

CHOOSING YOUR CHILD'S GODPARENTS

Choosing godparents is an important decision, since they are individuals who will be also making this same commitment to the responsibility of forming your child in the rich and beautiful faith of our Church. They will be witnessing to living their life in Christ and providing the light, life, and love of Christ in our Catholic faith. It is a sacred, spiritual relationship that you are choosing for your child. In light of this, there are some requirements and guidelines from the Church about who can be a godparent:

PARENTS

Parents cannot be godparents or sponsors, since this role is meant to be a witness and help for the parents outside of the family in living out the Catholic faith.

GODPARENTS

There may be **one or two** godparents (sponsors). When there are two, one is male (**godfather**) and the other is female (**godmother**). If you are unable to have both be Catholic. It is required that at least one, if not both, is Catholic – since their role is to witness living out the love and life of Christ as a faithful and practicing Catholic.

QUALIFICATIONS

The sponsors must be at least sixteen years old, be fully initiated (baptized, received First Communion, and are Confirmed), and actively living and practicing their Catholic faith.

CHRISTIAN WITNESS

A Christian Witness as the second sponsor must be at least sixteen years old, a validly baptized Christian, living an upright life, and is not a Catholic who has left the Church.