

## YOUR CONFIRMATION NAME & SAINT REPORT:

### BACKGROUND AND INSTRUCTIONS

There has been a long tradition of selecting a saint's name for Confirmation. This tradition is optional. In fact, the Church actually strongly encourages all Confirmation candidates to keep their Baptismal names, as these are the names with which they first began their covenant journey with Christ. If you choose to have a specific Confirmation name, your decision should not be made "on a whim." The name you choose should be based off of an in-depth study of a Saint or person from Scripture. This person's life should have special meaning to you, and should serve as a great example for your own life.

Receiving a name at Confirmation has a number of different sources in the history of the Church. In Scripture, receiving a new name is often associated with a change of life. When Jesus told Simon that his new name was now Peter (Matthew 16:18), it was because his role was changing and he was going to be asked to take on a role of leadership. When Saul had his great conversion, the risen Lord gave him the name Paul (Acts 13:9). Furthermore, when God established his first covenant with Abraham, God changed Abraham's name from Abram and Sarah's name from Sarai. Their new names showed their change in life as God's chosen people (Genesis 17). There are a number of other characters from Scripture that we see this happen to as well. To take on a new name at Confirmation similarly carries with it the idea that you are asking for the Lord to change you. You're asking Him to affirm you like He's never done before and to give you strength to live your faith more fully and with more life than you ever could have imagined.

Again, the Saint you pick should have significance to you. You may take St. Francis because you like his poverty or his love for animals. Or if you're aspiring to be a doctor consider St. Luke or St. Pantaleon. Thinking about joining military? Then look at St. Joan of Arc, St. George, or St. Sebastian. The list goes on and on. The idea is to pick somebody who says something about you. When you stand before the Bishop the day of your Confirmation and you tell him your name, say it with a pride and with conviction that the Holy Spirit is going to change you forever.

On the back of this paper, you will find instructions and suggestions to help you choose a name and motto, and to write your Saint report. Your chosen name, motto, and report are due

**Monday, January 28, 2019**. Please do not hesitate to see

Chris Mariano or your catechist for help!



## Suggestions for Choosing a Saint:

- Feel free to go to your library to find books and information on Saints, or use your school's online databases. Below are reliable and valid websites to also use for research. These website have numerous saints, categorized by their name, patronage, and feast day.

[www.catholic.org/saints/patron.php](http://www.catholic.org/saints/patron.php)

<http://www.scborromeo.org/patron.htm>

[www.catholic-forum.com/saints/patron02.htm](http://www.catholic-forum.com/saints/patron02.htm)

## Here are a couple tips to help you in choosing your Saint:

- Saints are incredibly different. Some were evil men and women before they allowed Christ into their hearts and others were pious for their whole lives. If you study a Saint's life you are sure to find one you can personally relate to.
- Saints, just like us, had hobbies and interests. Look for a Saint who shares your passion for something. For example, Sebastian is the patron of athletes and Raphael is the patron of love.
- Don't just look for your name. There probably is a saint that has the same name as you. You can look at these saints, but make sure to find a saint that you have something in common with. In other words, don't just choose a saint because they share your name.
- Some Saints are associated with specific needs or places. If you find yourself in need of some special prayers right now in your life, consider choosing a saint that addresses your need. For example, St. Roch is the patron saint of knee problems. Saints have also been associated with some towns and countries. If you have a strong attachment to a particular location, this would be a great place to look for a saint. Mary of the Immaculate Conception is the patroness of the U.S.A., while St. Rose of Lima is the patroness of South America.

## Saint Report Requirements:

- Must be one full page, typed, double-spaced, in size 12 standard font, and uses standard margins.
- Include the following details about your Saint:
  - What they are the patron Saint of
  - The year of their birth, death, and date of canonization (if given)
  - A summary of their life – include the main details!
- Explain why you chose this Saint
- Tell us what you would like to imitate about your Saint's life
- Please cite what source(s) you use!

\* Please don't copy the biography of your saint. Any papers that are plagiarized in this way will need to be rewritten.

*\*If you would like to keep your baptismal name, please still research a Saint that you can model your life after, choose a motto, and write the Saint Report.*

**DUE DATE: MONDAY, January 28, 2019**