

# *The Role of a Sponsor*

You have the honour of being chosen as witness to the confirmand's initiation into full Christian life. Through this sacrament, the confirmand is strengthened by the power of the Holy Spirit, and made a true witness of Christ in word and deed, and invited more deeply into the life of the Church.

Your most significant role in relation to him/her is to be a role model of such witness and unifying love. Your candidate chose you to be their Sponsor because you possess the qualities of a friend of Jesus, you are an active member of the community of faith, and someone who has a basic knowledge of what Jesus taught and who is trying to live by Gospel values.

Some ways in which you can nurture this spiritual relationship all through life are:

- Celebrate the anniversary of this holy day of Confirmation with a visit, call or card.
- Listen to and share in the confirmand's maturing struggles and triumphs in living a Christian life, and keep yourself informed on Christian doctrine and values to be able to answer questions when they arise.
- Encourage a maturing life of faith through special cards, letters, or gifts which celebrate holy events... Christmas, Easter...and personal growth events... Graduations, first job, engagements. (Gift suggestions: a Bible, rosary, spiritual book, religious jewellery, retreat opportunity).
- Most importantly, become a model of Christian living for the person you have sponsored, through daily prayer, virtue and active participation in parish life and liturgy.

By living a Christian life in partnership with the one you have sponsored for full Church membership, you will experience the great joy of sharing a life of faith.

Congratulations, and may God bless you!