



## *Saint Louis Parish Sacramental Program:* **CONFIRMATION 2010**

### **SPONSOR QUALIFICATIONS**

- **Choose your Sponsor\***
- **Ask your Sponsor to obtain a Sponsor Eligibility Form that is signed and affixed with the seal of the Parish where the Sponsor regularly attends Holy Mass.**
- **Submit Sponsor Eligibility Form by November 1, 2009.**

\*In deciding on an appropriate Sponsor, Confirmation Candidates should look for a person who sets a good example as a Christian and a practicing Catholic, as well as someone who can be a spiritual guide to them during their preparation for Confirmation and beyond. To become a Confirmation Sponsor is to assume a lifelong commitment to pray for and assist the Candidate in maturing as adult Catholics—with the goal of encouraging the Candidate to persevere in the Faith for the rest of their lives! The role of a Sponsor is second only to the Candidates' own parents in the process of preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation. While the Sponsor need not be a family member (it cannot be a parent), nor is there any requirement that the Sponsor be the same gender as Candidate, *The Catechism of the Catholic Church* suggests, "Candidates for Confirmation, as for Baptism, fittingly seek the spiritual help of a sponsor. To emphasize the unity of the two Sacraments, it is appropriate that this be one of the Baptismal godparents" (§ 1311).

### **ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR A CONFIRMATION SPONSOR**

- Must not be one of the Candidates' parents
- Must be 16 years of age or older at the time of Confirmation
- Must have received all of the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Holy Eucharist, Confirmation)
- Must be a practicing Catholic
- Must not be prohibited by Canon Law from acting as a Sponsor (i.e., must be in a valid, Catholic marriage)
- Must obtain a signed and sealed document from their registered parish attesting to their status as a practicing Catholic in good standing.
- In the event that the chosen Sponsor cannot attend the Mass of Confirmation in person, a parent, or other adult, who also fulfills all the above requirements may serve as a Proxy during the actual Mass of Confirmation (if the Candidate needs a Proxy for the Mass, please request a *Confirmation Proxy Form*).