



Church of the Visitation

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www.visitacionchurch.org

Godparent Affidavit

Name of child to be baptized (print): _____

Name godparent (print): _____

(If two Catholic godparents are chosen, one of these sheets is required for each godparent.)

Parents may choose godparents for their children from among family or friends qualified to serve in that capacity. Parents may choose a godfather and a godmother or just one godparent. Godparents not only serve as witnesses at the ceremony of baptism but also assist the baptized in leading a Christian life. Therefore, Church law requires that godparents be people who are living the Catholic faith and meet the following qualifications (canons 872-874):

1. They should ordinarily be at least 16 years of age.
2. They must be Catholics who have received baptism, confirmation, and First Holy Communion.
3. They must lead a life in harmony with the Catholic faith (e.g., not living in an immoral situation). Fallen away Catholics may not serve as godparents or Christian witnesses.
4. If they are married, they must be married in the Catholic Church. They may not be divorced and remarried outside of the Catholic Church.

Parents of the child to be baptized may not serve as godparents. If only one godparent is chosen, parents may ask someone baptized in a non-Catholic community to serve as a Christian witness to the ceremony, along the Catholic godparent. A copy of this form is not required for baptized *non-Catholics*.

I hereby declare that I am a registered member of the Catholic parish named below and that I meet the above qualifications to be a godparent for baptism. I also promise that I intend to assist the parents of the child in their duty as Christian parents by being a witness to the Catholic faith and by helping the child to lead a Christian life.

Prospective godparent's signature: _____ Date: _____

Check one:

I am a registered member of the Church of the Visitation, San Francisco, California.

OR

I am a member of another Catholic parish. **(The form below is to be completed by that parish.)**

I certify that (print) _____ is a registered member of our parish, is a practicing Catholic, and is qualified to serve as a godparent for the sacrament of baptism.

Signature of pastor/delegate: _____ Date: _____

Parish name: _____

Parish Seal

City: _____ State: _____