

**Sponsor for Baptism
(Godparents)
Can. 874**

To be admitted to undertake the office of sponsor, a person must:

1. be appointed by the candidate for baptism, or by the parents or whoever stand in their place, or failing these, by the parish priest or the minister; to be appointed the person must be suitable for this role and have the intention of fulfilling it;
2. be not less than sixteen years of age, unless a different age has been stipulated by the diocesan Bishop, or unless the parish priest or the minister considers that there is a just reason for an exception to be made;
3. be a Catholic who has been confirmed and has received the blessed Eucharist, and who lives a life of faith which befits the role to be undertaken;
4. not labour under canonical penalty, whether imposed or declared;
5. not be either the father or the mother of the person to be baptized.

A baptized person who belongs to a non-catholic ecclesial community may be admitted only in the company with a catholic sponsor, and then simply as a witness to the baptism.