



# St. Joseph Church

A Catholic Community

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## Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) Confirmation Sponsor Norms

*The following is taken from the Roman Catholic Canon Law and can be found at the Vatican website under Title II, Sacrament of Confirmation, Chapter IV, Confirmation Sponsors:*

*[www.vatican.va/archive/cod-iuris-canonici/eng/documents/cic\\_lib4-cann879-958\\_en.html#CHAPTER\\_IV](http://www.vatican.va/archive/cod-iuris-canonici/eng/documents/cic_lib4-cann879-958_en.html#CHAPTER_IV).*

**Can. 892** As far as possible the person to be confirmed is to have a sponsor. The sponsor's function is to take care that the person confirmed behaves as a true witness of Christ and faithfully fulfils the duties inherent in this sacrament.

**Can. 893 §1** A person who would undertake the office of sponsor must fulfill the conditions mentioned in Can. 874 which reads:

- §1 To be admitted to undertake the office of sponsor, a person must:
- 1° be appointed by the candidate for baptism, or by the parents or whoever stands in their place, or failing these, by the parish priest or the minister; to be appointed the person must be suitable for this role and have the intention of fulfilling it;
  - 2° be not less than sixteen years of age, unless a different age has been stipulated by the diocesan Bishop, or unless the parish priest or the minister considers that there is a just reason for an exception to be made;
  - 3° be a Catholic who has been confirmed and has received the blessed Eucharist, and who lives a life of faith, which befits the role to be undertaken;
  - 4° not labor under a canonical penalty, whether imposed or declared;
  - 5° not be either the father or the mother of the person to be baptized.
- §2 A baptized person who belongs to a non-Catholic ecclesial community may be admitted only in company with a Catholic sponsor, and then simply as a witness to the baptism. It is desirable that the sponsor chosen be the one who undertook this role at baptism.