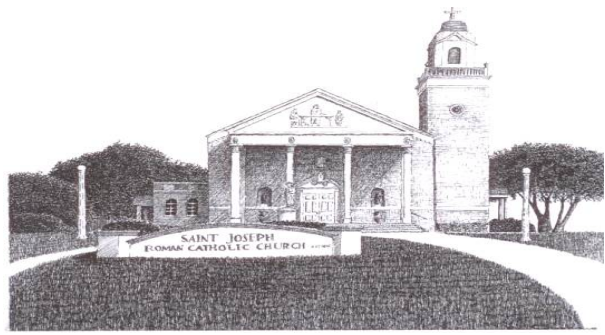


St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church
401 South Adams Avenue
P.O. Box 199
Rayne, LA 70578

Office 337-334-2193
Fax 337-334-2199



Baptism Sponsor (Godparent) Certificate of Eligibility

Church Law (Canons 872, 873, and 874) specifies the role and qualities of a godparent:

- The role of a godparent is to help the baptized person lead a Christian life and to help him/her fulfill faithfully the obligations inherent to the Sacrament.
- A godparent is to be a fully initiated Catholic, i.e., a member of the Catholic Church who has him/herself received the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Most Holy Eucharist.
 - This fully initiated Catholic cannot be suffering from any canonical penalty.
- A godparent is to be 16 years old or older.
- A godparent is to be someone who leads a life of faith in harmony with the duty being undertaken as described above. This moral quality of a godparent implies that as a minimum he/she:
 - is capable of participating fully in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, i.e., that he/she is not prohibited from receiving Holy Communion because of his/her ongoing action(s).
 - faithfully participates in the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Most Holy Eucharist at those times prescribed by God through the Church.
- The father or mother of the baptismal candidate cannot be a godparent.
- In addition to a Catholic godparent(s), a baptized non-Catholic Christian may be selected as a “Christian Witness,” which only provides him/her with a privileged place during the baptism. Please see the “Christian Witness Certificate of Eligibility” form for more information.
 - A baptized Catholic may not be a “Christian Witness.”

I, _____, of _____ in _____
(godparent's name printed) (godparent's church parish) (city & state of church parish)

accept the invitation to be a godparent to _____
(baptismal candidate's first, middle, & last name printed)

for the Sacrament of Baptism at St. Joseph Catholic Church. I affirm that I meet the requirements and moral qualities listed above. I understand that through my own example and witness in the Catholic Church I am called to serve as a companion, guide, and role model to my future godchild.

A copy of one's complete sacramental record (showing all sacraments received) issued from your Parish of Baptism must accompany this form.

(signature of godparent)

(date)