



Godparent Letter of Good Standing

Child's Name (please print): _____

The 1983 *Code of Canon Law* provides specific directives for the role of godparent.

- *"The godparent together with the parents present the child for baptism, help the child to live a Christian life befitting the baptized and faithfully to fulfil the duties inherent in baptism"* (Can. 872).
- Usually there are two godparents (one male and one female) for the child. *"One godparent, male or female, is sufficient; but there may be two, one of each sex."* (Can. 873).
- *To be admitted to undertake the office of godparent, a person must:*
 - 1) *"Be appointed by the parents, be suitable for this role and have the intention of fulfilling it"* (Can. 874.1).
 - 2) *"Be not less than sixteen years of age, ... unless the parish priest considers that there is a just reason for an exception to be made"* (Can. 874.2).
 - 3) *"Be a Catholic, who has been confirmed and has received the blessed Eucharist, and who lives a life of faith which befits the role to be undertaken"* (Can. 874.3).
 - 4) *"Not be under a canonical penalty, whether imposed or declared"* (Can. 874.4).
 - 5) *"Not be either the father or the mother of the child to be baptized"* (Can. 874.5).
- *"A baptized person who belongs to a non-Catholic ecclesial community may be admitted only in company with a Catholic godparent, and then simply as a WITNESS to the baptism"* (Can. 874.2).

According to 1983 *Code of Canon Law* #851.2, *"the parents of an infant who is to be baptized and likewise those who are to undertake the office of sponsor/godparent are to be properly instructed in the meaning of this sacrament and the obligations which are attached to it."*

The Baptism Preparation Program at St. Hugo's consists of one evening session offered on the first Wednesday of each month, from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM. Parents and at least one godparent are required to attend the preparation session.

I declare that I am a participating member of _____ Parish and I fulfill the requirements to be a godparent. I promise that I intend to faithfully assist the parents of this child in their Christian duty to bring up their child in the Catholic faith and help their child lead a Christian life.

Godparent's Name (please print): _____

Godparent's Signature: _____

Priest or Deacon Signature: _____

Date: _____