

CHOOSING YOUR CONFIRMATION SPONSOR

- † A confirmation sponsor is a special person who, by their example, shows you how to live your Catholic faith every day. They live a life that reflects the teachings of Jesus Christ.
- † Your sponsor must be a fully initiated and practicing Catholic: one who has celebrated the Sacraments of Baptism, Holy Eucharist and Confirmation and attends Mass and receives Holy Communion on a regular basis. If your sponsor is married, they **must** be married in the Catholic Church.
- † Your sponsor needs to be mature enough to undertake this sacred responsibility. A parent cannot be a sponsor, but an older sibling can be if they meet the qualifications. There is no specific age requirement for Confirmation sponsors in the Archdiocese of Miami.
- † To emphasize the unity of Confirmation and Baptism, “it is appropriate that [the sponsor] be one of the baptismal godparents” (CCC1311), though you are free to choose anyone else meeting the qualifications.
- † You want your sponsor to be someone you are comfortable talking to. Choose a person who will not only listen as you share this faith journey with them, but will also speak to you about their own faith, beliefs, and life experience.
- † The sponsor should be a significant person in your life. You are looking for someone you trust, whose faith you admire and who will be there for you. The purpose of the relationship between you and your sponsor is to lead you into a deeper relationship with Jesus.
- † In choosing a sponsor, pray to the Holy Spirit for guidance!



HOW IT WORKS

1. Once you have asked someone to be your sponsor and they have accepted, please fill out the “My Confirmation Sponsor” form and have your sponsor request his/her Sacramental Certificates.
2. Sponsors are asked to submit **a full** Sacramental history (Baptism, Communion, Confirmation, and Matrimony, if applicable). *We will only need certificates of Confirmation and Matrimony.*
 - This is not meant as a hurdle or an inconvenience.
 - We often forget the dates and places of these important milestones of our faith journey. This step is a simple way to recall these special days and inspire ongoing conversations between the Candidate and Sponsor.
3. Your parents and sponsor are asked to participate in the **Parent & Sponsor Retreat** scheduled for Saturday, October 26, 2019.
4. You and your sponsor are invited to participate in four additional activities together.
 - † **Two Faith Sharing Evenings**
 - Wed, October 30, 2019 and Wed, November 20, 2019 from 7:30pm – 8:30pm
 - † The closing Mass of the Spirit Day Retreat at 5:30pm on Saturday, January 11, 2020.
 - † Attend at least one (1) Sunday Mass and share a meal together afterwards.
5. Your Confirmation Mass is scheduled for Wednesday, May 20, 2020 at 7:00pm. Rehearsals will take place the night before, on Tuesday, May 19, 2020 at 7:00pm. Sponsors must attend both.

Hand in all forms to your teacher or drop them off or mail them to:

**Church of the Little Flower
Office of Religious Education
2711 Indian Mound Trail
Coral Gables, FL 33134**

***SACRAMENTAL CERTIFICATES CAN TAKE SOME TIME TO BE PRINTED, ESPECIALLY IF YOUR SPONSOR IS UNSURE OF THE DATE AND/OR CHURCH OF THEIR SACRAMENTS.**

***IN THE EVENT YOUR SPONSOR IS UNABLE TO LOCATE OR HAVE A CERTIFICATE RE-PRINTED (SACRAMENTS WERE RECEIVED OUT OF THE COUNTRY OR WERE RECEIVED LONG AGO AND CHURCH RECORDS ARE INCOMPLETE OR MISSING, ETC), A SPONSOR AFFIDAVIT MAY BE COMPLETED AT THE COTLF OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION.**

***EVERY EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE TO LOCATE OR OBTAIN CERTIFICATES BEFORE RESORTING TO THE SPONSOR AFFIDAVIT.**

***IF THE SPONSOR IS LIVING OUT OF TOWN AND CANNOT ATTEND THE REQUIRED MEETINGS/EVENTS, A PARENTS OR ANOTHER ADULT MAY STAND IN AS A PROXY. PARENTS CANNOT SERVE AS A PROXY FOR THE ACTUAL CONFIRMATION MASS.**

AMDG,
Jorge A. Santibáñez
Director of Religious Education
JSantibanez@cotlf.org

MY CONFIRMATION SPONSOR

I, _____

(Candidate Name)

have chosen

(Sponsor Name)

to be my Confirmation sponsor.

My Sponsor's Information:

Relationship to you _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Best Contact Phone number _____

My Sponsor's Sacramental History:

Sacrament	Church	Date
Baptism		
Communion		
Confirmation		
Matrimony (If Applicable)		

Sponsors are asked to provide a copy of their Confirmation and Catholic Marriage (if applicable) Certificates. This can be provided as either:

- A) A photocopy of the Sponsor's original certificate, if they still have them available
- B) Individual, updated copies of each Sacramental certificate

OR

- C) An updated Baptism Certificate from the Parish of the Sponsor's Baptism with Sacramental Notations added on the back.

***Please note, if your Sponsor is married, they must be married in the Catholic Church to serve as a Sponsor. If they are only married civilly, they cannot serve as a sponsor. We would be happy to assist them in the Convalidation process if they would like to have their matrimony blessed by the Church.**

If there are any questions or concerns regarding Sponsors' Certificates, please feel free to contact the DRE, Jorge Santibáñez, at the COTLF Office of Religious Education.