

Due: March 18, 2012

CHOOSING YOUR CONFIRMATION NAME

As a candidate for the celebration of the sacrament of confirmation, you have options concerning the choice of a Confirmation name.

1. You may choose your present baptismal name (your regular first name) if it is a saint's 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 is a continual growth in your faith and you wish to make this formal through Confirmation.
2. You may also choose the name of a person (must be a saint's name) who inspires you or a saint's name. (Many candidates choose the name of a close relative because that relative has truly been a model of faith for them.) This would symbolize a new beginning in your faith life and a connection with that person or saint. This would be especially appropriate if you are now making a renewed commitment to your faith. Your commitment would be symbolized with the taking of a new name to show in some ways that you are a new person. This new name would be used after your present middle name and before your family surname.

The name chosen would represent the direction you feel your faith life is taking, or would represent a strength or attribute you feel you need. It is important and necessary to know something about the person or saint before you decide on a name.

The option of taking a new name is not to be used because you like the sound of the name, how it fits with your other names, or because it is the name of a nice friend or relative.

Whether you are choosing to keep your present name or take a new name - you need to write 2 paragraphs about your choice.

If you chose to keep your Baptismal name, the first paragraph is to be about why you are choosing to keep your baptismal name. The second paragraph is to be about the person or saint for whom you are named.

What significance or meaning does this saint hold for you? What do you hope to gain for yourself by modeling yourself after this person or saint?

If you choose to take a new name, the first paragraph is to be about the particular person or saint whose name you are choosing. The second paragraph is to be about why you are choosing this name.

What significance or meaning does this saint hold for you? What do you hope to gain for yourself by modeling yourself after this person or saint?

Please remember to include the feast day of your saint and include the resource used

Resources:

Butler's Lives of the Saints, The Catholic Encyclopedia and *Saint of the Day*, (available in parish library)

Internet resources include: www.catholic.org/saints