



Confirmation

What Do Sponsors Do?

Queen of the Most Holy Rosary

We may agree that as adults in today's world we are used to being defined by what we do. In fact, this is a common first question we ask one another on first meeting. It is a comfortable way to initiate the small talk that at some point might evolve into deeper conversation. Yes, as a Confirmation sponsor, you will have particular things "to do". These may include attending rehearsal, buying a gift, walking with the candidate to the bishop, going to dinner after the liturgy, but you are about to embark on a journey with a young person. What you do is not the primary concern. This is a journey concerned less with what you will do as a sponsor and more with who you are as a person of the Gospel. This journey will take you and a young person to new and exciting places in the life of faith. Faith penetrates the heart of the matter--how has faith penetrated who you are: can a young person read the Good News in the actions of your life?

CALLED TO RELATIONSHIP WITH YOUTH

In your role as a sponsor, you are a minister with youth. You are a part of an exercise in building relationships. These relationships allow young people to know adults who care about them and who are willing to walk as fellow pilgrims on a life-long journey of faith. A special young person has called you into deeper relationship. At the center of this relationship is our faith. And in a particular way, your unique ability to share your faith with this person is more important than the Confirmation program itself. This information strives to help you walk with your young person.

NURTURER AND SUPPORTER OF FAITH GROWTH

You are one of the nurturers and supporters of faith growth for the Confirmation candidate. The integrity with which you live your faith and take care of its growth is as important as the walk in faith you are a part of with the young person. You have been chosen to share that faith which is a gift freely given by God, and that our response to that gift is the challenge of us all as members of the Body of Christ. Communicating with interest and excitement the challenge of living as Catholics in today's world is a wonderful gift to share with youth. We hope that this information inspires you in your own spiritual journey.

BEING PRESENT

Your presence in the life of the young person who has chosen you as sponsor is essential. You can be present in many ways. This information contains some practical ideas. Your relationship has the potential for creating very sacred space between the two of you--holy ground. To walk on holy ground with a young person is indeed a blessing! This information will give you some practical tools for helping a young person grow in faith and at the same time challenge your own faith through the mutuality of the relationship.