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Champaign, IL 61821
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"The community of believers were of one heart and one mind." ACTS 4:32

Sponsor Approval Letter

Dear Brother or Sister in Christ,

A candidate for the Sacraments of Initiation at St. Matthew Parish, _____,
[CANDIDATE'S NAME]

has informed us that you have been chosen as a his/her sponsor.

The Church looks upon the role of sponsor as one that involves a unique relationship in the journey of faith. Our candidates were asked to give serious consideration to their choice of a sponsor. They have been asked to choose a Catholic who lives out the Faith and serves as an exemplary model of what it means to be Catholic.

Please complete the information below and present this letter to one of YOUR PARISH PRIESTS for his signature and church seal. This letter must be returned no later than February 28, 2017. If you have questions or need assistance, please call me at the Parish Office at (217) 359-4224 [Fax: (217) 359-9846].

Sincerely,
Joe Taylor
Director of Religious Education, Evangelization, and Youth Ministry

REQUIREMENTS OF A SPONSOR

Church law states that the sponsor must be at least sixteen years of age. He or she must be a confirmed Catholic who has received Holy Eucharist and is also a practicing Catholic in good standing with the Church and subject to no canonical penalties or impediments. (If married, the sponsor must be in a valid marriage according to the canons of the Catholic Church.) The sponsor may not be the mother or father of the one to be confirmed.

I HEREBY AFFIRM: (Please initial on each line.)

_____ My faith in Christ and His teachings and my fidelity to the teachings of the Catholic Church.

_____ That I practice my Catholic Faith by regularly participating in the Sunday Liturgy and the sacramental life of the Church.

_____ If married, my marriage has been celebrated in the Catholic Church.

_____ If I have children, my children are being educated in the Catholic Church.

_____ That I am a registered member of _____
Church City

And that I fulfill my obligation to my parish to the best of my ability.

_____ That I have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Eucharist.

_____ That I am fully aware of my responsibilities as a sponsor to provide the Confirmation candidate with the proper example of active, adult membership in the Catholic Church and to encourage the candidate to follow this example.

I do, therefore, affirm that I meet all the necessary requirements to be a sponsor.

DATE: _____

Sponsor Signature

Sponsor Name - please print

(Church SEAL)

Signature of Sponsor's Pastor/Associate Pastor

[Note: Priest's signature is not necessary for Sponsors who are parishioners of St. Matthew, Champaign.]