**ST. CLEMENT PARISH – CONFIRMATION PREPARATION PROGRAM**

**CHOOSING YOUR CATHOLIC SPONSOR**

***Dear Confirmation Candidate,***

 Please review the following to help you to choose the best person to be your Confirmation Sponsor!

**What does the word “sponsor” mean?**

The word “sponsor” comes from the Latin word *spondere,* which means to

**“give assurance, promise solemnly”.**

By definition “sponsor” means one who presents a candidate for Confirmation and agrees to undertake responsibility for the candidate’s living out their Catholic faith.

**To be qualified to be chosen as a Confirmation Sponsor an individual must:**

 1) Be at least sixteen years old (by date of the Confirmation Mass)

 2) Have been initiated in the Catholic Church through the three sacraments of Baptism,

 Confirmation and the Eucharist and be in good standing with the Church

 3) Display a visible commitment to living out the Catholic faith and have the ability and

 intention to carry out his/her responsibility as a spiritual guide in the life of the Confirmation Candidate

**Other considerations when selecting a Confirmation sponsor:**

1. A sponsor **CANNOT** be a parent of the one to be confirmed
2. Each Confirmation Candidate may only choose **ONE** sponsor
3. The choice of who should be the sponsor is the Candidate’s decision

**Things to think about before you ask someone to be your Sponsor:**

1. Your sponsor should be willing and able to assist you in the program assignments you will need to complete
2. The person you choose as your sponsor should be someone that you admire and respect and who actively lives out the beliefs of our Catholic faith
3. Your sponsor should be someone that you trust and feel comfortable turning to for help, advice and guidance, especially in regard to your spiritual life.
4. Your sponsor should be someone who, through his/her example, shows you what it means to be Catholic and who will take an active role in your preparation for Confirmation.

**After you receive the Sacrament of Confirmation:**

Your relationship with your sponsor **DOES NOT END** after you have received the Sacrament of Confirmation. You both are called to lead each other closer to God, to continue to grow in knowledge of your faith, and to challenge one another to lead lives of holiness and service.

Be sure to **PRAY,** spend time asking God for guidance on who to choose as your sponsor.