

Choosing a Name for Confirmation

In the Book of Isaiah we read, “I have called you by name: you are mine” (Isaiah 43:1). Your name was spoken aloud on the day of your Baptism and it became part of your identity as God’s child and a member of the Catholic Church. A great deal of thought went into your parents’ choice in naming you. You may be named after a relative, a special family friend, or a saint your parents greatly admire. Now that you are becoming confirmed, you have the opportunity to think in a new way about your name and how it relates to your decision to be confirmed. Before you begin looking for a new name for Confirmation, begin by looking at what your given name means.

Name given at Baptism:

What does my given name mean?

Why did my parents choose this name for me?

What qualities do I want in a name?

I have called you by name; you are mine.
Isaiah 43:1

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Reaffirming Your Baptismal Name

Although it is traditional to take a new name at Confirmation, it is not required. Instead, you may want to reaffirm your baptismal name, if it is a saint's name, since the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation are so closely related. Confirmation seals and strengthens the faith and grace you received at Baptism. You may also choose to add a new name at Confirmation. This decision indicates your new awareness of how Confirmation will help you live as a disciple of Christ. The name you choose must be a Christian name—the name of a saint or one of the great men or women from the Bible who have gone before us in faith. Spend time prayerfully reflecting about your choice as this is an important decision.

My Confirmation Name will be:

I choose this name because...

My name is based on Saint...(tell at least one story about your saint)

Good websites for choosing saints:

<http://www.catholic-saints.info>

<http://jsomosierra.wordpress.com>

<http://www.newadvent.org> (click on 's')

<http://www.americancatholic.org/features/saints/patrons.asp>

<http://www.catholic.org/saints/patrons.asp>

<http://www.catholic-pages.com/dir/saints/asp>

<http://www.catholicsaints.net>

http://www.vatican.va/news_services/liturgy/saints/index_saints_en.html

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