



## Choosing a Confirmation Name



**“I will give them an everlasting name.” ~ Isaiah 56**

### **What is in a name?**

***When you were born, your parents chose 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.

***Your name gives you an identity in Christ.***

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.

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 close identification as a member of the Catholic Christian community.
- † The name may be associated with someone in your life, your parish, or your community whom you respect and admire.
- † Your Confirmation name should be the name of a Catholic saint.
- † You can choose your baptismal name (Church recommends) or you can choose a new name.
- † Your Confirmation name follows your middle name
  
- † PRAY! Ask the Holy Spirit to guide you to choose a saint as your patron and someone who can intercede for you throughout your life.

### ***Where should I begin to choose a Confirmation name?***

There are a variety of books depicting the lives of the saints! Some of these books tell the life story of one saint in particular, and others give a brief story about the lives of numerous saints so you can read about many holy men and women all in one place. Websites are another great resource to research a Catholic saint who inspires you.

<https://lifeteen.com/blog/biggest-best-list-confirmation-saints-guys-girls/>

<https://www.catholic.org/saints/patron.php>



## Choosing a Confirmation Sponsor



### What is a confirmation Sponsor and why do I need one?

† A Sponsor is a person who walks with the candidate on the journey of faith leading to Confirmation.

† A Sponsor represents the larger Church – the entire community of believers.

† A Sponsor should be a special kind of friend to you, with whom you can share your faith. If your Sponsor lives out of state or a distance, please also choose someone that can be a proxy sponsor to participate with you on a more regular basis.

† Part of your faith journey is shared experiences, and we recommend that you have someone close that can be part of your faith journey.

† Sponsors should be willing to share their own faith, knowledge, and experience of being Catholic with you.

The Church, knowing the basic need of people to feel secure and welcome, require a sponsor to assist you on the final stages of the initiation process – your journey of faith. Ideally your relationship with your sponsor will not end with the ceremony but flourish as you continue to grow in your faith. Faith growth is a life long process.

### Who can be a Confirmation Sponsor?

† Someone designated by the one to be confirmed.

† Be at least 16 years old. (Recommended age 21 or older).

† A sponsor must be a fully initiated Catholic (one who has celebrated Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist), and who leads a life in harmony with the faith and the role to be undertaken.

† One who witnesses to their faith by participation in worship and involved in the life of their parish community.

† Not bound by any church penalty.

† A sponsor may not be the parent of the candidate but could be, a brother, sister, aunt, uncle, godparent, parent of a friend, neighbor or parishioner you have come to know and trust.

† A person who lives close enough to you to be present to you as you prepare for Confirmation.

† A person you have a comfortable and positive relationship with which you can share your faith and everyday life experiences.

† A person willing to help you live as a follower of Christ.

† A person willing to engage in the confirmation process as a means of enhancing his or her own growth as a Catholic adult.

† A person who will be willing to pray for you on your journey.

† A person who will be able to attend sponsor meetings, Confirmation Rehearsal and Confirmation Mass.