

SAINT NAME REFLECTION AND PROJECT

Why A Saint Name For Confirmation?

The saints, our teachers. What an incredible gift we have in the communion of saints. The saints are like us! They are our ancestors, our teachers, our friends, our siblings. They are real, truly human. They are sinners, they are repentant children of God. The saints lived on this earth and experienced suffering, joy, pain, broken promises, peace, frustration, war, injury, heart-break... they know our hearts. But mostly, they know what it takes to be united with God here on this messy earth. They know what it takes to live a life for Him.

We choose a Confirmation saint (like we choose a Confirmation sponsor) not out of due diligence to the “rule,” but rather because we realize how unfortunate it would be to travel alone. We recognize how important it is to know your Confirmation saint not only by name, but also by story.

You choose the name of a saint who inspires you. This symbolizes a new beginning in your faith life and a connection with that saint. Your commitment to “spread and defend the faith” that you are making at Confirmation is symbolized with the taking of a new name to show that you are in some way a new person. This practice of taking a new name is found throughout both the old and new testaments as a sign of conversion or change. The patron saint becomes a role model for the person, and an example of how the Gospel can be lived in a practical way. Saints are heroes of the faith who lived their lives as examples of faith, hope, and love.

You will select a confirmation name and complete a reflection paper on this, your “Confirmation Saint”. The confirmation name chosen is the name by which you will be presented to the Bishop at Confirmation and what you will be called by when the Bishop anoints you with. Candidates must complete the Saint Paper, to complete confirmation

The saints have so much to teach us about this journey. Know their story. But, mostly know the power of their prayer. Ask for their intercession like you would ask for the prayers of your friends. Saying “yes” to a Confirmation saint is like saying “yes, you may always pray for my poor and weary soul.” I pray that in this process you don’t just find a Confirmation saint, but instead an incredible friend. After you select your Saint name, share it with your family, sponsor and friends. FYI, your Saint name will not change your legal name in any way.

Writing Your Saint Name Reflection

Once you have chosen your Confirmation name, you will complete a reflection of that saint. **The paper must be 1-2 page (double-spaced, 12pt font).** The paper should include a short biography about the saint and also why you chose that saint. Was there something this saint experienced in his/her life that you connected with? Did he/she have qualities that you like that might have touched you in some way? Is the name you chose someone from your family, or someone you really respect? Be prepared to teach your class something specific about your chosen saint.

SAINT NAME PROJECT GUIDELINES

- If possible, candidates are encouraged to choose a Saint who has not been selected by others in the confirmation group.
- Candidates will let the catechist know who the Saint is for their project. Catechist will give information to Confirmation Coordinator.
- We want to encourage candidates to learn about their chosen Saint and express their learning in their own words. Please do not copy and paste from the Internet. Use the Internet as a research tool only. Projects must be hand written.
- Poster Board for display - White Poster Board (standard size only please). Please include:
 - o Picture/s of the Saint, their works
 - o A small biography of the Saint and why you chose them

The project is due during the year.