

## The Tradition of the Confirmation Saint Name

Saints are people who have been exemplary followers of Christ. As we are initiated into the Church, we become members of the community of Christians who came before us and those who will follow us. We recognize the virtues of the saints who set an example for us of how to be like Jesus.

Your name gives you an identity; it tells others who you are. When you were baptized, your parents chose your name. Now that you are about to be confirmed, it is time to choose the name you will take as a sign of your growth in Christ in your Catholic Faith.

The tradition of taking on a new name to show a new role can be traced back to the Old Testament. When Abram was called to lead his people to believe in the one true God, his name was changed from Abram to Abraham meaning “the father of many nations.” Again in the New Testament we find Simon’s name changed from Simon to Peter, meaning “Rock” because he was to become the rock upon which Jesus founded His Church

Many people choose an additional saint’s name at Confirmation. Others choose to keep the saint’s name that was given to them at Baptism. Your Confirmation Name should reflect the NEW role you will undertake as a more mature Catholic.

It is your choice whether to keep your Baptismal name or choose another name for Confirmation. If you wish to choose a new name, you need to select a recognized Catholic saint for your Confirmation name. The saint should be chosen because his/her life is one that you admire and would like to use a model. If your Baptismal name is not that of a recognized saint, a new name should be chosen for Confirmation.

As part of the process of choosing a Confirmation Name, you will need to complete a Saint Project. The purpose of this saint project is to give you more information about the holy person you have chosen as a role model. If you were named for a saint at Baptism, this project is an opportunity to talk with your parents about the virtues of the saint and what led them to choose your very special name.

There are many sources of information about the saints. Books, encyclopedias and Catholic websites are just a few of the places where you can find information. Be aware that not all internet sources are created equal. For this reason, the following sites are suggested:

Suggested web sources:

[www.disciplesnow.com](http://www.disciplesnow.com)

[www.americancatholic.org](http://www.americancatholic.org)

<http://www.catholicity.com/encyclopedia/saints.html>

**After you decide on a name, complete the assignment on the back of this page. You may use additional paper if needed.**

**IHM Confirmation Prep Program 2015**

**Saint Project**

**DUE BY JUNE 15, 2015**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Saint's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Feast Day \_\_\_\_\_

Where did this saint live and work? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

When did this saint live? \_\_\_\_\_

What is this saint most known for? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What virtues did this saint practice? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Why did you choose this saint? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

How is this saint a model for Christians today? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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**If you have chosen your Baptismal saint's name, ask your parents how they came to choose this name for you, Write a summary of their answer here.**

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