

**BAPTISMAL GODPARENT TESTIMONY/PROXYFORM/
TESTIMONIO DE PADRINOS DE BAUTISMO**



**St. Ann Catholic Church
Clayton, NC**

I/Yo, _____, phone number/ número de teléfono _____,
(PRINT Your Legal Name / ESCRIBA su nombre legal)

testify by my signature below that I am qualified to serve as a godparent for baptism in the Catholic Church for/ doy testimonio con mi firma de que estoy debidamente calificado para servir como padrino/madrina de bautismo dentro de la Iglesia Católica de _____.
(PRINT Name of Infant/Child/Adult to be Baptized/ Nombre del bebé/niño/adulto a bautizar)

Baptism Date/ Fecha de Bautismo: _____

Please circle either YES or NO for each question that follows/ Favor de hacer un círculo alrededor del SI o NO para cada declaración que sigue:

- YES/SI NO Are you a Roman Catholic? / ¿Es usted Romano Católico?
- YES/SI NO Are you at least 16 years old? (See a priest or the baptism minister for exceptions.) / ¿Tiene por lo menos 16 años de edad? (Consultar con un sacerdote o ministro de Bautismo para excepciones.)
- YES/SI NO Have you received Confirmation and Holy Eucharist in the Catholic Church? / ¿Ha recibido los Sacramentos de Confirmación y la Sagrada Comunión en la Iglesia Católica?
- _____ **DATE** Baptism preparation course was completed / ¿Fecha en que complete las clases de Bautismo?

Answer the following only if married/ Conteste también las siguientes preguntas, SOLAMENTE si está casado o casada:

- YES/SI NO Was your present marriage celebrated in the presence of a Catholic bishop, priest, or deacon or in another denomination with the written permission of a Catholic bishop? (If not please provide a written explanation.) / ¿Su matrimonio actual fue celebrado en la presencia de un Obispo, Sacerdote, o Diácono Católico o en otra religión con el permiso de un Obispo Católico?

Answer the following only if unmarried/ Conteste también lo siguiente, SOLAMENTE si es soltero o soltera:

- YES/SI NO Are you living with another person in a romantic relationship or as a couple? / ¿Vive usted con otra persona en Unión Libre o está en una relación de pareja?

I sign this document in the presence of a Catholic priest, deacon or pastoral minister of a Catholic parish and understand that by my signature I attest that what I have circled above is truthful. / Firmo este documento en la presencia de un Sacerdote Católico, Diácono, o Ministro Pastoral de una parroquia católica y entiendo que por medio de mi firma testifico que lo que he marcado es verdadero

Godparent Signature/ Firma del Padrino: _____

Church Name /Nombre de la Iglesia: _____

Church Representative's Signature/ Firma del Representante de la Iglesia: _____

Church Representative's Title/ Título del Representante de la Iglesia: _____

Church Representative's Parish/ Parroquia del Representante de la Iglesia: _____

Church City and State/ Ciudad y Estado la de Iglesia: _____

Date/ Fecha: _____

SEAL



St. Ann Catholic Church

Clayton, NC

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE GODPARENT TESTIMONY FORM

A. INTRODUCTION:

The godparent is a most important person in the life of an infant, child or adult who is to be baptized. The godparent is

1) a spiritual role model, 2) an example of the Christian life and 3) the official representative of the Body of Christ, the Church, into which an infant/child/adult is being baptized.

Because of these three responsibilities, the Catholic Church has some minimum requirements it asks all godparents to fulfill in order to serve in this role. Each godparent is asked to complete the other side of this form using this side of the form to answer the questions.

NOTE ABOUT PROXIES: A godparent is not required to be present for a baptism. When a godparent cannot be present, a Catholic parent or the candidate him/herself may ask someone to stand in as a proxy for the godparent as long as the proxy is not one of the parents.

B. THE QUESTIONS:

1. **RELIGIOUS DENOMINATION:** A godparent must be a Roman Catholic because the godparent is an official representative of the Catholic Church. Christians of other denominations whose baptism is recognized as valid in the Catholic Church may serve as a Christian Witness for the baptism of a Catholic. Christians whose baptism is not recognized as valid in the Catholic Church and Non-Christians may not serve as a godparent or Christian Witness.
2. **MINIMUM AGE:** A godparent must generally be 16 by the date of the baptism. For exceptions, see a Catholic priest or the minister who will officiate for the baptism.
3. **SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION:** A godparent is a baptized Catholic who has received Confirmation and Holy Eucharist in the Catholic Church.
4. **FREEDOM TO RECEIVE THE SACRAMENTS:** The godparent is a practicing Catholic who is free to receive Holy Communion when he or she comes to Mass.
5. **MARITAL STATUS:** A Catholic godparent who is married must be in a marriage that is recognized by the Catholic Church. Those in their first marriage must have been married either a) in a Catholic Church ceremony or b) in a church/synagogue ceremony with the permission of the Catholic Church. Catholics in second marriages must have had their first marriage annulled and their second marriage recognized or convalidated by the Catholic Church. Catholics presently in civil or common law marriages are not eligible to serve as a godparent.
6. **UNMARRIED STATUS:** If unmarried, a godparent must be living a life consistent with a single person as defined by the Catholic Church. Anyone cohabitating with another person, e.g., living in a romantic relationship or as a couple, is ineligible to serve.

C. SIGNING AND RETURNING THE FORM:

Bring the completed but **UNSIGNED** form to a Catholic Church and ask a priest, deacon or pastoral minister of that parish to witness you signing the document. This witness must then sign the document and place the parish seal on it. Please return the signed and sealed document to the person in charge of baptismal preparation at the parish ***no less than 14 days before the date of the baptism.*** Forms may be faxed but the original must be received at the ***church office 7 days before the baptism*** in order for the godparent to serve.