



CONFIRMATION NAME

As a candidate for the Sacrament of Confirmation, you have two options concerning the choice of a Confirmation name:

1. Stay with your present Baptismal name (your first name). This shows the sacramental connection with the first and second part of your initiation into the Catholic Church – Baptism and First Eucharist. To stay with your baptismal name would demonstrate that you feel there has been a continual growth in your faith and you now wish to make this formal through Confirmation.

2. Select a saint's name symbolizing a new beginning in your faith life and a connection with that particular saint.

Selecting a Saint's Name

When taking a name other than your baptismal name, the candidate for Confirmation selects the name of a person who has officially been declared a saint, blessed, or venerable by the Church or a person who is one of the faithful from the Bible.

How to select a Saint's name?

1. Life-time saint friends.

Candidates should recognize that they are not simply choosing a name they like, but they are asking a saint to be their friend for the rest of their lives. We call these life-time saint friends “patrons.” Patrons help us live as Christians both through their praying for us (intercession) and their good example (witness). (cf. CCC 2156, 956)

2. Read stories about the Saints.

More than likely, candidates are not too familiar with many saints. Take time read the lives of the saints. There are many different books on saints. The internet also has many different websites on the saints. One place to start is to search websites such as the following:

- <http://www.catholic-forum.com/saints/indexsn1.htm>
- <http://www.catholic.org/saints/calendar>
- <http://gnm.org/saintscalendar>

You might start your reading with a saint that has similar interests. Sometimes, patrons are chosen because of their feast day falls on your birthday ... e.g. if your birthday is November 3, you would chose Martin for St. Martin de Porres. Sometimes, patrons might be chosen because of family ties, e.g. a grandfather's name is Mark, grandpa is a great person, so you would choose St. Mark. You might even start with your own baptismal name. There are many different starting points for choosing a particular saint. Ultimately, the patron chosen should be someone that you want to imitate in his/her love for Christ and others.