

## **Role of the Sponsor**

In the early Church, many new members were adult converts. Each Candidate had a sponsor who was a spiritual teacher, guide, companion and witness to the faith of the Candidate before the community. In the Confirmation process of the Church today, the sponsor still has a significant role in the spiritual growth of the Candidate.

The sponsor is called to be:

- A mentor who knows the Candidate well and can be a witness to the spiritual growth of the Candidate before the community of faith.
- A model for the Candidate of how he, or she, can live as a disciple of Christ in today's world
- Someone the Candidate can trust, confide in, and rely on to share the Truth
- A companion who will share the journey of faith, not only through Confirmation, but through a lifetime of discipleship.
- Someone who is willing to grow in their own spiritual life, deepening their faith during the journey

## **Expectations of the Sponsor**

- Attend meetings, workshops, or training sessions for sponsors
- Fully participate in the Liturgical Rites of the two-year Confirmation process
- Make regular contact with the Candidate outside of the required activities, encouraging a consistent prayer life and weekly Mass attendance
- Guide the Candidate to a deeper participation in the Church community