

## 15 Tips for Sponsors

- 1 Spend time with your candidate. Be a good listener. Pray together.
- 2 Model Christian values in how you live your life and in the choices you make. Help the young person to understand that doing the right thing isn't always easy.
- 3 Recommend and even buy spiritual reading and music for the young person.
- 4 Expose him/her to professional acquaintances in fields and vocations that he/she seems interested in.
- 5 Share significant faith moments in your life with your candidate.
- 6 Go out and do community service together.
- 7 Encourage him/her to get involved in various ministries and activities at his/her home parish.
- 8 Explore different forms of prayer with your candidate.
- 9 Find 5 other adults who are willing to pray for this young person.
- 10 Create a prayer board for the teen's bedroom where he or she can put up the names of people who are in need of prayer.
- 11 Send a card to the young person on the anniversary of his/her baptism.
- 12 Support his/her parents.
- 13 Learn about your candidates friends. Invite them along when you do things with your candidate.
- 14 Take your candidate to Mass and activities at Church like Stations of the Cross or confession.
- 15 Pray for that young person & ask them to pray for you.

## Important Dates For Sponsors

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- Sunday January 31  
Sponsor is invited to attend Confirmation session with teen @ St Timothy's from 3:45-5pm
- Confirmation Mass rehearsal at St. Peter's in Libertytown on Thursday, June 2 at 7pm
- Confirmation Mass is on Friday, June 3 at 7pm at St. Peter's. Sponsors should arrive by 6:30.
- Anytime the sponsor cannot attend a meeting then a parent should come in his/her place.)

*Secret Sponsor Project* is due into Sandy, Christian Formation Secretary by Monday, April 1. If you don't know what this is please contact your teen's parent or call Sandy at 301-845-8043 x104. Don't ask the teens. It's a secret.

Please mail completed letters to:  
Marissa Alspaugh  
8651 Biggs Ford  
Walkersville, MD 21793  
or email to  
[malspaugh@archbalt.org](mailto:malspaugh@archbalt.org)



## HOW TO BE AN EFFECTIVE SPONSOR GUIDE



*No one enters heaven alone.  
They always enter in pairs.  
~ St. Benedict*

## Confirmation 2015-2016

St. Timothy Catholic Church  
Walkersville, MD 21793  
301 845 8043

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## Dear Sponsors

Thank you for answering the Lord's call to be a mentor to a Confirmation candidate this year. Being an adult, you know that being a Christian is not something easily done in today's society. Our culture tells us to focus on ourselves and to strive towards wealth, power, and pleasure. While our Catholic faith encourages us to look to the other, to embrace suffering, and to be Christ to the world.

One of the greatest gifts God has given us is the example of community exemplified by Jesus and his apostles. They showed us the importance of supporting each other in community. The apostles showed us time and time again that we will all fall short at times, but the merit of a true disciple is getting back up and trying again. Even Peter denied Christ three times.

I am sure that you have had times when you have fallen and strayed. Who was there for you to help you get up and get back on track? A friend, parent, teacher, coach . . . Someone must have been there because you now have a teenager who has chosen you as a sponsor because he/she sees something in you which he/she wishes to emulate. Now you have an opportunity to serve as a support to another fellow Christian. I encourage you to share your faith story with this young person, to challenge him/her to be the man or woman of God that he/she was created to be, and to have fun with each other. Thank you again.

## The Role of a Sponsor

- Called to a relationship with youth
- Called to Nurture & support Catholic Faith
- Called to be Present



### **Tell him/her about :**

- \* Your experience of Confirmation.
- \* Who your favorite saint is and why. Maybe help her select her Confirmation saint.
- \* How the Holy Spirit is active in your life.
- \* How you like to pray
- \* The gifts you see that he/she could offer to the Church (leadership, musical talent, compassion etc.)

### **Ask him/her about:**

- \* How their preparation is going.
- \* Whether he wants to be confirmed and why.
- How different your lives would be if you weren't Catholic.

## My Confirmation Sponsor

I remember my Confirmation day being a very special day in my life. I asked my Grandpa to be my sponsor. He was so honored. I have always thought of him as my angel on earth. He prays for me every day. I often ask him to pray for specific decisions I need to make or things I am worried about. I can tell you honestly that I have felt the impact of his prayers in my life. Throughout the years he has sent me many spiritual books and he reminds me when it's my Confirmation saint's feast day, St Elizabeth Ann Seton.

I know that my Confirmation sponsor has made a great impact on my life. I hope that all of you will be blessed to have as wonderful of an experience with your Confirmation candidate as I have had with my sponsor.  
~ Marissa

*We must pray literally without ceasing, I mean that prayer of the heart which is independent of time and place, which is rather a habit of lifting up the heart to God, as in a constant communication with him.*  
~ Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton