

CHOOSING A CONFIRMATION NAME

Below you will find some information about choosing a Confirmation name. The name you choose will be the name by which you are introduced to the bishop before he signs you with the chrism on your Confirmation day. Please read this information carefully. If you already know the name you are choosing, we have books and other resources that will help you to research your name. You can also go on the Internet and enter “Catholic saints” or the specific name of a saint and there will be plenty of information. When you find information on your saint, read it and then use it to write about and answer the questions below. **DO NOT PRINT A COPY OF THE INFORMATION YOU FIND ON THE INTERNET AND SUBMIT IT AS YOUR ESSAY. USE THE INFORMATION TO WRITE YOUR ESSAY.**

Each of us is identified by our name. When you were baptized, your parents chose a name for you. This name was somehow significant to them—perhaps it was also the name of a family member or someone else whom they admired. Perhaps they chose it because of its meaning. When you confirm your Christian identity in the sacrament of Confirmation, you also choose a name for yourself. You may choose to keep your baptismal name if it is the name of a recognized saint (or some form of that name). This is very appropriate since it expresses the relationship that exists between Baptism and Confirmation. If you prefer not to use your baptismal name as your Confirmation name, you may choose another. This allows you to honor someone (an historic figure, a public figure, a family member, a personal friend, etc.) whose Christian witness can or has made a difference in the world.

Whatever name you choose, it must be the name of a recognized saint of the Catholic Church. Names of saints are chosen as patrons/models of Christian living. You should choose a name not because it sounds nice, but because of the life of the saint whose name you choose.

Your Name: _____

Saint’s Name: _____

Saint’s Feast Day: _____ Place of Birth: _____

Name or derivative you have selected: _____

Write an essay on separate paper about this saint’s life. Include information about the saint’s:
(Essay should be neatly done and preferably typed.)

Family

Occupation

Death

In the essay answer these questions:

What virtues did this saint practice in his/her life?

What aspects of this person’s Christian life attracted you?

How is this saint a model for Christians today?

Why did you choose this saint’s name for your Confirmation name?

Also, ask your parents how they picked the name you received at birth. Include their reasons for choosing your name in the essay.

DUE DATE: at the first Confirmation Class in the Fall, date TBA. We encourage you to work on this now, and send it in when complete.

Please attach this sheet to your essay. In your essay, include the information specified above and answer ALL questions.