

Do you need a "letter from your parish/pastor?"

You have been asked to be a Baptismal/Confirmation godparent/sponsor.

You are about to be married outside your parish.

WHY?

Priests ask for one of these simple form letters from "your parish" to make sure that **those whom they do not know** are eligible to be godparents or to contract the Sacrament of Matrimony validly.

"**Your parish**" is the one in whose territory you now live or the one in which you worship regularly. It is not necessarily the parish of your childhood, in which you were baptized, received Holy Communion and Confirmation.

Make an appointment to see your parish priest. Someone else cannot do this for you.

SPONSOR/GODPARENT LETTER

He will ask if you (a.) are a member of the parish, (b.) are practicing Catholicism and (c.) are determined to be a good role model and baptismal or confirmation godparent. He will then issue you a "Sponsor/Godparent Eligibility" letter.

LETTER OF FREEDOM

He will ask if you are bound by a previous marriage. He will then issue you a "Freedom of State" letter.