

St. Matthew the Apostle Parish
335 Dover Chester Road
Randolph, NJ 07869
973-584-1101

CONFIRMATION SPONSOR ROLES, RESPONSIBILITIES & ELIGIBILITY

Sponsors represent the Catholic Christian community to Confirmation Candidates and show them the meaning of being a committed member of that community. The most important roles of Sponsors are to journey with their Candidates and guide them as they prepare to receive the fullness of the Holy Spirit in this Sacrament of Initiation. There are four principal responsibilities of the Confirmation Sponsor:

- To assist, support and encourage Candidates during their ongoing journey to learn about and to live their faith in the Catholic tradition.
- To affirm a Candidate's strengths and point out ways he/she can grow and become better in the practice of faith.
- To set a good example for Candidates of what it means to be a whole-hearted, practicing Catholic Christian – not simply a good person, but a good person who practices their Catholic faith.
- To present the Candidate to the Bishop during the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation.

The church has developed a set of criteria that Sponsors must meet if they hope to fulfill this sacred role and responsibility. The following conditions are set out by the Church for the role of Confirmation Sponsor:

1. Not the parent of the one to be confirmed.
2. Received the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist.
3. At least 17 years of age.
4. Actively participates in the life of their parish community.