

GUIDELINES FOR GODPARENTS AND CHRISTIAN WITNESSES FOR THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

For the Sacrament of Baptism, a child preferably has two Catholic Godparents, who practice the faith and are active in their parish. However, only one Godparent is necessary. When there is only one Godparent, a Christian Witness may also be present; a Christian Witness is not a Catholic, but an active member of another Christian Church.

To be a Catholic Godparent, a person must

1. be at least 16 years old,
2. have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Holy Eucharist, and Confirmation in the Catholic Church,
3. if married, be validly married in the Catholic Church, and
4. attend Mass regularly on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation, receive the Sacraments of the Church regularly, and profess the teachings of the Catholic Church.

To be a Christian Witness, a person must

1. be at least 16 years old,
2. have received the Sacrament of Baptism, and
3. worship at Church regularly on Sundays and be active in the Christian community.

Please note that a Catholic who is not eligible to be a Godparent for whatever reason may not be a Christian Witness. **Also, a person who was baptized and raised as a Catholic, but has chosen to leave the Catholic Church and has joined another Christian Church, may not stand as a Christian Witness at a Catholic Baptism.**