



Practical suggestions for sponsors

The sponsor's role is one of support and modeling the Christian life. These are a few ideas that may help you connect with the person you are sponsoring. Some may also be included in the faith formation plan for that person. In addition, you may want to choose an idea or two to try throughout the journey. The choice is up to you. Each sponsor and seeker are different, so trust your instincts and enjoy the process!

- Pray regularly for the person you are sponsoring
- Exchange phone numbers and email addresses
- Try to arrive a few minutes early for sessions and events so they can always find you
- Ask them to let you know if they will miss a session or event
- If they miss a session or event, check in with them prior to the next one
- Check in with them regularly to ask how they are doing with their OCIA plan
- Check in regularly with them to ask how they are doing personally and spiritually
- Invite them to attend parish activities or events with you, such as Mass, service opportunities, small groups or studies, etc.
- Introduce them to other parishioners
- Extend an invitation to attend a baptism, a weekday Mass, a reconciliation service, or other liturgical event with you
- Get to know their family as appropriate
- Share good Catholic resources (books, magazines, DVDs) or go to a Catholic bookstore together and browse
- Invite them to coffee or lunch sometime to visit about their journey
- Send a birthday card, a Christmas card, or even a small gift
- Research and discuss a saint (or a few saints) together
- Give an appropriate gift at the time of their initiation