

CHOOSING GODPARENTS

SPONSORS:

(Code of Canon Law #'s 872-874)

The responsibility of choosing godparents is a serious one that should be thought and prayed about. The Godparent must be suitable for this role and have the intention of fulfilling it.

The requirements for godparents are:

- Being a practicing Catholic
- Be over 16 years of age
- Have received the 3 Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, First Eucharistic and Confirmation
- Not be under canonical penalty. In other words, if married, it must be a valid marriage by the Catholic Church. If not married, not cohabitating
- Must not be the father or mother of the baptized

Only one sponsor is required for Baptism, male or female, but the Church allows for two, one male and one female. They cannot be two of the same gender.

There cannot be more than two.

The person must fulfill all the canonical requirements for this role.

A baptized non-Catholic Christian, may be present as a Christian Witness along with a Catholic sponsor.

If the godparent cannot be present at the Baptism, with the consent of this godparent, a proxy may stand in his/her place.