

To: Pastors and Administrators

From: Office of Divine Worship

Re: Confirmation Sponsors

Date: 9/22/20

Cardinal Tobin has given pastors and administrators delegation to confirm children baptized as Catholics until December 31, 2020.

All pastors and administrators are required to review a two-part workshop provided by the office of divine worship found at these links:

<https://youtu.be/6zh250pn0b4>

<https://youtu.be/qZhP0GByj4>

Some questions have arisen regarding sponsors and proxies during the pandemic. The following quotes from the workshop should suffice to clarify:

There is a sponsor for each candidate who presents them to the (priest) and helps them fulfill their baptismal promises. A godparent can be a sponsor which would show the link between baptism and confirmation

Sponsor Requirements:

- Chosen by candidate
- Sufficiently mature (16 +)
- Fully initiated Catholic
- Not impeded by law
- Not the father or mother

In the case of a sponsor who is unable to attend the celebration of Confirmation, a proxy may be appointed to serve in the role of sponsor. A parent may serve as proxy.

Since the sponsor needs to put their hand on the shoulder of the candidate, a proxy from the candidate's household should be used if the sponsor is not from the same household.

For questions please contact the Office of Divine Worship 973.497.4345.

Thank you.