

## CANDIDATE RESPONSIBILITIES

Make this catechetical year a priority in your life, by actively PARTICIPATING in all aspects of this Preparation, including:

- weekly attendance at Mass, receiving Eucharist,
- attending Monthly Sacramental Preparation classes, retreats,
- participating in service projects for the parish and community, and
- by being a living example of Christ.

Supply this necessary information **ON TIME** regarding assignments, copies of your Baptismal Certificate, Sponsor information, Letters to Father and the Bishop etc.

## PARENTS RESPONSIBILITIES

Support your child in his/her preparation for this Sacrament of Initiation. Assist your child in choosing an appropriate sponsor to help him/her in this journey.

Share your Spirituality with your child. Demonstrate how God works in your life. Be able to dialogue with your children regarding your own faith formation. Help your child develop a prayer life by sharing how you pray. Encourage your child and family to participate in Parish Missions, Bible studies etc. designed for spiritual growth. Celebrate Mass and Eucharist each week with your child and family. Encourage your family to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation as well. Participate in community and parish service projects together.

## SPONSORS RESPONSIBILITIES

The role of sponsor is to be a “companion on the journey” with the candidate, to be friend and mentor, both during the process of preparation for the sacrament, and beyond. As such he/she should be invited to be an active participant in the preparation process.

Taken from the Diocese of Syracuse Confirmation Guidelines

Each candidate for Confirmation will be accompanied by a sponsor. It is desirable, though not mandatory, that the sponsor who undertook the role at Baptism be sponsor at Confirmation. A sponsor may be male or female and must be at least 16 years of age. *A sponsor must be a Catholic who is fully initiated—that is, he/she has received the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist—and who is in good standing with the Catholic Church.* If they are not members of St. Francis of Assisi they will need to provide a *Certificate of Eligibility from the parish they attend.* A Certificate of Eligibility is a form provided from the Church of Record—not a place of necessarily their Church of Baptism. While parents may not serve as sponsors in the strict sense, they may present their child to the Bishop for the reception of the sacrament.

Sponsors agree to meet regularly with the candidate, sharing your personal relationship with God. Our spiritual journey is a lifelong challenge, help the candidates realize that having a relationship with God is not a ticket to an easy life. Be a friend and mentor to this candidate, during the sacramental preparation and beyond. Pray for and with the candidate, offering encouragement and support and the witness of a life lived in response to the presence of Christ in daily life.