sundays and Holy Days and receives the Holy Eucharist. Registration in their local parish is encouraged so that they may participate fully in the life of the Church through their parish.