

Baptism & Confirmation Guidelines

for

Godparents and Sponsors



St. Jude Catholic Church

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Godparents for Infant Baptism and Sponsors for Confirmation

1. Godparents must be fully-initiated Catholics having received Baptism, First Communion and Confirmation and must be at least 16 years of age. (c.874 §1, 2° & 3°)
2. Godparents must be practicing Catholics; attending Sunday Mass, praying, receiving the sacraments of Penance and Communion regularly, and involved in church community activities and/or ministries. (c.874 §1, 3°)
3. Godparents that are married must be married in the Catholic Church. (c.874 §3)
4. Godparents must obtain an original "Sponsor Certificate" from the parish where they are registered indicating that they are qualified to serve as Godparents.
5. At minimum, there should be one Godparent. Normally there are two Godparents. There may not be more than two Godparents. (c.873)
6. Godparents must be one male and one female, or one of each. There may not be two female Godparents nor two male Godparents. (c.873)
7. Only one non-Catholic Christian may be allowed as a witness to Baptism if there is already only one Catholic Godparent. This witness must be baptized. (c.874 §2)
8. The qualifications of the sponsor at Confirmation are the same as for the Godparent at Baptism which excludes a parent from serving as a Sponsor. (cc. 893 §1 and 874).