



**Star of the Sea Catholic Church**  
(1404 Pacific Ave., Virginia Beach, VA 23451)

**Information Regarding Use of the Godparent/Sponsor Attestation Form  
for Baptism and Confirmation**

**Choosing Godparent(s) for Infant Baptism**

Dear Parent(s),

Godparents join the parents in presenting the child for Baptism and help the child to lead a Christian life in harmony with the sacrament. The Rite of Baptism for Children asks them,

“Are you ready to help the parents of this child in their duty as Christian parents?”

In helping the baptized child to lead a Christian life through word and example, godparents assist the parents “in their duty.” The Catechism of the Catholic Church explains further that godparents “must be firm believers, able and ready to help the newly baptized child...on the road of Christian life.” In choosing a person to serve as a godparent, parents should consider carefully his (her) capacity to provide this help. See additional requirements below.

**Choosing a Sponsor for Confirmation**

Dear Candidate,

You have chosen a sponsor to assist you in faithfully fulfilling your baptismal promises with the help of the Holy Spirit. In choosing this sponsor, you recognize their maturity and practice of the faith to help you conform more closely to Christ.

**Requirements for Godparents and Confirmation Sponsors**

Church Law (Code of Canon Law, can. 874 § 1) requires that the godparent/sponsor be:

- At least 16 years old
- Fully-initiated Catholic (having received the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist)
- Not bound by any canonical penalty (e.g. a person who is married must be in a marriage which is recognized by the Church)
- Leading a life of faith befitting the role to be undertaken (e.g., regularly attending Mass on Sunday and living the faith)
- Not parents of the child

**Use of the Godparent/Sponsor Attestation Form**

These criteria reflect the Church’s view that living the faith is taught best by example. Your chosen godparent(s)/sponsor are asked to give witness to meeting these requirements by completing the Godparent/Sponsor Attestation Form. Please provide them with this form in a timely manner so that it can be returned to the parish of Baptism prior to the celebration of the sacrament.



**Star of the Sea Catholic Church**  
(1404 Pacific Ave., Virginia Beach, VA 23451)

**Godparent/Sponsor Attestation Form for Baptism and Confirmation**

Congratulations! The witness of your Catholic faith now calls you to a sacred role in the life of a child or candidate for Baptism/Confirmation as a Godparent or Sponsor. You will publicly affirm your intention to support and nurture the faith of this child/candidate during the celebration of the sacrament. Please complete this form to attest to your readiness to accept this role. May God bless you abundantly!

I (print full name) \_\_\_\_\_ having been chosen as  
Godparent/Sponsor for (print name) \_\_\_\_\_

who will receive the sacrament of:      Baptism      Confirmation      (Circle all that apply)

affirm that I meet all the requirements of Canons 874§1 and 893§1 listed below and willingly undertake the role of godparent/sponsor.

Requirements for a Godparent/Sponsor:

Canon 874§1

1. At least 16 years old
2. A fully initiated Catholic (having received sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist)
3. Not bound by a canonical penalty (e.g. a penalty due to an invalid marriage\*)
4. Leading a life of faith befitting the role to be undertaken (e.g., regularly attending Mass on Sunday and living the faith)
5. Not a parent of the child

Having read the above requirements, my signature below attests to my eligibility to serve in the role of Godparent/Sponsor and I assume this responsibility willingly. Should I have questions about any of the requirements, I will seek clarification with a parish priest or parish leader.

Godparent/Sponsor signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor or Delegate signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form to the parish Coordinator of the individual to be baptized and/or confirmed. The parish coordinator will complete the necessary information below:

at (name of church) \_\_\_\_\_

in (city/state) \_\_\_\_\_

on (date) \_\_\_\_\_

\*(e.g. a person who is married must be in a marriage which is recognized by the Church)