

St. Paul's Catholic Church, Nampa

Sponsor Attestation

Dear Sponsor,

The Code of Canon Law of the Catholic Church requires that you meet certain criteria in order to be a sponsor for the Sacraments of Baptism and/or Confirmation (c. 874).

INSTRUCTIONS

- 1) Fill in your name and the name of the person you have been asked to sponsor.
- 2) Review the list of statements that you are attesting to before the Lord.
- 3) If you meet these requirements, sign and date the document.
- 4) Return this form either via email, upload, or give it to the person you are sponsoring.

In lieu of asking you to dig up your baptismal and confirmation certificates, we simply ask that you make the following solemn attestation. Please complete and sign this form and send it to us.

I, *(print first and last name)* _____ solemnly attest before
Almighty God that the following statements are true:

1. I have been requested to be a Sponsor for:

(first and last name of person receiving Sacrament(s))

2. I am a practicing Catholic in good standing with the Catholic Church.
3. I have been baptized and have received the Sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation in the Catholic Church.
4. I am over the age of 16.
5. I am *(check one)*
☐ not married. -- **OR** --
☐ married, and my marriage was witnessed by a priest/deacon and held in a Catholic Church or subsequently convalidated in the Catholic Church.

(Sponsor Signature)

(Date)

Send it in!

You may scan or take a picture of your completed form *(only jpg, png, and pdf formats accepted)* and return by email to: nampaocia@gmail.com or upload at <https://nampaocia.com> (Upload Docs tab). Alternatively, you can give this original physical copy to your candidate to bring to OCIA class. If uploading, please make sure the image is clear!

ABOUT THE OCIA SPONSOR

Helping Prospective New Catholics and Confirmandi in their Formation

“Modern men and women listen more willingly to witnesses than to teachers...”

The above quote from Pope St. Paul VI’s encyclical on evangelization, perfectly captures the vital role played by the OCIA sponsor in the spiritual formation of our candidates currently working through the OCIA process towards sacramental initiation, full reception, or completion of their Sacraments (Confirmation and/or First Holy Communion) in the Holy Catholic Church.

In the OCIA sessions, these souls learn **the what and the why** regarding the many aspects of the Faith; the Sacraments, how to read the bible, the story of creation, the fall, and salvation, various prayers and how to pray, the precepts, moral laws, and virtues, and most importantly the importance of a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

But the vital role of the OCIA Sponsor is **teaching “the how”!** How does the ordinary Catholic layperson live out his or her relationship with Jesus Christ and the Church on a practical, day-to-day basis?

The sponsor does this by accompanying a candidate through the process; meeting with him or her regularly, talking about the journey, listening to the challenges, and sharing with the candidate aspects of the sponsor’s own faith journey and personal story. And as this relationship grows, the sponsor affirms the candidate progress, presenting him or her to the priest, or Bishop, and to the gathered assembly at the various OCIA rites celebrated during Lent and Easter.

The minimum requirements for an OCIA sponsor are:

- Must be 16 years or older. (But preferably someone with lived experience as a Catholic adult for five or more years.)
- Must be a Catholic in good standing (e.g., attends Mass regularly).
- Must have received their own Sacraments of Baptism, Holy Communion and Confirmation.
- Either unmarried, or if married, his/her marriage must have been performed in a Catholic Church (or subsequently convalidated).

THANK YOU!