

Roles and Requirements of those involved with Confirmation

The candidate

- To be willing and have a desire to enter into the process.
- To recognize that he/she, in consultation with his/her parents and under their guidance, has the choice to stop at any point within the process if he/she is unable to make the commitment necessary to be confirmed and that he/she may return when ready to continue.

(Cf. canons 889-891, Code of Canon Law).

The parents/guardians

- To encourage, support, and affirm their child's involvement in the Confirmation process.
- To attend any orientation sessions, liturgical rites, and practices associated with the Confirmation process.
- To advise their child regarding the choice of a sponsor.

The sponsor

- It is desirable, though not necessary, that the sponsor be the same person who fulfilled the role of baptismal sponsor.
- To perform the role of Confirmation sponsor, it is necessary that a person fulfill the following conditions:
 1. Have the aptitude and intention of fulfilling the role of sponsor.
 2. Be at least 16 years of age
 3. Be a Catholic who has been confirmed and has received the Most Holy Sacrament of the Eucharist and who leads a life of faith.
 4. Not be bound by any canonical penalty legitimately imposed or declared.
 5. Not be the father or mother of the one to be confirmed.
 6. There is to be only one Confirmation sponsor.

(Cf. canons 873-874, 892-893 Code of Canon Law).

- In addition to the requirements above, it is the role of sponsor to attend any orientation sessions, liturgical rites, and practices associated with the Confirmation process.

The community

- To support youth before, during and after Confirmation through their prayers, attendance at the Confirmation Mass, and other parish community activities.
- To integrate youth into the life of the whole Church.

The priest

- To encourage parents, sponsors and the community to take an active part in the process as well as in the process of growing in their own understanding of their faith.
- To be an active presence in the lives of the young people of the parish in as many ways as possible, i.e., visiting group meetings, coming to retreats, supporting youth at liturgies.
- To conduct a personal interview with each candidate in which he can acknowledge the young person's participation in the process and share thoughts on ways he/she might participate in the life of the parish after the reception of Confirmation.