

Sponsor Requirements

Congratulations! You have been chosen by a young person for a special role. A wonderful adventure in the spiritual life awaits the two of you. As a Confirmation sponsor, you have accepted a responsibility that is an honor in our Church. Your role is to spiritually walk with the candidate during the preparation for the sacrament. You will be assisting the young person in being a true witness and disciple of Jesus, and representing the community when you present your candidate to the bishop. Your special role does not end at the Confirmation liturgy. You will help the young person fulfill his or her Baptismal promises after Confirmation with the help of the Holy Spirit.

You will need to **meet with your candidate on four separate occasions** from May through mid-August. If at all possible, please do not combine sessions. Ideally, you will meet once in May, once in June, once in July and once in August. Each session has a very specific mission and each contains a challenge for the following session which is vital to making it most meaningful for both the candidate and sponsor.

When scheduling your sponsor/candidate session be sure to find a quiet place where you and your candidate can share your journey; a comfortable setting where you both feel safe in sharing your faith.

The four sponsor/candidate sessions will **cover the following four topics**: Spiritual Growth, Moral Growth, Discipleship and Service. This workbook provides a session guide for each topic. Each session guide contains a goal, discussion questions, suggested activities, applicable bible verses, and a challenge for the upcoming session.

If you and your candidate prefer, there is an alternate session on Catechetical (Knowledge in the Catholic Faith) Growth that you may use instead of one of the other sessions.

Please **read through the session plans prior to meeting with your candidate**. It may also help if you mark the bible passages for easier reference. Some of the suggested activities require some preparation on your part. You may also wish to refer to the Sponsor Supplemental Handbook for more information about each topic.

After each session, please complete the Session Review Form and return it to St. Thomas More's Faith Formation Office. Please do not keep the forms and turn them all in together at the end. Hand them in as you complete each session. All 4 forms must be turned in by August 15th. Completed forms can be e-mailed to anna@stmccath.org, faxed to (920) 739-2376 or mailed to 1810B N. McDonald St., Appleton, WI 54911.

From September through the end of the Confirmation preparation process, sponsors are asked to attend as many monthly class sessions with their candidate as possible. They are specifically asked to attend 2 sessions - please see the calendar for exact dates. Sponsors are urged to stay in touch with the Candidate throughout the process, ask about his/her spiritual growth and pray for their candidate regularly. **At the end of the Confirmation preparation process, sponsors will be asked to fill out the Sponsor Recommendation Form and return it to the St. Thomas More Faith Formation Office.**