

## CHOOSING A SPONSOR

Candidates for baptism and confirmation need a sponsor. The sponsor is a Catholic guide who, knowing the ways of faith, helps the person who is receiving the sacrament to begin living the faith in the Catholic Church more fully, in keeping with the graces the sacrament supplies.

The sponsor must be a person who can share the **good example of their life as a Catholic with me**. Their support and encouragement is what will help me to live a moral life which will prepare me for eternal life.

**There are certain qualifications that the Church has for sponsors.** Consider the following question before choosing a sponsor who has to be eligible according to the Church:

- |  | <u>YES</u> | <u>NO</u> |
|--|------------|-----------|
| 1. My sponsor is 16 or older. ....   | ___        | ___       |
| 2. My sponsor has been baptized a Catholic (or made a profession of faith in the case of a conversion to the Catholic faith).....  | ___        | ___       |
| 3. My sponsor has been confirmed in the Catholic Church .....  | ___        | ___       |
| 4. <b>My sponsor is a practicing Catholic.</b><br>That is he/she attends Mass weekly and contributes to the support of the Church. He/she is known to the parish priest where he/she is registered and the priest can testify to this. |            |           |
| 5. If my sponsor is married, he/she was married in the Catholic Church by _____<br>_____ a Catholic priest or deacon one time, unless former spouse died.  | ___        | ___       |
| 6. My sponsor can obtain a certificate from his/her parish that they are a Catholic in good standing. (Every sponsor needs one.) .....   | ___        | ___       |
| 7. My sponsor may be a male or female.   |            |           |
| 8. <b>My sponsor cannot be my parent</b> , but may be my grandparent.  |            |           |

If I have to answer "NO" to any one of questions 1 through 6 that person cannot be a sponsor according to Church rules. Do not ask him/her.

**Do not return this paper to Sister. This paper is meant to be a help for you in choosing a sponsor.**