



“Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age.”

Matthew 28:19-20



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A parents' guide to choosing a Godparent for your child



A Catholic Godparent plays a vital role in your child's spiritual development, serving as a lifelong mentor in faith. They provide guidance, support, and a living example of Catholic values, helping your child grow in their relationship with God. The Godparent's commitment to nurturing your child's faith underscores the importance of selecting someone who actively practices and embodies the principles of Catholicism.

This booklet provides some key considerations to help you in making this important choice.

Faith and Practice

Confirmed Catholic:

The Godparent must be a fully initiated Catholic who has received the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist.

Active Faith Life:

The Godparent should be actively practicing their faith, regularly attending Mass, and participating in the Sacraments.

Spiritual Role

Guide and Mentor:

The Godparent should be capable and willing to guide your child in their spiritual journey, offering support, prayer, and advice.

Religious Education:

The Godparent should be committed to helping educate your child in the Catholic faith, supported by the Catholic school and Parish.

Personal Qualities

Good Role Model:

The Godparent should exemplify the Christian values and virtues you wish to instill in your child.

Trustworthy and Reliable:

The Godparent should be someone you trust deeply and can rely on to fulfill their duties.

Considerations for a Good Fit

Close Relationship:

The Godparent should have a close, ongoing relationship with your family.

Communication and Availability:

The Godparent is someone who can maintain regular communication and be present in your child's life.

Other Requirements

Age:

The Godparent must be at least 16 years old.

Not the Parent:

A parent of the child cannot serve as a Godparent.

One Godparent:

While it is customary to have one Godparent of each sex, only one Godparent is required. If you choose two, one must be male and the other female. Other influential figures in your child's life who are attending the Baptism ceremony may be recorded in the registry as "witnesses" if desired.

