



*I baptize you in the name
of the Father and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit*

HOW TO SELECT A GODPARENT FOR YOUR CHILD

Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish,
Queen Creek, Arizona

When Selecting a Godparent, the parent is looking for a Godparent who can show a good example of the Catholic Christian life, is active in their faith and can guide the child in their walk with Christ. According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, it is the duty of godparent(s) to assist the parents in passing on the Catholic faith. The godparent is “able and ready to help the newly baptized . . . on the road of the Christian life” (Catechism of the Catholic Church, No. 1255). Godparents cannot give or support what they do not have. Without the gift of faith themselves, they cannot support the faith in someone else.

- Is not the parent of a child
- Can be male or female; if you want to choose two godparents, one must be male and the other female
- Is not under any canonical penalties by the Catholic Church
- Must be at least 16 years of age
- Has received the sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation, Eucharist, and Confirmation in the Catholic Church
- If married, has received the Sacrament of Matrimony in the Catholic Church
- Regularly receives the sacraments
- Participates in Sunday Mass each week
- Attends Mass on the Holy Days of Obligation
- Follows the teachings of the Catholic church
- Is an active registered parishioner of a Catholic parish, in good standing them in the Catholic tradition
- Is a person of prayer who would be available throughout the child’s life to help and guide

Finally, “a baptized person who belongs to a non-Catholic ecclesial community is not to participate except together with a Catholic sponsor and then only as a witness of the baptism” (Canon 874.5.2).

Please contact the Religious Education office if you have questions (480) 987-0315