

*You have been chosen to be a
Confirmation Sponsor...*

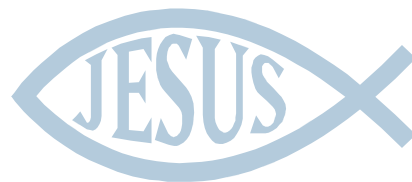
WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE SPONSOR?

Your role as a sponsor can be traced back to the times of the early church. Originally the sponsor played a key role in a person's conversion to Christianity. In times of Christian persecution, when faith and conversion had to be kept secret, the "sponsor" who was known to be a person of faith, spoke on behalf of the candidate and attested to the person's knowledge of and commitment to the faith. The sponsor was promising that they know that the candidate was indeed sincere in his or her desire to become a Christian. Through the years, the role has changed but one fact has not changed. The Confirmation Sponsor is still a person of strong faith, and lives a life that shows a devotion to Jesus' teachings. Through example and in interaction, the sponsor can help guide the candidate to grow in their faith, and make a commitment to keep God central in their lives. As a friend, role model and helper, the sponsor can guide the candidate on a life-long journey of faith.

HOW CAN YOU PREPARE & HELP THE CONFIRMATION CANDIDATE TO PREPARE?


The guidelines, suggestions and required activities are described in this brochure. Please read through the material and take note of each step. Your commitment to this important task will help the candidate that has selected you!

QUESTIONS? CALL US ANY TIME. WE ARE HAPPY TO ASSIST YOU IN ANY WAY THAT WE CAN.



Parish of St. Stephen- The First Martyr
Office of Religious Education
75 Sanfordville Road
Warwick, NY, 10990
845-986-2231
www.warwickinfo.net/ststephen

**Calendar of Events & All Necessary
Forms on Web!
Print Forms as needed or call office to**

Attention Sponsors!!!! The symbol “” denotes an action item for all sponsors! Please take note of these!

COME HOLY SPIRIT...

The Confirmation Sponsor...



Your Role &
Responsibilities

If you have questions or need assistance call 845-986-2231

REQUIREMENTS OF A CONFIRMATION SPONSOR

ALL SPONSORS SHOULD:

- * Be an adult other than the parent of the Confirmation Candidate, and be at least 16 years of age.
- * Have received sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation in the Catholic Church
- * Attend Mass regularly throughout the year
- * Act as an example of how to live a Catholic life that reflects Jesus' teachings.



"Have the Sponsor Form filled out, signed and sealed by the Pastor of the church that you attend (The Sponsor's own church- not the candidate's church- unless they happen to be the same!). Give this signed form to your candidate by September 30th of their 8th Grade year.

GOING BEYOND THE BASIC REQUIREMENTS...

Being a Confirmation Sponsor will provide you with an excellent time to look at and perhaps deepen your own relationship with God. Step back and reflect on your own faith. Since faith is a life-long journey, everyone can benefit from opportunities to expand and grow along the way. If time for prayer slips away in your busy day, now is a great time to find a few minutes for it each day! Beginning and ending each day with simple- sincere prayers can go a long way in

building a stronger relationship with God and will help increase your own awareness of God's presence in your life.

- Check out www.sacredspace.ie or www.bustedhalo.com or many other Catholic websites to give you great ideas for prayers, meditations and articles about Catholic and Christian issues that pertain to the world we live in.
- Stop by the Catholic Gift shop in or near your church to pick up pamphlets or books that may help you.
- Talk to your own priest and let him know you will be a sponsor for someone and ask for guidance if you feel you need it.
- Anything you do to grow in your own faith will help you be a better example to the young person that has asked you to sponsor them.

Growing in Faith together...Candidate & Sponsor Required Activities:

We are asking you to participate in 2 meaningful faith- sharing activities that can provide a great opportunity for you to experience your Catholic faith together.

1 REQUIRED ACTIVITY:



Each Sponsor is asked to write a letter to the confirmation candidate that offers some helpful advice or suggestions on choosing/staying on the "right path" as they enter the High School Years. Please include

some guidance on how God can be relied on in these often- difficult times. The letter should be given to the Candidate during the fall of 8th Grade. The candidate will read the letter and make a poster that reflects the advice that you gave them. Letters may be kept private between the candidate and the sponsor or a copy may be submitted with the poster if both parties wish to share the letter.

SELECT 1 SHARED ACTIVITY FROM LIST



"Go to our website and select one of the shared activities to work on with your Confirmation Candidate. Activities are designed for sponsors that live both near and far from their candidate. **Select one activity with the Confirmation Candidate and complete it by January of 8th Grade year.**

www.warwickinfo.net/ststephen

If you do have web access, please call our office for a printed copy of the Shared Faith Activities, and we will mail it to you.

Mark your calendar! Candidates will be advised of their Confirmation Date- in the Fall of 8th Grade!

Be proud of the role you will play... On the day of Confirmation, you will be side by side with the candidate that chose you and you will be present when they are sealed with the Holy Spirit. All that you are doing to help prepare this candidate will be apparent to you on that special day, and will help to form a life-time bond with this special person in your life.



-- Means this is Required by all Sponsors!!!