

So who should we choose to be a Catholic godparent?

In order to be a Catholic godparent, you must be a baptized Catholic. Baptized Christians of other faith traditions can stand with the Catholic godparent as a Christian witness to the baptism, but they cannot be one of the godparents. Similarly, individuals who were baptized Catholic are unable to be designated as a Christian witness.

In addition to being a baptized Catholic, the godparent must be willing to assist the parents in the lifelong responsibility of raising the child being baptized in the Catholic faith. They must also be willing to support them by their prayers; by their continued interest in his/her growth as a Catholic; by their personal fidelity to the teachings and practice of Christ and His Church; and by their Christian example in the child/person's life.

To be accepted to undertake the duty of a Catholic godparent, it is also necessary:

- ✓ That one be at least 16 years of age on the day of the baptism
- ✓ That one received the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist in the Roman Catholic Church
- ✓ That one participate regularly in Sunday Mass and receive Holy Communion as a practicing Roman Catholic
- ✓ That one actively strives to live out their commitment to Christ and to the Church through their loving response to those with whom they come in contact with daily
- ✓ That one fulfill their obligations to their parish to the best of their ability in response to the Gospel message
- ✓ That one's current marital status/living arrangements conform to all laws, norms and principles of the Roman Catholic Church.
 - If married have a valid marriage in the Catholic Church
 - If divorced are not remarried, or have had the marriage annulled and their present marriage within the Catholic Church
 - If single, living a chaste life
- ✓ That one is not the father or mother of the child/person to be baptized

As an additional note, there may be one godfather, one godmother, or one of each. You cannot have two godfathers or two godmothers.

For the sake of the Catholic faith of the one to be baptized, choose wisely!