

Confirmation Name and Sponsor Request Form

Please complete the information below.

Candidate Information

Candidate's Full Baptismal Name:	
Candidate's Phone Number:	
Candidate's Email Address:	
<i>We will let you know by e-mail that we have received your paperwork.</i>	

Confirmation Name Information

I have chosen the name, _____, as my Confirmation Name.

Sponsor Information

Sponsor's First Name (<i>Baptismal</i>):	
Sponsor's Middle Name:	
Sponsor's Last Name:	
Sponsor's Street Address:	
Sponsor's City:	
Sponsor's State:	
Sponsor's Zip Code:	
Sponsor's Home Parish:	
Sponsor's Parish's City:	
Sponsor's Parish's State:	
Sponsor's Age & Relationship: (<i>only if under 23</i>)	

Please complete the following

1. Please attach your one page typed name report to this form. **Due back by .. June 5, 2011**
2. You will need to supply a **Sponsor Certificate** stating that your sponsor is a practicing Catholic at his or her parish (if your Sponsor attends another parish other than St. Anthony's) by January 2012.

Report Outline

“My Confirmation Name and Sponsor”

Instructions

- All reports should be in paragraph form.
- Please **DO NOT** write answers as if these were individual questions. Instead, answer all five questions in the context of one paper. You may answer them in any order you ^{desire}
- The one page report should be double-spaced and typed using a 12-point font.

After completing the Phase I year, a one-page paper, that answers the following questions should be submitted to the Youth Office.

1. *What confirmation name did you choose?*
2. *Why did you choose that name?*
3. *What are some important events that occurred in the life of the saint or other important Christian role model whose name you will share?*
4. *Who did you choose as your sponsor?*
5. *Why did you choose that individual to be your Sponsor?*



Guidelines for Picking a Confirmation Name and Sponsor

Below, are the guidelines set by the Diocese and our parish for choosing a Confirmation name and sponsor. Please note that in many cases certain practices are highly recommended, but the candidate may decide not to follow these recommendations. This is perfectly acceptable as long as the alternative guidelines are followed.

The Confirmation Name

- The Church is basically silent on the issue of name choice at this time. Either a special Confirmation name or the use of one's baptismal name is appropriate.
- However, the Church does highly recommend that the baptismal name be taken, showing the unity between Baptism and Confirmation.
- In the case of a confirmation name, a Christian name is to be selected. This means the name of a Saint or the name of someone the candidate holds in high esteem. This person should be of great importance and example to the candidate (in other words - a "living Saint" in the eyes of the candidate).
- Names of fictional characters or choosing a name simply because it sounds good, will not be permitted.
- When choosing a name, only one name is to be chosen. Example: Choosing "Mary" is appropriate, choosing "Mary Elizabeth" is not.
- All candidates will be expected to hand in a one page typed paper explaining the reasons for choosing the name, whether they choose a Baptismal or a Confirmation name. The paper should give examples of Saints or other important Christian role models who have that name.

The Confirmation Sponsor

- Each candidate should have their own individual sponsor.
- The candidate may choose one of their Godparents. This again shows the ties between Baptism and Confirmation. The choice of a Godparent is highly recommended.
- The candidate may also pick a special sponsor who is not one of the Godparents. This special sponsor should be someone the candidate sees as a positive Catholic role model in their life.
- Since it is assumed that parents are already role models of faith for their children, the parent of the candidate is NOT permitted to be the sponsor.

Picking a Confirmation Sponsor

Qualifications of the Sponsor

- Must be sufficiently mature in his or her faith commitment.
- Not prohibited by law from exercising the role of sponsor.
- Minimum age of 23 years old suggested. (The exception to this rule would be; brothers, sisters, cousins, etc ..) If sponsor is under 23 and not a family member an approval from the Bishop's office might be needed.
- A sponsor can be of either gender.
- The person chosen must have the intention of performing their role; assume an ongoing spiritual relationship with the candidate and not merely a function as a passive witness to the Sacrament.
- Sponsor must be a fully initiated Catholic, having received the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation.
- Sponsors are to be active members of a Catholic Church.

A Sponsor Is ...

A Representative of the Catholic Community: The sponsor is the personal representative of the entire Church Community to the individual candidate.

A Companion: A sponsor should serve as a companion or a guide for the candidate along the journey. The sponsor should be someone who can give you the support when there is hesitation, understanding in times of doubt and comfort when there is inner conflict. This person should also challenge you when your enthusiasm or interest is at a low point. This companion should be someone you can trust, turn to and talk things over with.

A Mentor: A sponsor should be someone who is open to growth in one's faith and putting into practice what that faith requires. This person should be a faith example who you look up to and would like to emulate.

Traits of a Sponsor

- A sponsor prays.
- Participates in the weekly Liturgy.
- A sponsor listens.
- A sponsor is respectful.
- A sponsor serves as a bridge, helping the candidate understand and become familiar with the people, places and traditions of the Catholic faith the candidate is unfamiliar with.
- A sponsor respects the candidate's freedom, allowing the candidate to decide whether this is the right time to seek the Sacrament of Confirmation.
- A sponsor lives in a world of hope, feeling confident in being able to live their faith in the modern world.

The Role of the Sponsor

The Function of the Sponsor is to:

- Assist in the preparation for the Sacrament.
- Accompany the candidate and present him or her to the Bishop.
- Help the candidate fulfill his or her baptismal promises faithfully by growing in a faith relationship with the candidate.

Sponsors are Encouraged to Become Involved with the Candidate by:

- Attending the Sponsor/Candidate Enrichment Days and events.
- Offering their services in the planning and development of the parish Confirmation program.
- Deepening their faith relationship with the candidate during the time of preparation for Confirmation.
- Attending Mass as often as possible with the candidate.
- Participating in a service project with the candidate if possible.
- Continuing to be a source of encouragement and guidance for the candidate after receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Important Notes:

- Since the Sponsor will need to attend a few mandatory meetings with the Candidate, a Sponsor should be considered by their ability to travel and flexibility in his or her schedule.
- If the Sponsor chosen is not a member of St. Anthony's Parish, a letter from the Sponsor's current parish is needed. This letter (Sponsor Certificate) should state that the Sponsor is a practicing Catholic. Please make sure that you have this document by January 2012.