



St. Mary's Church

Dear Prospective Godparent or Confirmation Sponsor,

Congratulations! It's a great honor to be asked to serve as a Godparent or Sponsor. Before accepting, you should prayerfully and carefully consider the responsibilities involved.

The role you have been invited to accept is more than merely ceremonial. There are commitments involved. The role raises a fundamental question to be addressed: *"Should I allow myself to accept this role and responsibility?"* In other words, *"Can I truthfully and without reservation make a public profession that the faith to be expressed at the ceremony is also a faith in practice in my daily life?"*

The role of godparent or sponsor does not demand that one be a canonized saint. All of us must place ourselves within the mercy of God. We all have miles to go in our daily Christian journey of faith. However, it does call for sincere commitment and genuine effort to live out the Catholic faith we profess.

It's not uncommon for family members or friends who have stopped attending Mass or who rarely receive the sacraments to find themselves asked to serve as a godparent or sponsor. Should you be in such a position, we invite you to see and grasp this moment as a real opportunity for growth in the Holy Spirit and in the faith! If you choose to sign the form on the reverse side of this letter, you have the unique opportunity to make this a time of change, and a moment of recommitment. I would be happy to meet with you and discuss any questions or concerns you may have.

Perhaps, for whatever reason, you are not ready for this. If you are not committed to the full practice of your faith, then by all means—and in all honesty—simply ask the relative or friend who has asked you to be godparent or sponsor to hold you excused. Whatever you discern, please seek the grace of God. Be assured and know that Christ is indeed calling you closer to Himself. You may look back on this time as a key moment of growth in Christ.

If I can be of any assistance in your discernment or in nurturing the grace that this occasion brings, please call me. It would be a joy and privilege to walk this step with you. Thank you for your sincere consideration, thoughts, and prayers in discerning your decision.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Father John C. Maria

14833 Kutztown Road, Kutztown, PA 19530



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Sacramental Sponsor Certificate of Eligibility

In accepting the responsibility of being a Godparent at Baptism or a Sponsor at Confirmation, I truthfully state the following:

- I am at least sixteen (16) years of age;
- I have received the sacraments of Christian Initiation (Baptism, Holy Eucharist, Confirmation) in the Catholic Church;
- If I am married, I have entered the Sacrament of Matrimony in the Catholic Church, and I am living in conformity with the law of the Church regarding marriage;
- I attend Mass every week on Sundays and holy days of obligation, and receive the sacraments of the church (Holy Eucharist and Confession) regularly;
- I understand and accept the responsibilities which I undertake at this time and promise to pay special attention to;

Name of Person to be Baptized or Confirmed

in his/her efforts to fully live in accordance with the spirit and the teachings of the Catholic Church. I am prepared to assist his/her parents or guardians in their duties by my support, encouragement and prayer.

Signature of Applicant

Printed Name of Applicant

Address, City, State, Zip

Email and Phone Number(s)

I certify that the applicant is duly registered in our parish and according to our record and my knowledge, is eligible for service in the role of Godparent or Sponsor.

Signature of Pastor or his Authorized Delegate

Date