

SAMPLE LETTER TO THE ARCHBISHOP

Dear Sponsor or Godparent,

Since the Presider at the Rite of Election accepts catechumens, in the name of the church founded on the election by God, and he calls those who were already baptized to deeper conversion during the Lenten period, your statement, although brief, is very important. The Presider needs to know of their growth and commitment.

The following is offered as a guide for the letter you are asked to write. Please feel free to adapt it to include other important information.

ADDRESS THE LETTER:

Dear Archbishop Rozanski,

BEGIN:

I would like to recommend (*name the person for whom you are godparent or sponsor*) of (*name of their parish*) for the Sacraments of Initiation [*or for full reception into the Catholic Church or for completing her/his Christian Initiation*]. (Ask your coordinator what the difference is if you do not know.)

THEN, IN YOUR OWN WORDS:

1. Tell how long you have known the catechumen or candidate for whom you are a godparent or sponsor.
2. Give some statement about the faith and sincerity of the person. You may wish to include some examples of how that person has grown during their preparation or how she/he is living the life of a faithful Christian.
3. Name or describe gifts or qualities that you believe this person will bring to our church community.
4. Include any other statements you would like to make about the person's faith.

CLOSING:

Sign your name

Add the word "Godparent" or "Sponsor" after your signature.

FINALLY:

Please give your letter to your parish coordinator. The letters should be mailed together from your parish before January 19 so that they can be read prior to the *Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion* on February 17 & 18, 2024.

The envelope should be addressed:

Rite of Election
Office of Christian Initiation
20 Archbishop May Dr.
St. Louis, MO 63119