Who is a catechumen?
A catechumen is an unbaptized individual who has never been officially initiated into a church community. Going through a process of conversion marked by study, prayer, and liturgical rites at Mass. Catechumens then receive the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist at the Easter Vigil.

Who are the Godparents:
The role of the Godparents for children (Godfather and/or Godmother), is to shadow the parents, therefore the parent may not be the Godparent. Therefore, there may only be one female and/or one male in that role who are fully initiated, practicing Catholics. This means that they have been Baptized, Confirmed, and have received their First Holy Communion. Two Godparents of the same sex are not permitted. This role is more than ceremonial. Godparents are witnesses to the Faith of the Church celebrated in these Sacraments of Christian Initiation. Living, sharing, modeling, and mentoring the same Faith of the Church is at the heart of the role of Godparents.

As a minimum, the Church requires that Godparents be at least sixteen years of age, and, if married, that they are married in the Church. Catholics married outside the Church, or Catholics who choose to cohabitate outside of the Sacrament of Marriage are not permitted to be Godparents due to their irregular lifestyle. It is most necessary that the person is living and practicing the Faith, is a Catholic in good standing, that is, living the Gospel message in their daily personal lives. They should practice the faith regularly, especially by regular participation in Mass, and reception of the sacraments of Penance and the Holy Eucharist.

Who is a candidate?
A candidate is a previously baptized person, either in the Catholic faith or in another Christian faith, and over the age of 18, who desires to come into full communion with the Catholic Church. Their formation helps them understand and experience the specific teachings and practices of the Catholic Church. Their formation, in some cases, may be with catechumens preparing for baptism, but their preparation is very different since they have already been baptized. Candidates receive the sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Eucharist at a time other than the Easter Vigil.

Sponsor:
The role of the Sponsors is to shadow the parents; therefore, the parent may not be the sponsor. Therefore, there may only be one female and/or one male in that role who are fully initiated, practicing Catholics. This means that they have been Baptized, Confirmed, and have received their First Holy Communion. This role is more than ceremonial. Sponsors for Confirmation are witnesses to the Faith of the Church celebrated in these Sacraments of Christian Initiation. Living, sharing, modeling, and mentoring the same Faith of the Church is at the heart of the role of

Godparents and Sponsors. This is the reason why today as throughout the history of the Church the role of Sponsors has been taken most seriously. So, the first consideration when making the choice for a Sponsor center on the Faith and a relationship between believers.

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