

Saint Elizabeth of Hungary Parish
89 Arlington St.
Acton, MA 01720

Sponsors at Baptism

A sponsor is primarily responsible for helping “the baptized person to lead a Christian life in keeping with baptism and to fulfill faithfully the obligations inherent in it” (canon 872). “There is to be only one male sponsor or one female sponsor or one of each” (canon 873).

To be a sponsor at baptism, a person must fulfill all the following requirements (canon 874):

- 1. Be designated by the one to be baptized, by the parents or the one who takes their place or, in their absence, by the pastor or minister and is to have the qualifications and intentions of performing this role;*
- 2. Have completed the sixteenth year, unless a different age has been established by the diocesan bishop or it seems to the pastor or minister that an exception is to be made for a just cause;*
- 3. Be a Catholic who has been confirmed and has already received the sacrament of the Most Holy Eucharist and leads a life in the harmony with the faith and the role to be undertaken;*
- 4. Not be bound by any canonical penalty legitimately imposed or declared;*
- 5. Not be the father or mother of the one to be baptized.*

A baptized person who belongs to a non-Catholic ecclesial community may be admitted as a witness to baptism together with a Catholic sponsor.

Parishes are expected to honor these provisions as they are given to us. We respectfully request parents of infants to be baptized and those asked to be sponsors to do the same.

I attest that I meet the requirements of a sponsor at baptism noted above and will do my best to fulfill its responsibilities.

Person being baptized:

Sponsor’s Signature:

Sponsor’s Name:

Witnessed by:

