

Meeting Together: Interviewing Your Confirmation Sponsor

Now that you have chosen your Sponsor, it's time to spend a little more time with him/her to really get to know more about his/her faith journey. After all, the life-long role of your Sponsor is to walk with you and support you on your own faith journey! You may find that you already know a lot about this person, or that there is a lot that you can learn!

Sometime during the summer, please set up a time to meet with your Sponsor to "interview" him/her. It would be best to meet with your Sponsor in person, but if this is not possible because your Sponsor lives far away, you can interview your Sponsor by phone or by Facetime or Skype. You can meet at your house or your Sponsor's house. You could meet for breakfast, lunch, or dinner. You could meet at a park or the beach and go for a walk together. BE CREATIVE!

You should plan to interact with your Sponsor for at least 1 hour for this meeting. But feel free to meet for as long as you would like, or multiple times this summer and through the next year!

Although you will be asking your Sponsor questions in the format of an interview, your meeting should really be a discussion, with you adding your own insights and thoughts to the conversation. AND YOU NEED TO INVITE YOUR SPONSOR TO ASK YOU SOME FAITH QUESTIONS TOO! (Your Sponsor can ask you questions from the list on the next pages or he/she can ask some of his/her own.) You are also welcomed to ask your Sponsor a question that is not included in the list! The questions are there to guide your discussion. You do not need to get through all of the questions, but feel free to do so!

- Start your meeting by praying together!
- > Grab a piece of paper so you can record short answers about what your Sponsor revealed to you and how well you got to know him/her.
- At the end of your meeting, write your name and the date on the top of a piece of paper. Write your Sponsor's name and then have your Sponsor sign next to it. (A parent may sign if the interview was done remotely, so note that on the paper please).
- On the same paper be sure to write short answers to these questions:
 1. What is something important you learned about your Sponsor's faith journey?
 2. Tell about a time when your Sponsor became strengthened by the Holy Spirit.
 3. What is a way your Sponsor shows you an example of humility or holiness?
 4. Do you see your Sponsor as an appropriate guide in your Catholic faith? Why or Why not?
(If you need help choosing another suitable Sponsor, you may always email Katie with any concerns. kdante@sif.org)



Questions to Ask Your Confirmation Sponsor

- 1 . How did you become Catholic? Were you baptized when you were a baby or did you become Catholic as an adult through the RCIA program? Tell me about how you first learned about your faith, whether you were a child or an adult.
2. As a Catholic, what makes you different from other Christians?
3. How do you picture the Holy Spirit? What images come to mind?
When or how have you experienced the presence of the Holy Spirit in your life?
4. What name did you choose for your Confirmation name and why?
5. Do you have a favorite saint (or favorite saints)? Why is he/she your favorite? What is there about his/her life that has helped you on your faith journey?
6. How do you define the word "holy"? Do you know people in your life that you would describe as "holy"? Do you think anyone describes you as "holy"? How does that make you feel? What challenges do you face when you are trying to live a life of holiness?
7. Tell me about an experience in your life when it was difficult for you to be Catholic perhaps a time when you were ridiculed because of your faith or a time when you struggled to believe in the teachings of your Catholic faith. What did you do to "keep your faith" or find answers to your questions during these times.
8. In what ways do you feel that celebrating the Eucharist (the Mass) every week (or maybe every day) strengthens and nourishes you to live as a Catholic? Did you ever have a time when you did not like going to Mass? Do you like going to Mass now? What do you think caused the change?
9. What is your understanding of what it means "to sin"? What does "forgiveness" mean to you? What do you do when you find it very difficult to forgive someone who has hurt you? What do you do when you need to ask forgiveness from someone you have hurt?
10. One very special aspect of our Catholic faith is the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Tell me about your own feelings and thoughts about and experiences with this Sacrament. Is it difficult for you to celebrate this Sacrament or was there a time when it was? What kind of preparations do you find helpful before you celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation?

11. How do you pray? Do you have a favorite place to pray or a favorite time to pray? Do you ever find it difficult to pray? When you pray, who do you usually pray to: God, Jesus, The Holy Spirit, Mary, a particular saint? Who or what do you usually pray
12. Do you regularly participate in service projects or volunteer opportunities at your parish, work, or in your neighborhood? Describe what you do and how it impacts your life.
13. How would you answer someone who told you that "Catholics worship Mary"? Who do you turn to or what resources do you use when you find that you do not know an answer to a question about your faith?
14. Have you ever had a time in your life when you really felt close to God? Tell me about it.
15. Have you ever had a time in your life when you really struggled to believe in God. Tell me about it and how you kept your faith in the end.
16. Who has been a good role model for you to live according to your Catholic faith? What has he/she taught you or shown you? How has he/she deepened your faith?
17. In what ways do you think you still need to grow in your Catholic faith?
18. What is your favorite Scripture passage, verse or story? Tell me why.
19. Through the Sacrament of Confirmation, the gifts we first received at our Baptism:

Wisdom	Understanding
Right Judgment (Counsel)	Courage (Fortitude)
Knowledge	Reverence (Piety)

Wonder and Awe (Fear of the Lord) are strengthened and increased within each of us. These seven special gifts represent all of the gifts and blessings that God gives us to lead a good and holy life. They are special graces that are given to us through the Holy Spirit to enable us to respond to God's call to holiness. Reflecting back on your life experiences and decisions, which gifts have you used a lot? Which gift do you need to use more?

20. What do you think is one of the greatest challenges to being Catholic? What is the best thing about being Catholic?

Don 't forget to ask any of your own questions!
AND REMEMBER- Your sponsor should ask you a few too!