

REQUIREMENTS FOR BAPTISM SPONSOR(S)

- I. *Requirements as per the Code of Canon Law:
 - A. Only one male sponsor or one female sponsor or one of each sex for a Baptism candidate is to be used.
 - B. Must have completed the sixteenth (16) year.
 - C. Must be a Catholic who has received the sacrament of Baptism.
 - D. Must be a Catholic who has received the sacrament of Confirmation.
 - E. Must be a Catholic who has received the sacrament of the Most Holy Eucharist.
 - F. If married, must be a Catholic who has received the sacrament of Holy Matrimony in the Church.
 - G. Must be a Catholic who leads a life in harmony with the Catholic Church (registered and active [going to Sunday Mass] in a Catholic Church).
- II. Documents Required from the Sponsor(s) of a Person to be Baptized:
 - A. A copy of sponsor's Baptism Certificate.
 - B. A copy of sponsor's First Communion Certificate.
 - C. A copy of sponsor's Confirmation Certificate.
 - D. If Married, a copy of the Marriage Certificate.
 - E. A letter from the pastor where the sponsor is registered and active, stating he or she is registered and active and qualifies to be a sponsor.
- III. All necessary paperwork for the sponsor(s) for the child receiving the Sacrament of Baptism is due two (2) weeks before the Baptism. NO EXCEPTIONS!

*These requirements are universal and can be found in Canons 872-874 of the Code of Canon Law: Latin-English Edition. Washington: Canon Law Society of America, 1983 (see back of page). **There are no exceptions to these requirements.**

*CANONICAL REQUIREMENTS FOR BAPTISM SPONSOR(S)

Can. 872 -- Insofar as possible one to be baptized is to be given a sponsor who is to assist an adult in Christian initiation, or, together with the parents, to present an infant at the baptism, and who will help the baptized to lead a Christian life in harmony with baptism, and to fulfill faithfully the obligations connected with it.

Can. 873 -- Only one male or one female sponsor or one of each sex is to be employed.

Can. 874 -- §1. To be admitted to the role of sponsor, a person must:

1° be designated by the one to be baptized, by the parents or the one who takes their place or, in their absence, by the pastor or minister and is to have the qualifications and intention of performing this role;

2° have completed the sixteenth year, unless a different age has been established by the diocesan bishop or it seems to the pastor or minister that an exception is to be made for a just cause;

3° be a Catholic who has been confirmed and has already received the sacrament of the Most Holy Eucharist and leads a life in harmony with the faith and the role to be undertaken;

4° not be bound by any canonical penalty legitimately imposed or declared;

5° not be the father or the mother of the one to be baptized.

§2. A baptized person who belongs to a non-Catholic ecclesial community may not be admitted except as a witness to baptism and together with a Catholic sponsor.

***Code of Canon Law: Latin-English Edition. Washington: Canon Law Society of America, 1983.**