

**St. John the Evangelist Church
55 Martha Street
Spencerport, New York 14559
(585) 352-5481**

**CERTIFICATE OF ELIGIBILITY
TO SERVE AS A SPONSOR AT CONFIRMATION**

I, _____, understand my role as a sponsor
Sponsor's name (Please Print)
and the requirements needed to be a sponsor for:

Candidate's name (Please Print)

I accept these responsibilities and acknowledge that I have received the three sacraments of Christian Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist) and that I strive to live the teachings of my Catholic faith.

Sponsor's signature

Date

The undersigned acknowledges the sponsor's signature by which the sponsor attests to knowing and meeting the requirements of a sponsor.

Signature of Sponsor's Pastor/Pastoral Administrator

Date

Name of Parish

Address of Parish: Street, City, State, Zip

Parish seal

For internal use only

Date received:	/ /
RE Dept logged by:	
Approved for Certificate:	
Notification to parish of baptism	Entered into Baptismal Registry: / /

ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF A SPONSOR AT CONFIRMATION

Role of Sponsor:

Candidates for Confirmation, as for Baptism, fittingly seek the spiritual help of a sponsor. To emphasize the unity of the two sacraments, it is appropriate that this be one of the baptismal godparents. Although one of the Confirmation candidate's godparents is the ideal, this is not the only choice. (CCC 1311)

Like the godparents chosen at Baptism, sponsors "must be firm believers, able and ready to help (the Confirmed) on the road of Christian life. Their task is a truly ecclesial function....bearing some responsibility for the development and safeguarding of the grace given at Baptism." (CCC 1255) Like parents and godparents, they share in the responsibility for the salvation of the young soul entrusted to them.

Because our life on earth is "a pilgrimage to the Father which takes place primarily in the heart" (Pope John Paul II, *The Trinity's Embrace*), the sponsor should be a Catholic who loves and lives his or her faith and continues to grow in the knowledge of the Catholic faith. This is evident in a person who spends time in daily prayer and frequent encounters with Jesus in the Sacraments of Penance and Holy Eucharist. Consequently, the sponsor's heart reflects the tender and affectionate love of the hearts of Jesus and Mary and the gifts of the Holy Spirit, providing a living example of joyful Christian life.

Requirements for a Sponsor:

1. The sponsor should be mature enough to understand, accept and carry out the duties of a sponsor. That person normally must be at least 16 years of age.
2. The sponsor must have received the three sacraments of initiation: baptism, confirmation and Eucharist.
3. The sponsor should be living an exemplary life consistent with Christian faith and the responsibilities of a sponsor. This entails observing the Ten Commandments, assenting to the teachings of the Catholic Church and doing one's best to follow the Precepts of the Church:
 - a. Attend Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation and rest from servile labor (unnecessary work and activities).
 - b. Confess serious sins at least once a year.
 - c. Receive the Sacrament of the Eucharist (Holy Communion) at least once per year during the Easter season.
 - d. Observe the days of fasting and abstinence established by the Church. These include fasting on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, and abstaining from meat on the Fridays of Lent.
 - e. Help provide for the material needs of the Church according to your ability.