

Godparents for Baptism

The following conditions are qualifications for one to be a godparent. They are regulations stated in the Code of Canon Law. They are the laws of the universal church and are not negotiated at the parish level.

1. There may be one godfather, one godmother, or one of each (Canon 873).
If there are two godparents, one must be male and one female.
2. Godparents are to be at least 16 years old.
3. Godparents must be fully initiated in the Catholic faith (Baptism, Confirmation and First Eucharist).
4. They should be leading a life of faith in harmony with the duty they are undertaking.
5. They may not be the father or the mother of the one to be baptized.

Non-Catholic Witness: A baptized person belonging to a non-Catholic ecclesial community may be admitted as a witness to baptism but only along with a Catholic Godparent.