

Statement of Faith

For Godparents & Sponsors

- Instructions and Welcome -

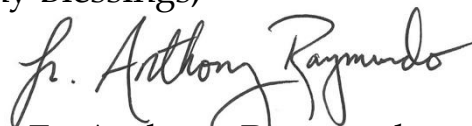
Dear prospective Godparents and Sponsors,

Congratulations! You have been asked to accept a role of great honor – a testament to your close relationship with this family and hopefully with God. The Church takes this role seriously, and we hope you will, too. As a good spiritual mother would, the Church wants her newest children to be provided with good examples of how to live the Faith courageously in the world today.

That would be you! And if that's not you yet, now is the time to recommit yourself to growing closer to God. God is real, and He loves you! Jesus longs to heal your sins and make a truly joyful life possible for you and your family. Please commit to at least the minimum practice of the Faith – Mass every Sunday and confession once a year. Even better, also live as if the Gospel is real and true (it is!), strive to be a saint, and make no accommodation for sin!

The form on the other side of this introduction is all about that. The requirements to be a godparent or confirmation sponsor are strict. Yet, if you commit yourself to one step forward, perhaps you can be a godparent or sponsor in anticipation of your growth in the Faith. This statement of faith should be discussed with and signed by your proper pastor or delegated parish staff. Before bringing this statement to him, bring it to church and quietly speak it out loud before God, with a hand on a Bible or on your heart. If you are unable to do so in good conscience, it is your responsibility to thank the parents but inform them that you are not yet suitable for this role. Once signed, quickly return this form to the parish office where the sacrament will take place. Additionally, keep a copy for your own records. Finally, I highly recommend attending a class to prepare you for your role (like Pre-Jordan) if offered at your parish.

Many Blessings,



Fr. Anthony Raymundo
Parochial Administrator
Sacred Heart – Oxford, PA

Statement of Faith

(For Godparents and Sponsors. Also functions as a Letter of Eligibility or Letter of Good Standing.)

I, _____ *(print full name),*
A parishioner of _____ *(print name of parish),*
solemnly swear that I am a practicing Catholic in good standing.

My responsibilities are solely spiritual in nature and do not include any obligation to raise this child upon the death of its parents. Rather, I will help this child to persevere in the faith and in the Christian life. If the parents do not bring the child to Mass every week and to confession once a year, I will make reasonable efforts to do so in their place.

I have heard Jesus' words of the Gospel: "Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone hung around his neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea." May God's stern punishment and correction be upon me if by my way of life or my lack of practice of the faith, I lead my spiritual son or daughter towards sin or lukewarm indifference.

To this end: I have received Baptism, Confirmation, and First Holy Communion. I attend Mass every Sunday and Holy Day of obligation unless prevented by circumstances outside of my control. I make use of the sacrament of Confession at least once a year. I am validly married in the Church or else living chastely. I am not the father or mother of the child to be baptized. I am over 16 years old or have special permission to be a godparent or sponsor.

If I do not yet fulfill these requirements, I have spoken to my pastor or his delegate about this in detail. With his agreement, I hereby commit to the following:

- Increasing my Sunday Mass attendance from ___ times a month to ___ times a month.
- Increasing my frequency of confession from ___ times a year to ___ times a year.
- Having my marriage blessed (convalidated) by the Church.
- Working towards receiving my missing sacraments.
- Other: _____

Godparent / Sponsor Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Pastor (or Delegate) Signature: _____

*Parish Seal
Optional*