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## **THE REQUIREMENTS OF SPONSOR**

There is only one sponsor for Confirmation.

“Sponsor” (godparent) is a sacramental ministry. The sponsor takes part in the ritual as a Catholic and provides example from her/his life through living and acting as a full member of the Catholic Church. Because of the seriousness of this ministry, the Church has the following requirements:

1. The sponsor must be a full member of the Catholic Church through Baptism and Confirmation and Eucharist and at least 16 years old (the responsibilities of this ministry are undertaken by an adult).
2. The sponsor must be a Catholic living an active life in the Church who provides good example. Someone married outside the Church is not able to receive Communion and is not able to be a sponsor. Also, a Catholic who has left the Church is not able to be a sponsor of a new member into the Church.
3. Parents may not act as sponsors for their child’s confirmation. Persons cannot be both parents and godparents to their children. The sponsor is the “spiritual parent” of the candidate.

## **CHOOSING A CONFIRMATION NAME**

When preparing for Confirmation, a person is invited to choose a Confirmation name to show that a change is taking place in him or her. Such name changes are common in the Bible (for example, Abram and Sarai to Abraham and Sarah, Jacob to Israel, and so on) to indicate a change in the person. In the New Testament, Peter's original name was Simon. The name Peter, meaning “rock,” was given to him by Jesus to symbolize Peter's role in the Church (Matthew 16:18). Often people preparing for Confirmation will choose the name of a saint or holy person whom they look to for guidance in following Jesus.

- You may choose your Baptism name.
- Ideally a saint/religious or Biblical figure you admire.
- It may not be offensive to Christians (i.e. Lucifer).
- The name will be written on the sponsor information sheet