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Statement of Suitability for Serving as a Godparent or Sponsor

Parishes sometimes request letters attesting to the suitability of someone to serve as a godparent or sponsor. St. Joseph (Westphalia) and St. Anthony (Folk) Parishes respect the role of godparent and sponsor in accord with Church law (canon 874), which holds up the godparent/sponsor as a role model for the active practice of the Catholic faith, meant to help nurture the spiritual life of the baptized/confirmed. We generally ask our parishioners to use their own judgment as to their suitability to serve in the role of godparent/sponsor. The present letter can be sent to parishes that have requested a statement from St. Joseph or St. Anthony.

Rev. Dylan Schrader, pastor

*If you are requesting a letter of suitability, please review and, if accurate, sign below.
You may return this statement directly to the parish requesting a letter of suitability.*

I have been asked to serve as a godparent or sponsor in the Catholic Church.

I am at least 16 years old.

I am a Catholic and have received the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Communion.

I understand that a godparent/sponsor is expected to serve as a role model in living the Catholic faith.

I believe and profess all that the Catholic Church teaches.

I actively practice my Catholic faith.

I assist at Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation, unless dispensed or prevented from attending by a serious reason (such as illness).

I am not bound by a canonical penalty that has been imposed or declared.

I am not publicly living in a way incompatible with the full practice of my Catholic faith (examples of situations that would generally prevent someone from serving as a godparent include: living with a member of the opposite sex in a romantic relationship while unmarried; living as if married in a marriage not recognized as valid by the Catholic Church; active membership in a society incompatible with Catholic faith, such as the Masons; publicly rejecting teachings of the Catholic Church; publicly supporting positions considered seriously immoral by the Catholic Church).

I affirm that the above statements are true of me:

Your Signature: _____ **Your Name:** _____ **Date:** _____