

**Our Lady of the Annunciation, Addiscombe**  
**Sacrament of Confirmation**  
**SUNDAY, 5 NOVEMBER 2023 at 11.30am**

**SPONSOR FORM**

**Who can be a Confirmation Sponsor?**

**What is a Sponsor?**

A sponsor is a person who encourages and assists a candidate to embrace and actively practice the Catholic faith both before and after Confirmation. The sponsor also presents the candidate to the Bishop at the celebration of Confirmation.

**Who Can be a Sponsor?**

Being a sponsor is not just an honour. The sponsor must be an active, practicing Catholic who can be a role model for the candidate. Ideally, you should choose one of your Godparents from Baptism, provided he or she meets the above guidelines. If it is not possible to choose a Godparent as your sponsor (e.g. they are deceased, live too far away, or are no longer a practicing Catholic), then you might ask someone else whom you see as an example of a committed, practicing Catholic. This could be an aunt or uncle, other relative, family friend, parent of one of your friends or a teacher.

**The requirements of the Catholic Church say that a Sponsor:**

- may be either a man or a woman.
- (Sponsors do not have to be the same gender as the candidate)
- must be a fully initiated Roman Catholic (Baptised, Confirmed and has made First Communion)
- is a person who regularly comes to Sunday Mass and celebrates the sacraments.
- must be at least 16 years old.
- may not be the parent or grandparent of the candidate.

**THE ROLE OF THE SPONSOR**

The Sponsor represents the support and prayers of the entire Church. He or she will be the candidate's "spiritual friend". In this program, the following is asked of the sponsor:

- Attend Confirmation classes when invited
- Meet with the candidate regularly throughout this year of preparation and to discuss the topics addressed in the preparation sessions
- Share his/her faith story with the candidate
- Pray for and with the candidate
- Attend the Confirmation rehearsal and Liturgy
- Present the candidate during the Liturgy of Confirmation
- Continue to lend spiritual support even after the Confirmation is over.

Dear Prospective Sponsor,

Thank you for agreeing to be the Sponsor to .....

**A sponsor must be baptised and confirmed in the Catholic Church.**

A sponsor must be at least 16 years of age, and a person considered to be a mature and dedicated member of the Church.

S/he should be someone who can truly support the candidate in many ways, including praying regularly for them. The sponsor should be able to help the candidate understand the teaching of Jesus and help him/her live out that teaching. A sponsor should not be afraid to point out bad habits and help the candidate work at overcoming them. They have the role of helping and supporting the young person as they grow to become adult members of the Church. Therefore, the choice of a sponsor should be taken seriously. They need also to be able to attend the Confirmation at Our Lady's on the 5<sup>th</sup> November at 11.30am.

Yours sincerely,

(Parish Priest)



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**Sponsor, please ask your Parish Priest to complete the following declaration:  
This also includes Fr Keith if the Sponsor is a parishioner of Our Lady's  
Signed sponsor forms must be returned as soon as possible but  
no later than the meeting on Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at 8pm.**

Name of Sponsor (BLOCK CAPTIALS) : .....

Name of Candidate (BLOCK CAPTIALS) : .....

I confirm that the above-named proposed sponsor is a confirmed Catholic and is a member of this parish. I further confirm that he/she is committed to the practice of his/her faith and that this is evidenced by his/her weekly attendance at Mass.

I recommend the proposed sponsor as a suitable person to be a sponsor at confirmation.

Priest's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Parish: \_\_\_\_\_

Priest's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Diocese: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Parish Seal: