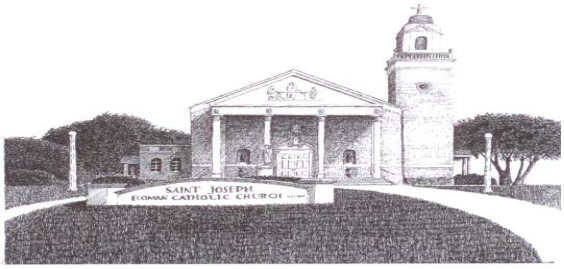
St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church
401 South Adams Avenue
P.O. Box 199
Rayne, LA 70578 **Office 337-334-2193**
Fax 337-334-2199



Baptism Sponsor (Godparent) Certificate of Eligibility

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

Please initial all criteria that you meet.

_____ The role of a Sponsor/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 Sponsor/godparent is to be 16 years old or older.

_____ A Sponsor/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 Sponsor/godparent is to be someone who leads a life of faith in harmony with the duty being undertaken. The moral quality of a Sponsor/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) or state in life such as cohabitating or living in an invalid (civil / non-sacramental) marriage.
- faithfully participates in the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Most Holy Eucharist.

_____ The father or mother of the baptismal candidate cannot be a Sponsor/godparent.

In addition to a Catholic Sponsor/godparent, 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."

_____ _____ **Yes / No**___
Godparent/sponsor Full Name **(Maiden if applicable)** **Birth date** **Married?**

_____ _____
Godparent/Sponsor Phone # **Godparent/Sponsor Church of Baptism**

_____ _____
Godparent/Sponsor E-Mail **Godparent /Sponsor Church of Marriage (if applicable)**

I affirm that I meet the requirements and moral qualities listed above, to be the Sponsor/godparent of:

Name of child: _____
(baptismal candidate's first, middle, & last name printed)

Signed: _____Date: _____
(signature of Sponsor/godparent) **(date)**

A copy of your updated Baptismal Certificate (showing all sacraments received) issued from your Parish of Baptism must accompany this form.

Office use only: Baptism Date:_____ Church _____
First Communion Date :_____ Church _____
Confirmation Date:_____ Church_____
Marriage Date:_____ Church_____
By Priest/Deacon_____