

# ST. JOHN VIANNEY PARISH

## BAPTISMAL GODPARENT FORM

### THE ROLE OF GODPARENTS

To be chosen as a godparent is a special honor. You have been entrusted with the responsibility to participate in this child's Catholic life and education. This privilege offers you the opportunity to develop a mutually enriching spiritual relationship – one that will last throughout this life and beyond. There are many ways you can nurture this spiritual relationship and become a special friend to your godchild. Among them are:

- Celebrate the anniversary of this holy day of baptism each year with a visit, a call, or a card.
- As your godchild grows, listen to and share in the struggles and triumphs of living a Christian life, and keep yourself informed on the Christian doctrine and values to be able to answer questions as they arise.
- Encourage a consistent life of faith through a special card, letter, or gifts which celebrate holy events ... Christmas, Easter... and personal growth events...graduation, first job, engagement. (Gift suggestions: a bible, spiritual book, rosary, religious jewelry, gift certificate of religious goods/books, retreat opportunity).
- Participate in, or send assurance of prayer, as your godchild receives the other sacraments, particularly First Communion and Confirmation, which complete initiation into the Church community.
- Be supportive of your godchild's parents in their role as the primary religious educators of their child.
- And most importantly, become a model of Christian living for your godchild, through daily prayer, virtue and active participation in parish life and liturgy.

By living a Christian life in partnership with your godchild, both of you will experience the great joy of sharing a life of faith.

*The Sponsor's role is to be a good example of Christian Faith for the child being baptized. Together with the parent, the Sponsor (Godparent) presents the child for the Sacrament and help guide them to live a life of holiness. Being a Sponsor is not just an honor given to a good friend or relative. Sponsorship implies a real appreciation of our Catholic Faith, a lifestyle that proclaims the truth, and sense of responsibility toward the young person being baptized.*

### **Canon 874 and 892 of the Code of Canon Law lists these requirements for the valid and lawful sponsorship in Baptism.**

Thus, the Church has established the following norms governing the qualifications needed to be a Godparent. All of these must be true in order to serve as a Catholic Godparent (or proxy). Please check each box indicating your qualifications:

- |   | <b>Yes</b>               | <b>No</b>                |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| • I am at least sixteen (16) years of age   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • I am a Catholic who has been confirmed and has received the Sacrament of Holy Eucharist   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • I am married in a Catholic Church   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • I am leading a life in harmony with the faith and role to be undertaken   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • I am canonically free to carry out this office. This means that Catholics in an invalid marriage (civil marriage only) and those that are cohabitating (living together without marriage) <b>cannot serve as a sponsor/godparent.</b> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • I am not the mother or father of the one to be baptized. (Canon 874.2)  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |



**GODPARENT'S COMMITMENT**

I understand my commitment to the above and accept the responsibility of being a Godparent for:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Child

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Godparent:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Commitment (Date of Baptism)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name of Godparent

**Required Parish Verification**

**To be completed by the Pastor of the Godparents' church and then submitted to St. John Vianney Catholic Church,  
10497 Coloma Road, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670 no less than one month before the date of Baptism.**

I hereby certify that \_\_\_\_\_ is a registered member or lives within the boundaries of this parish; is a practicing Catholic in good standing; and is eligible to serve as a Godparent for the Sacrament of BAPTISM for \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Parish and City: \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor's signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



PLEASE COMPLETE THE ATTACHED GODPARENT REGISTRATION FORM AND THE REQUIRED SACRAMENTAL DOCUMENTS AND RETURN PROMPTLY TO ST. JOHN VIANNEY PARISH OFFICE (Attn: Baptismal Intake Coordinator) BEFORE THE START OF THE BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS.

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