

## GODPARENT FORM

**You have been asked to take on a lifelong responsibility before God and his Church.** Our Lord Jesus says, “Whoever receives one child such as this in my name, receives me” (Mark 9:37). What is the name of the child for whom you have been asked to be a godfather or godmother?

**Name of the child to be baptized:** \_\_\_\_\_

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* teaches, “**For the grace of baptism to unfold, the parents’ help is important. So too is the role of the godfather and godmother, who must be firm believers, able and ready to help the newly baptized on the road of Christian life.** Their task is a truly ecclesial function. The whole ecclesial community bears some responsibility for the development and safeguarding of the grace given at baptism” (1255). We are grateful for your presence at the Baptism as a representative of the whole Christian community.

**In the Rite of Baptism, you will be asked, “Are you ready to help the parents of this child in their duty?”** Godparents are spiritual fathers and mothers. Please write the names of the child’s parents, and say a quick prayer for them as you promise to help them.

**Parents’ names:** \_\_\_\_\_

The duty referred to in the Rite of Baptism is raising the child in the faith, so that “keeping God’s commandments, he or she may love the Lord and his or her neighbor as Christ has taught us.” You are to help the parents fulfill this duty. The *Code of Canon Law* says, “A godparent helps the baptized person to lead a Christian life in keeping with baptism and to fulfill faithfully the obligations inherent in it” (872). The witness of your life of faith as a disciple of Jesus Christ is essential. **Therefore, in order to take up the responsibility of godparent, please turn the page to sign the Godparent Statement of Faith.**

### **Did you know...?**

- A child must have one godparent, and if there are two godparents, one must be a man and the other must be a woman.
- The godparents must be physically present at the baptism. If that should prove impossible, please contact our parish office at (513) 561-5954.
- A non-Catholic, baptized Christian may serve as a witness to the baptism. This person must fill out the appropriate form and must be of the opposite sex of the Catholic godparent.

## GODPARENT STATEMENT OF FAITH

I, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby state that:

- I am at least 16 years of age.
- I am a fully initiated Catholic (received all three sacraments of initiation in the Catholic Church: Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Communion).
- I “lead a life of faith in keeping with the function to be taken on” (*Code of Canon Law*, 873), namely:
  - I attend Mass every weekend and on Holy Days of Obligation.
  - If I have married, one of the following applies:
    - I have been married within the Catholic Church.
    - I am divorced and have not remarried.
    - My previous marriage(s) has been annulled, and (if currently married) my present marriage is within the Catholic Church.
- I am currently a registered parishioner at the church listed below.

I will make every effort to live a Catholic life that reflects the teaching of the Catholic Church. I am prepared to assist the parents in their Christian duties as Christian parents.

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

## CERTIFICATION BY PARISH

This is to certify that to the best of my knowledge, the individual whose name is signed above is a current parishioner and has adhered to the teachings of the Catholic Church concerning marriage, attends Mass weekly and on Holy Days of Obligation, and receives the sacraments according to the laws of the Church. This person, consequently, qualifies, to the best of my knowledge, as a proper godparent.

**Church name and address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Pastor or representative's name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

(church seal)