

Holy Trinity Catholic Church
Rite of Baptism
Guidance on Selecting Godparents

What are the responsibilities of the godparent?

- Together with the parents, present an infant for baptism
- Help the parents to raise child in the faith and lead a Christian life
- Help the baptized person to lead a Christian life in keeping with baptism

How many godparents to select?

- One godparent is required and must meet the criteria below
- If there are two godparents, they must be one male and one female
- If there are more than two godparents, they are not listed in the record
- In some cultures, it is common practice to have several godparents. If the child is to have several, only two are listed on the record and at the baptism ceremony.

What are the criteria for eligibility for godparents?

- The godparent must be designated by the parents or other authority to do so
- The godparent must be at least 16 years of age
- The godparent must be a Catholic who has received the sacraments of Baptism, First Eucharist and Confirmation
- Must lead a life which will encourage the child to live a Christian life
- Not the parents

May a Christian (who is not Catholic) be a godparent?

- So long as the requirement for one Catholic godparent is met, a baptized non-Catholic may be listed a Christian Witness