

CONFIRMATION NAME FORM 2020-2021

Choosing a Confirmation Name *“I will give them an everlasting name.” ~ Isaiah 56*

What’s in a name?

When you were born, your parents choose your name. They may have chosen your name in honor of a special person in their lives: a grandparent, aunt or uncle, or close friend. They may have chosen your name for the meaning behind it. Perhaps they chose your name because they felt a close connection to a holy man or woman of our faith - one of the saints. Maybe they just really liked your name! Most likely, it was a combination of many factors.

(If you do not know why your parents chose the name they did for you, why not ask them about it?)

Your name gives you an identity; it tells others who you are. Throughout our lives, we will identify ourselves with many names- the name of the mascot of our high school or college; the name of the region of the country we live in; the title of the career we choose.

However, there is a name above all names that, through our Baptism, we should strive to be known to the world by- and that name is Catholic Christian. At your Baptism, you were called by name, and christened to become a child of God. You entered into the Catholic community by name.

Now it is your turn!

As part of your preparation to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, you have the privilege and responsibility, just like your parents did when you were born, to choose a name.

- Your Confirmation name should reflect your closer identification as a member of the Catholic Christian community.
- The name you select can be associated with someone in your life, your parish, or your community whom you respect and admire. Many Confirmation candidates select a name from a parent or grandparent, honoring them for their example of love and holiness.
- Your Confirmation name should be the name of a saint.
- You can choose your baptismal name or you can choose a new name.
- Your Confirmation name follows your middle name, i.e. “Amy Leigh Anne Lester”
- PRAY! Just as you should pray about any decision you have to make, ask the Holy Spirit to guide you as you choose a saint as your patron.

Where should I begin to choose a Confirmation name?

One of the gifts of the Holy Spirit, which you will fully receive at Confirmation, is the courage to make good choices that will help you to live an authentic Christian life. The **saints** are prime examples of authentic Christian living. Notice how these people loved. How did they work for peace? Who served the needs of the poor and the oppressed? Who showed compassion and gentleness? Who prayed and worked so that others may come to know Christ? When we draw from the living Spirit of God within us, we are called into deeper relationship with Jesus Christ that is nurtured through an active life of prayer, worship, study and Christian action. Believe it or not, even the saints struggled in their lives the same way we all do. It was their lives of authenticity that did not allow them to give up on themselves and therefore give up on God when they struggled. Keep all of this in mind when choosing your Confirmation name. ***Try to pick the name of a saint whose life demonstrates certain characteristics that you would like to develop in your own life.***

There are a variety of books depicting the lives of the saints and there are many Catholic websites that you can use to research the saints. Here are a few:

- <https://mycatholic.life/saints/>
- <https://www.catholic.org/saints/>
- <https://lifeteen.com/blog/biggest-best-list-confirmation-saints-guys-girls/>

Once you have chosen your Confirmation name, complete the form below and turn it in to the Sacred Heart Office of Youth Ministry on or before January 26, 2020.

Candidate's Name: _____

Confirmation Name: _____

My chosen saint is (be specific): _____

Characteristics of this saint that I admire are: _____

I have chosen this Confirmation name because: _____

<p><i>FOR EXAMPLE: (Name) Teresa; (Saint) St. Teresa of Calcutta (Name) Martin; (Saint) St. Martin de Porres</i></p>
