

St. Paul Catholic Church
1700 Conway Dr., Pensacola, FL 32503
850-434-2551
www.stpaulcatholic.net



Rev. Craig Smith, Pastor
Love God,
Serve others,
Make disciples.

Baptism and/or Confirmation Sponsor Certificate

I. Basic Church Rules Concerning Sponsors

Being selected as a Sponsor for Baptism and/or Confirmation is a great honor and privilege. Candidates for Baptism and Confirmation need the spiritual help of a sponsor. By accepting this role you are entering into a covenant with that person and the whole of the Catholic Church, the body of Christ. It is an ancient custom of the Church that at the celebration of Baptism and Confirmation a sponsor is present to, along with the celebrant, represent the Church in receiving that person into the communion of the Church. You are one of the nurturers and supporters of faith growth for the candidate. Your presence and support will enhance these extraordinary gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Canon 874 of the Code of Canon Law states: a person may be admitted to the role of sponsor if, a) he or she is not less than 16 years of age, b) is a Catholic who has been confirmed and has received the blessed Eucharist and lives a life of faith that befits the role to be undertaken ie; sincerely believes and strives to put into practice the Word of God as taught by the Catholic Church, regularly takes part in Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation, and if married, was married in accordance with the requirements of the Catholic Church and c) is not the mother or father of the person. Consequently; Catholics who are not actively affiliated with and participating in a Catholic parish, were invalidly married (Civil ceremony, Justice of the Peace, without proper dispensation, before a minister of a Protestant church or Rabbi, are divorced and invalidly remarried) and have not received confirmation and the blessed Eucharist, do not qualify to be admitted as a sponsor.

II. Affirming of the Prospective Sponsor

If you are seeking to be admitted as a sponsor and are qualified in accord with the conditions listed above, kindly make the following solemn affirmation:

I, _____, solemnly affirm that I fulfill the requirements of the Catholic Church for this role as presented above. I intend, with the grace of God, to continue the practice of my Catholic Faith, and I will carry out, to the best of my ability, the obligations of my role as sponsor.

Date of Ceremony

Name of Candidate

Name of Sponsor's Parish

City/State of Sponsor's Parish

Affirmation of Sponsor: _____ **Date:** _____

Certification by Pastor: _____ **Date:** _____

* An original copy with the **raised parish seal** must be received by the church of ceremony before the sacramental celebration