

The Choosing of a Christian Name

Many people choose an additional saint's name at Confirmation. The preferred name, however, is the baptismal name (provided it is the name of a recognized saint) because it expresses the relationship that exists between Baptism and Confirmation.

If a new name is taken it should be the name of a recognized saint of the Catholic Church. Names of saints are chosen to serve as patrons and models for those being confirmed. Candidates should choose a patron saint's name, not because of the attractiveness of the name but because of the attractiveness of the Christian life that the saint led.

Find out more about your patron saint's life. Write a brief report about your saint to include the following information:

1. Saint's Name
2. Feast Day
3. Saint's place of birth
4. Find out something about the saints:
 - a. Family
 - b. Occupation
 - c. Life and/or death
5. What virtues did this saint practice in his/her life?
6. What aspects of this person's Christian life attracted you?
7. How is this saint a model for Christians today?
8. Ask your parents, or whoever named you, how they picked the name you received at birth? How did they choose your baptismal name? Write a paragraph about what you found out.

Reports should be submitted to your Confirmation mentor on **January 8, 2012**. You will be asked to share your paper with the class.