

Sponsor Responsibilities

(Give to Candidate's Chosen Sponsor)

As a sponsor you are making the commitment to walk with your candidate during their journey to prepare for the sacrament of Confirmation, and beyond as they live their faith in a renewed way throughout their life. We ask that you schedule time to meet or talk with your candidate 2-3 times prior to the ceremony to discuss some of the following topics. You can cover these discussions all at once, or spread out over several meeting times. These topics should be used as a starting point for conversation. Listen and be understanding of how your candidate responds to these questions. Also, be honest and genuine in sharing your faith experiences with your candidate.

Good ways to hold discussions:

- Ask them to have dinner/lunch with you.
- Meet at a coffee shop or for dessert somewhere.
- Call them on the phone and ask if they have time to talk.
- Send an e-mail to check in and see how life is going.
- Ask if you can attend Mass together this week.
- Plan to participate in a service project together.

Address the following questions during each discussion with your candidate:

- What is going on in your life?
- Ask specifically about school, sports, clubs, band, volunteer work, etc.
- Ask how Sacrament Prep sessions are going? What do they remember most about the last class? What did they enjoy most, what did they not enjoy?
- What have they learned about their faith this month that they did not know before, were surprised by, and already knew?
- Do they have any questions for you?

First Meeting/Discussion

Share your experience of Confirmation. What did it mean to you and what hopes do you have for your candidate? Reassure your candidate that they can come to you to ask questions. Congratulate them on making the decision to prepare for this Sacrament. What is a belief or practice that they are struggling to understand or to believe. Help the candidate by sharing your own personal experience relating to this.

Second Meeting/Discussion

Ask about the saint they chose as their Confirmation name. What name did they select and how did they choose this name? Ask about this saint. If they do not know much, take the time to look up the meaning together at www.catholic.org/saints
Share your Confirmation name with them and the significance of the name for you.

Third and Final Meeting – Prior to Confirmation Ceremony

In this last discussion, ask your candidate to share their most memorable experiences of Confirmation preparation with you. What did they like least/most about their Confirmation classes? Is there anything they learned that they had not known before? How have they grown in their faith over the past few months? Be sure to mention that Confirmation is not a graduation from the Church, it is important to continue to grow in knowledge and understanding of the Catholic faith throughout their entire life. Ask how they are going to stay involved in community, in the parish, and grow in faith. Encourage them to continue this. Talk about the ceremony of Confirmation and share your memories of different Confirmation ceremonies that you have attended in your lifetime. Do they feel ready to make their Confirmation? Do they have clothes picked out for the ceremony?

FOR SPONSORS:

The rehearsal for Confirmation will be held on Thursday, _____ in the Church. Please make every effort to attend this meeting.

Confirmation will be held on Saturday, _____.

Contact information:
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