St. Francis of Assisi Parish Guidelines for Choosing a Confirmation Sponsor

- 1. The sponsor represents the Christian Community in the Sacrament of Confirmation. It is the role of the sponsor to assist the candidate's parents in enabling the confirmed person to live a full Christian life and to carry out faithfully the commitments of the sacrament.
- 2. To highlight the connection between Baptism and Confirmation, the candidate's baptismal Godparent could be invited to be the sponsor for Confirmation when this is possible.
- 3. So that the role of sponsorship may be realistically and meaningfully expressed, the designated sponsor should be present, as far as possible, for the celebration of Confirmation. (Code of Canon Law #892).
- 4. To act as sponsor, a person must be a Catholic who has received all the Sacraments of Initiation - Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation and lives a life consistent with the role being undertaken.
- 5. Since the role of sponsor involves maturity and wisdom in matters of faith, prospective sponsors are to be at least 16 years of age.
- 6. Each candidate should have one sponsor, either male or female. (The gender of the sponsor does not need to match the gender of the candidate.)
- 7. Parents cannot act as sponsors for their children. Other family members (grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, siblings) may act as sponsors.