### Godparent’s PrAYER

Spirit of God, stand by me in this special

work.

Help me understand the needs of this

child;

Help me to recognize the special gifts

you have given to this child;

Help me to encourage him to develop

and share these gifts as fully as they

can.

Fill me with your Spirit that I might

lead, guide, encourage and support this child and his parents.

Speak your living word to me so that I

may share your word with them.

When I am not sure of what to say,

give me the courage to keep silent and allow your Spirit to do the talking.

Come, Holy Spirit, and fill the hearts

of the faithful.

Enkindle in us the fire of your Love.

Send forth, O Lord, your Spirit that we

may be renewed,

So that you may renew through us the

face of the Earth.

Amen.

# Choosing your Child’s Godparents

### Questions to Think about when choosing a Godparent

-Is this a person who participates regularly in the spiritual and sacramental life of the Church?

-Is this a person whose personal life shows the religious and moral values I want my child to learn and practice?

-Is this a person who will be able and willing to explain their faith experience, convictions and growth to my child?

-Is this a person who will be in frequent contact with my child, especially during the early years of personal and spiritual growth?

-Is this a person who will be comfortable, when necessary, challenging me or my child about our faith?

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### A Special role

Too often parents want to honor a special friend, repay a favor, or encourage a non-relative to have a closer relationship with their child. While all of these motives are well intentioned, they are not ideal. Remember that a Godparent serves a special role for the child. Godparents are to represent the Christian Catholic community, the Church. They are to assist you as parents in raising your child in the Catholic faith, so that the child may profess and live it as an adult. Thus if we remember a few basic things about Baptism—it gives a person both a new and special status as a child of God and it makes a person a member of the Body of Christ, the Church—then what you are looking for are Godparents who can truly represent that Christian community.

A Godparent must be an active Catholic, in good standing, who has been baptized and confirmed and is at least 16 years old

* A non-Catholic baptized Christian can serve as a Witness but not Godparent
* It is customary to choose two Godparents, but one is sufficient
* If two Godparents are chosen, one must be male and one must be female


### Requirements

### Suggestions for Godparents

Before the Baptism:

* Pray for your Godchild and his parents
* Help the parents prepare for the Baptism
* Give your Godchild a gift that will convey the importance of Baptism

After the Baptism

* Pray regularly for your Godchild
* Maintain as much personal contact as possible
* Remember your Godchild on special occasions, such as birthdays, First Communion, confirmation, and school events
* Attend Mass with your Godchild
* Encourage them to take part in opportunities for spiritual growth
* Share your own faith experiences

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