

Being a Confirmation Sponsor Some Important Considerations

Dear Potential Sponsor,

Each candidate for Confirmation, with the help of his or her parents, is responsible for choosing a sponsor. One of our Immaculate Heart of Mary candidates has selected you to be that sponsor.

Sponsors take on a lifelong commitment to help their candidate fulfill the obligation of this sacrament. During the time of preparation, the sponsors are expected to take an active role in the Confirmation process by meeting with their candidates on a regular basis. Sponsors must be present at the Confirmation practice and ceremony. Their role demands time, commitment, and willingness to engage in faith-sharing activities with the candidate.

Note that Church law states that the sponsor must be:

- ❖ at least sixteen years of age
- ❖ a Catholic who has received Holy Eucharist and Confirmation
- ❖ actively participating in and attending Lord's Day Mass (weekend)
- ❖ living according to the Catholic faith (if married, in a sacramental marriage)

Please pray about whether you are able to fulfill this role. If you cannot at this time, let the candidate know right away. If you can, your next step is to take the Sponsor Certificate to your parish of registry and ask a staff member there to witness your signature and add the parish seal to the document. It can then be sent to me at the IHM rectory.

In any case, please keep the candidate in your prayers. Let me know if I can be of help to you in any way.

In gratitude for your service,

Brian Kudro, Parish Sacramental Prep Coordinator
Immaculate Heart of Mary Church
1905 Portage Trail
Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 44223
bkudro@ihmcf.org
330-929-8361 x11

SPONSOR CERTIFICATE GUIDELINES

All Sponsors must turn in a Sponsor Certificate
to Brian Kudro, Immaculate Heart of Mary Church,
1905 Portage Trail, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 44223
by **December 16**, 2019

If the sponsor is NOT a registered active member of a parish in good standing with the Catholic Church, he or she will not be able to obtain the necessary Sponsor Certificate and will not be able to serve as a sponsor. The Sponsor Certificate can be obtained from the parish in which the sponsor is presently registered and active OR the IHM CONFIRMATION SPONSOR CERTIFICATE FORM may be presented at his/her parish for the necessary documentation. Parishes usually have their own form. Either will do.

How to Obtain a Sponsor Certificate:

- Using the IHM CONFIRMATION SPONSOR CERTIFICATE FORM
 1. Take the filled-out form to your home parish.
 2. Have the appropriate person there sign it with you and mark it with the parish seal.
 3. Return it to Brian Kudro at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 1905 Portage Trail, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 44223 (due by December 16).
- Using the Confirmation Sponsor Form provided by your own parish
 1. Call your home parish during business hours.
 2. Tell them you have been asked to be a Confirmation Sponsor and need a Sponsor Certificate. Note: You must be registered at your parish, have received Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist, and be a practicing Catholic in good standing with the Church.
 3. When you have received the certificate, turn it in at the IHM Parish Office to Brian Kudro.
- If you are a registered, participating, and practicing member of IHM
 1. Use the IHM CONFIRMATION SPONSOR CERTIFICATE FORM provided to you by the candidate.
 2. Fill out all information except the signature.
 3. Sign the form *in the presence* of Fr. Jim, or the parish secretary.
 4. Turn the form in to the IHM Parish Office.

IHM SPONSOR CERTIFICATE 2019-20



Due by December 16, 2019

Return to Brian Kudro, Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 1905 Portage Trail, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, 44223, by December 16, 2019. A sponsor certificate from the sponsor's parish is also acceptable. The certificate must be signed in the presence of a parish staff member and sealed with the parish seal.

I, _____ wish to sponsor

(Full Name of Sponsor)

_____ for the celebration of the Sacrament

(Candidate's Name)

of Confirmation to be celebrated at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, on March 29, 2020 at the 4:30 Mass. As a sponsor, I will strive to be a spiritual friend and companion on his/her faith journey.

I affirm that:

I have received the three Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist.

I regularly participate in the Sunday Mass and give witness to my faith in Jesus Christ by receiving Him in Holy Communion.

I actively strive to live out my commitment to Jesus Christ by my loving response to those with whom I come into contact daily.

I will give support to the person I am sponsoring by my prayers and by the Christian example of my daily life.

I am a registered and participating member of

(Name and City of Sponsor's Parish)

Sponsor's Signature – Sign in the presence of a member of your parish staff.

Signature of Sponsor's Parish Priest or Pastoral Minister

Parish Seal