



P.O. Box 858, 2300 Kimberton Rd.
Kimberton, PA 19442
PH: 610-935-1261
FAX: 610-933-7590
Email: dre@stbasils.org
www.stbasils.org

Godparent Qualifications and Procedures

Godparents and parents present the infant for baptism. The role of the Godparent is to help the baptized person lead a Christian life and to fulfill the obligations connected with it. The Roman Catholic Church has established the following requirements for Godparents:

1. Must be 16 years of age or older.
2. Must have received the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation.
3. If married, their marriage must have been witnessed by a Catholic priest or by special exception, approved by the Archbishop.
4. Must be presently **active** in the practice of faith by receiving the Sacraments, especially Eucharist, regularly.

If one cannot sign a statement swearing that the above four requirements are true, they are not eligible under Canon Law to stand as a sponsor and cannot be given a certificate of eligibility by the Pastor. Please contact the DRE if there are any questions, concerns or to address special circumstances.

Only one Godparent is necessary. However if there are two they **must** be of different genders. A baptized Christian witness may take the place of the second sponsor. A Christian witness must be a **practicing member** of a church that has validity with the Roman Catholic Church. Please notify the DRE if this is the case.

Please note that according to Canon Law it is not possible for someone baptized Catholic who now practices another religion to serve as a Godparent.

*An original letter of eligibility from each Godparent's home parish must be submitted to the DRE at least two weeks prior to the desired date of baptism.