



ARCHDIOCESE OF NEWARK

Worship Office

Notes on the Godparent/Sponsor Form

1. In the Archdiocese of Newark, godparent/sponsor certificates are not required.
2. As per the 2024 guidelines:
The law does not require so-called “sponsor letters” or “sponsor certificates.” What is necessary is that the pastor is assured that the sponsor chosen meets the requirements required by the law of the Church. The parish may still need to issue a “sponsor letter” or “sponsor certificate” for parishioners who will serve as sponsors for baptisms or confirmations taking place in other dioceses. (*Sacramental Guidelines*, Baptism, 34)
3. Individual parishes may opt to require this form for all godparent/sponsors or on a case by case basis.
4. It may be necessary to supply this form to parishioners serving as godparent/sponsor outside of the archdiocese.
5. Provided below is the “Godparent/Sponsor Form” for use when needed.
6. The form itself is not meant to determine eligibility. Regardless of the individual’s answers, it is up to the minister to determine if they may serve as godparent/sponsor.
7. The prerequisites for godparent/sponsor are found in the *Code of Canon Law*, Canon 874.
8. It is preferable that a married godparent/sponsor has his/her marriage recognized by the Church; however, a marriage not recognized by the Church may not necessarily exclude a person from serving as a godparent/sponsor.



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Godparent/Sponsor Form

Dear Father:

I have been invited to serve as a godparent/sponsor for:

_____ at _____
Full name of the person to be baptized/confirmed *Church/City*

I accept responsibility and attest to the following (*Check all that apply to you*):

_____ I am a parishioner of: _____
Name of Parish *City*

_____ I am at least 16 years of age.

_____ I am not the parent of the one to be baptized/confirmed.

_____ I am initiated with the three Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist.

_____ I firmly believe in Jesus Christ and lead a Christian life in keeping with my Baptism.

If married, my marriage is recognized by the Catholic Church: _____ Yes _____ No

I testify that the above statements are true.

Godparent/Sponsor Signature

Printed Name

Date

To be filled out by parish:

Parish/City

Pastor/Delegate Witness

Date

SEAL