

*St. Charles Borromeo*  
*Office of Religious Education and Formation*  
*2500 Branch Pike*  
*Cinnaminson, NJ 08077 (856) 829-9119*

Dear Sponsor,

Congratulations on being chosen to be a special kind of friend to a young person who is preparing to be confirmed. As a sponsor it is important that you keep in close contact with the candidate. You can share your faith, knowledge, and experiences of being a Catholic Christian. Try to arrange opportunities to spend time with the candidate and to enjoy being together. Discuss what the candidate is learning in preparation classes.

As a Confirmation sponsor, you do have specific functions. The Church describes them as:

- developing a faith relationship with the candidate
- accompanying the candidate, if possible, to special liturgies and Confirmation practice
- standing with the candidate at the Confirmation ceremony
- presenting the candidate to the bishop and the community
- helping the candidate live as a follower of Jesus

Eligibility to be a Sponsor:

- Must have completed the sixteenth year of age.
- Must belong to the Catholic Church and must have received the sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation.
- Must not be prohibited by law from exercising the role of sponsor.
- May be the same sponsor the individual had at Baptism.
- May be a new sponsor selected specifically for Confirmation.
- May be either male or female for any candidate.
- Must submit a note of eligibility from his/her Pastor, if he/she is not a member of St. Charles Borromeo parish.
- Parents may not be sponsors for their children (this is a law of the Church stated in the new code of Canon Law.)

May you continue to be a friend, role-model, helper, and guide on your candidate's life-long journey of faith.

Sincerely,

Saint Charles Borromeo Parish