

St. Anthony † St. Cecilia † St. Margaret-St. John

EASTSIDE PASTORAL REGION

CHOOSING YOUR CONFIRMATION NAME

When you are confirmed, you have the option of choosing a “Confirmation name.” If you decide to choose one, it must be the name of a Catholic saint, an Old Testament saint, or Christian virtue. A Confirmation name is chosen for the following reasons:

1. A name change is symbolic of a change in your life that brings you closer to God. In the bible we see many name changes such as Abram to Abraham, Simon to Peter, and Saul to Paul. In this same way, you may choose a Confirmation name to signify that you too are experiencing a key moment in your spiritual growth as you receive the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Confirmation and become a fully-initiated member of the Catholic Church.
2. The saint whose name you choose is someone who is a role model of living out the faith for you. You choose this name because something about the life of this saint inspires you. They then become a role model for you in the manner in which you follow Christ. For example, someone who feels close to God when they are out in nature may be inspired by the life of St. Francis, or some may be struck by a quote by St. Augustine or St. Thomas because it helped them to grow in their faith.
3. When you choose a saint’s name, that saint is also a patron saint for you. This means that you will ask for their intercession (prayers for you) during your life as an aid in following Christ.

F.A.Q.

1. *Do I change my name after Confirmation?*

No. You will continue to use your regular name. Some people choose to consider their Confirmation name as an additional middle name.

2. *Can I choose the name of a relative?*

You may only choose the name of a Catholic saint, an Old Testament saint, or Christian virtue. If you have a relative whose name is a saint’s name, the name may be used. However remember that the Confirmation name is chosen as a devotion to the saint, not as a way of honoring a friend or relative.

3. *Do I have to choose a Confirmation name?*

No, you may be confirmed using your regular name. But don’t miss this opportunity to connect yourself with one of these holy role models and intercessors, or with a specific virtue.

4. *How do I find saint names?*

There are a number of web sites you can use to look up saint names. One good place to start is:
www.catholic.org/saints/patron.php

CONFIRMATION NAME FORM

Return to your teacher or the D.R.E. by December 15. If you do not turn in a Confirmation name form by December 15, it will be assumed that you are using your first name to be confirmed.

Your name _____

Confirmation name _____