

Confirmation Saint Report Due November 5th, 2019

Almost everyone has at least two names: a first name and a last name. Your first name tells others who you are. Your last name tells others what family you belong to.

Names are a sign of power. When you were baptized, all sin was forgiven *in the name of* the Father, of the Son, and the Holy Spirit. You were given a “Christian” name – the name of one of the saints or heroes of the Bible, for example, who became your “patron.” You can find many examples in the New Testament of the Apostles curing and forgiving in the name of Jesus. And you might remember Bible stories in which a person’s name was changed to show that he or she had entered into a new relationship with God – Simon became Peter, Saul became Paul, etc.

Your Confirmation is an opportunity to enter into a deeper relationship with God and with the Church. One Confirmation custom is to choose a new name to symbolize this relationship. This “Confirmation name” is used in the rite of Confirmation, when the bishop will ask for your name. You may even choose your baptismal name, because there is a close relationship between Baptism and Confirmation.

Pick a saint’s name that would symbolize a new beginning in your faith life and a connection with that particular saint. This would be especially true if you felt that you have not been particularly strong in your faith and are now making a renewed commitment to your faith. Your commitment would be symbolized with the taking of a new name to show that you are in some ways a new person. This new name would be used after your present middle name and before your family name.

The particular saint’s name chosen will represent the direction you feel your faith life is taking, or will represent a strength or attribute you feel you need. It is important and necessary to learn something about the saint you choose before you decide on that name. (This 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, nor because it is the name of a nice friend or relative.)

Include the following:

1. Which saint have you chosen for your Confirmation name and why?
2. What is the feast day of your chosen saint? Are they patron saint of anything? Are there any symbols associated with them and why?
3. A brief biography of your saint – when they lived, family life, occupation, death, etc.
4. How your saint served God and how they practiced their faith in their life.
5. Bonus: Include a picture of your chosen saint.
6. Bonus (Part 2): Include an intercessory prayer to your saint, or a favorite quote by your saint.

*Must be **typed** – and don’t forget to include **your** name at the top!

*Do **not** simply copy and paste information from a website – that is called *plagiarism*. Also, do **not** make the information so vague and general that it could be about any saint. You are better than that, and the saint whose name you choose to take on as your own deserves better than that.

Websites to Get You Started

- “Find YOUR Saint”: <https://lifeteen.com/blog/find-your-saint/>
- “How to ‘Choose’ a Patron Saint”:
<https://www.catholiccompany.com/getfed/how-to-choose-a-patron-saint/>
- “Saints A to Z”: <https://www.catholic.org/saints/stindex.php>
- “Biggest and Best List of Confirmation Saints (For Guys and Girls)”:
<https://lifeteen.com/blog/biggest-best-list-confirmation-saints-guys-girls/>
- “7 Epic Saint Stories”: <https://epicpew.com/7-epic-saint-stories/>

You can also look up “obscure saints,” “patron saints,” “patron saint of [fill in the blank],” “awesome saints,” etc. Have fun!