

Sponsor Registration Form

A Sponsor plays a very important role in the journey of someone interested in becoming Catholic. A Sponsor/Godparent is a practicing Catholic in good standing with the Church, who accompanies the catechumen or candidate during the rites and periods of election, initiation, and mystagogy. You will offer support, guidance, and help the individual feel at home among Catholics and our parish community. Attending meetings regularly with your catechumen or candidate is a helpful, but not necessary, way to stay connected.

Name (please print) _____ Date _____

Address _____
Street/Apt No. City State ZIP

Phone number _____ Email Address _____

☐ I am an active registered parishioner of the Church of the Magdalen.

OR

☐ I am an active registered parishioner of another Catholic church.

Name of Church _____

I am Roman Catholic and have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation.

☐ Yes

☐ No

Please check ALL that apply:

☐ I have never been married.

☐ My spouse and I were married in the Catholic Church.

☐ My spouse and I were not married in the Catholic Church.

☐ I am widowed.

☐ I have been divorced in the past.

☐ I am committed to sponsor: _____

OR

Name of Inquirer and relationship

☐ I will be a sponsor to anyone who needs me.



CHURCH OF THE

Magdalen

316-634-2315 • 12626 E 21st Street N • Wichita, Kansas 67206

Be disciples. Make missionary disciples!

A sponsor is a Roman Catholic who commits himself or herself to travel along the journey of faith with the Catechumen or Candidate as this person discerns God's call and his/her response in faith.

An OCIA sponsor is a practicing Catholic who lives a life of the sacraments, attends Mass weekly, goes to confession regularly, and adheres to all the teachings of the Church. The Sponsor is delegated by the parish to accompany a Catechumen or Candidate on their journey into the Church.

- **Spiritual Guide & Witness:** Shares their faith, models Christian character, and gives public testimony of the candidate's moral readiness and intentions.
- **Companion:** Offers friendly care, answers doubts, and helps integrate the candidate into the life of the Gospel and the parish community.
- **Liaison:** Communicates honestly with the pastor or OCIA coordinator if the candidate has reservations or is not ready to advance.
- **Lifelong Support:** Continues to pray for and help the new Catholic remain faithful to their baptismal promises long after receiving the Easter Sacraments.

Sponsors can effectively support their OCIA Catechumen or Candidate by focusing on four core areas: personal connection, spiritual sharing, parish integration, and ongoing encouragement.

1. Build a Personal Connection

- **Meet regularly:** Commit to a consistent schedule and stay in touch via occasional texts, calls, or cards.
- **Be accessible:** Make yourself available for questions, offer rides to meetings, or invite them to share a meal. Maintain contact after they join the Church, offer support, and help them enter parish life.
- **Lead by example:** Model a faithful Christian life and show authenticity by sharing your own struggles with living the faith.

2. Share Faith and Scripture

- **Reflect on Sunday readings:** Share your faith life around the upcoming Sunday Scripture readings.
- **Share your story:** Talk about God in your life, your Catholic beliefs, and what keeps you active in the Church.
- **Offer spiritual gifts:** Pass along a favorite religious book or an extra rosary.

3. Integrate into the Parish

- **Attend OCIA sessions:** Walk alongside them by attending their scheduled classes and tracking their progress.
- **Worship together:** Go to Mass together and discuss the liturgy afterward.
- **Introduce the community:** Connect them with other parishioners and invite them to participate in parish ministries.

4. Encourage Spiritual Growth

- **Foster dialogue:** Ask what draws them to Christianity and encourage open discussions about their classes.
- **Support progress:** Guide their development in prayer, Christian doctrine, and parish mission.
- **Pray daily:** Commit to praying for your candidate and all catechumens every day.

Thanks for your interest in accompanying one of our Catechumens or Candidates on their journey to membership in the Church. Please review “The Role of a Sponsor” to understand how to best accompany your Catechumen or Candidate. While you are encouraged and welcome to attend all events, that may not be practical. Here are some guidelines for when the Sponsor’s attendance is vital.

Wednesday classes for Catechumens & Candidates: Dinner: 6pm, Class: 6:30-7:45pm

- It is very good to attend, but it is not necessary.

Please note – dates and times are subject to change, especially the Rites of Sending and Election For Catechumens (those seeking baptism):

Rite of Acceptance: Sunday Nov. 8, 2026, 9:30am Mass

- The sponsor should attend this if you live in the area, but if you are unavailable, let us know and we’ll get a proxy.

Rite of Sending: Sunday, February 7, 2027, 9:30am Mass

- It is good to attend this one, but not essential.

Rite of Election: Sunday, February 14, 2027, location (Wichita area) and time to be determined

- The sponsor should attend this if you live in the area, but if you are unavailable, let us know and we’ll get a proxy.

The Scrutinies: First: Sunday, February 28, 2027, 9:30am Mass; Second: Sunday, March 7, 2027 9:30 or 11:30 Mass (tbd); Third: Sunday, March 14, 2027 9:30am Mass.

- It is good to attend, but not essential.

Retreat and Practice for Easter Vigil Mass: Saturday, March 27, 2027, 8am

- It is important to be there so you can help direct your Catechumen/Candidate that evening.

Easter Vigil Mass: Saturday, March 27, 2027, arrival time likely around 7:30pm

- Be there.

For Candidates (those already baptized)

Rite of Welcoming: Sunday, November 8, 2026, 9:30am Mass

- The sponsor should attend this if you live in the area, but if you are unavailable, let us know and we’ll get a proxy.

Rite of Call to Continuing Conversion: Sunday, February 7, 2027, 11:30am Mass.

- It is good to attend this one, but not essential.

Penitential Rite: Sunday, March 15, 2027, 11:30am Mass

- It is good to attend this one, but not essential.

Retreat and Practice for Easter Vigil Mass: Saturday, March 27, 2027, 8am

- It is important to be there so you can help direct your Catechumen/Candidate that evening.

Easter Vigil Mass: Saturday, March 27, 2027, arrival time likely around 7:30pm

- Be there.

Questions? Contact: Jessica Durbin at OCIA@magdalenwichita.com or Pat Searle at 316-841-8304