

RCIA Sponsor

➤ Overview

The Sponsor accompanies a person seeking Christian Initiation. This role is exercised throughout the period of preparation for the celebration of the sacraments of Christian Initiation. The RCIA Sponsor helps, through personal presence, to connect the person with the whole parish and Church community. The sponsor is a witness to the person’s moral character, faith and intention.

➤ Activities/Responsibilities

- Offers information about the daily practice of the faith and provides information or services about the Church.
- Offers feedback to the RCIA Catechumenal Director about the progress of the participant’s faith development.
- Participates in discerning the person’s readiness for the next steps in formation.
- Actively participates in the liturgical life of the parish and participates in the Catechumenal Rites in each phase of the process.
- Attends RCIA sessions when possible.
- Seeks to be a friend, companion, guide and model throughout the initiation process and beyond.

The Activities/Responsibilities listed above may not completely reflect the ministry performed at this parish. Please refer to the ‘Other Specifics’ box for duties that are specific to this parish.

Other specifics:

➤ Skills, Experience, and Qualifications

- Is a fully initiated member of the Catholic Church in good standing
- Must be at least 18 years of age.
- Is familiar with Christian Initiation and the teachings of the Catholic Church.
- Can relate effectively and communicate clearly with others.
- Is willing to commit as a companion for a particular person for the duration of the program.

➤ Personal Traits and Qualities

- Desires to serve the community and to commit time and talents to this ministry.
- Needs to be a person of prayer.
- Honest, dependable and can maintain strict confidentiality.

Volunteer Ministry Position Description – RCIA Sponsor

- Has a helpful, supportive and non-threatening attitude in working with those seeking Christian Initiation.
- Is comfortable with being accountable and is sensitive to the observance of proper boundaries.
- Ability to communicate the joy and goodness of the Catholic tradition while respecting the religious experience and faith journey of others.
- A spirit of generosity.

➤ **Orientation and Training**

Standard parish orientation program

➤ **Participant Group**

Those seeking Christian Initiation and other RCIA Sponsors

➤ **Support, Supervision, and Evaluation**

The RCIA Catechumenal Director is the first level of support, supervision and evaluation.

➤ **Length of Ministry Appointment**

___ year term.

➤ **Benefits and Working Conditions**

Will have a direct impact on the faith journey of those seeking Christian Initiation.

This is a volunteer position requiring a time commitment of ___ hours per week/ ___ hours per month.

Must be able to attend the orientation session and those sessions and events which require the presence of the RCIA Sponsor..

➤ **Screening Recommendations**

This is a General risk position.

Completion of a Volunteer Information Form is required.

Training and orientation are required

There will be supervision and periodic evaluations.

This ministry position description accurately reflects the Ministry of RCIA Sponsor

currently practiced at _____.
(Parish Name)

Parish Volunteer Screening Committee

Pastor

Date

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