

The Choosing of a Christian Name

As the Bishop anoints the head of the Confirmation Candidate he will use a Christian name. Candidates for Confirmation may use their Baptismal name if it is a Christian name or they may choose a saint's name to be confirmed by. This name is a sign of who you want to be like, it reflects your Catholic identity. That is why it is often a saint's name.

Names of Saints are chosen for those being baptized and/or confirmed to serve as patrons and role models. Candidates should choose a patron saint's name, not because of the attractiveness of the name, but because of the Christian life that person led. Whether using your Baptismal name, or another saint's name, you should choose one that is meaningful to you.

Use the following guiding questions to help you choose a patron saint that best suits you and your faith.

Saint's name

Saint's Feast Day

Saint's place and date of birth

Find out about the saint's family, occupation, life, death etc.

Think about why you would chose this saint as a patron?

What virtues did he/she practice in his/her life?

What is this saint best known for?

What aspect of this person's Christian life attracted you?

How is this saint a model for Christians today?

Don't forget to ask your patron saint to pray for you especially as you prepare for Confirmation. If you don't know what to say try this: Saint _____, pray for me. Guide me to find God in my own experiences as you found God in yours.