

## Lay Marianist Formation Program

### Sponsor Affirmation Template

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*This template is for Sponsors to use during the commitment ceremony for new Lay Marianists.*

**Context:** During the ceremony, there will be a moment to affirm the commitment of your mentee. The way this portion of the ceremony works is as follows. We will go one-by-one through each participant making their commitment. When we come to your mentee, the ceremony leader will introduce them by name, and they will read a short, personally written, Statement of Intent that they have prepared. This statement is their way of stating what their commitment means to them. The ceremony leader will then introduce you as their sponsor and ask you to affirm their commitment. You will read the formal statement affirming that your mentee's intentions are authentic, and then add personal remarks as you see fit. After each participant/sponsor couple has gone, the cohort of individuals making their commitment will read an act of consecration together.

**Instructions:** Your affirmation will consist of a formal statement followed by personal remarks (see below). Please complete this template ahead of time by adding your own personal remarks to the affirmation you will read. Either print it out or have it available digitally to use during the ceremony.

**Personal Remarks:** In addition to the formal statement, you are encouraged to add in some short, personal remarks in affirmation of your mentee. This is your time to reflect on the good qualities of your mentee and let both them and everyone else know why they will be such a wonderful Lay Marianist. However, please be courteous of the group and the amount of available time. We will have many sponsors that need to share, so we ask that you keep your personal remarks in the range of one to three sentences.

I, [your name], affirm that [sponsor's name] has discerned a commitment to the Marianist Lay Communities in good faith and is prepared to live the Marianist charism in alliance with Mary for the next year.

Personal Remarks: