

Confirmation Program Saint Report

Due to Mrs. Acevedo no later than **February 11, 2024**.

BACKGROUND

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 have decided to become confirmed, you have the opportunity to think in a new way about your name and how it relates to your faith journey.

During the Rite of Confirmation at your Confirmation Mass next year, our Bishop will call you and the other Confirmandis (candidates) by a “Confirmation name.” Many Confirmandis choose a new name; that new name is listed after the candidate’s middle name and before his or her family name (last name), for example, Jacob Michael **Francis of Assisi** Brown. This year, you will take some time to choose your Confirmation name.

As a candidate for the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation, you have two options concerning the choice of a Confirmation name:

- 1. Use your baptismal name** (your regular first name) – *as long it is a saint’s name that can be chosen as a role model and researched*. This decision shows that you have already started a relationship with your name saint. Using your baptismal name as your Confirmation name exhibits a connection with the first and second part of your initiation into the Catholic Church – baptism and First Eucharist. To use your present baptismal name would demonstrate that you feel there has been a continual growth in your faith and you now wish to make this formal through Confirmation. You will write a saint report about the saint of your baptismal name.
- 2. Choose another saint’s name**. This new name symbolizes a new beginning in your faith life and a connection with that particular saint. This would be especially true if you are not sure that you have been particularly strong in your faith and are now making a renewed commitment to the Catholic faith. This commitment would be symbolized by the new name you choose, to show that in some ways you are now a new person. This tradition stretches back to people in the Old Testament whose name God Himself changed: Abram became Abraham (and his wife Sarai became Sarah), and their grandson Jacob became Israel. Jesus changed Simon’s name to Peter; all of these people underwent a change of names when each one’s relationship with God became closer and more loving and trusting. This is what you are doing.

The particular saint’s name you choose should represent the direction you feel your faith life is taking or it could represent a strength or attribute you think you need. It is important and necessary to learn something about the saint you choose BEFORE you decide on that name. The option of taking a new name is NOT to be used because you like the sound of the name, because it “fits” in with your other name, or because it is the name of a nice friend or relative!

based on a Saint you are inspired by and can relate to. Choosing a Confirmation name is personal, and you should feel called to that Saint in a special way. A candidate may also keep their baptismal Christian name as their Confirmation name. This will be the name of the Bishop calls you when you receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

HOW TO WRITE THE REPORT

Minimum length requirements:

one side of one typed page; 1-inch margins all around; single spaced; Calibri 11 font

Content requirements:

Use the template.

Upload to your Confirmation Portfolio--You must keep a copy of this report because you will need to refer to it next year for an assignment.

Start the report with research:

1-Begin reading about deceased holy Catholic people written about in approved sources. Confirmandis are encouraged to utilize

- notes about saints that were made from your previous years in the Program
- hardcopy resources available in the Religious Education Program library – ask us anytime!
- and/or electronic resources on approved online websites. A list of approved websites is supplied below in alphabetical order, not order of preference. This is not a complete list.
 - American Catholic www.americancatholic.org/features/saints/byname.aspx
 - Biggest and Best List of Confirmation Saints (for Guys and Girls)
<https://lifeteen.com/blog/biggest-best-list-confirmation-saints-guys-girls/>
 - Catholic Online www.catholic.org/saints
 - Catholic Saints Info <https://catholicsaints.info/>
 - EWTN Media <https://www.ewtn.com/catholicism/saints>
 - Franciscan Media <https://www.franciscanmedia.org/franciscan-spirit-blog/holy-quotes-from-catholic-saints>
 - United States Council of Catholic Bishops <https://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/prayers-and-devotions/saints>
 - Vatican News <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/saints.html>
 - ALSO ACCEPTABLE: Any official “society” or “ministry” or “mission” related to the saint.

NOTE: If you find another source (a book at home or from a public library, for example, or a website), you must verify that it is a Catholic resource. Ask for help if you don’t know how to verify.

2-Narrow down the field - Who’s qualified?

- The person must be Catholic.
- Step 1: “Venerable” abbreviated as “Ven.” = *Venerable* is the title given to a deceased person recognized formally by a pope as having lived a heroically virtuous life or as having offered her/his life to God. A Venerable *may not be* chosen as a Confirmation saint.
- Step 2: “Blessed” abbreviated as “Bl.” = A *Blessed* is a Venerable who has been “beatified.” *Beatified* means that one miracle has been acquired through the Venerable's intercession. A Blessed *may be* chosen as a Confirmation saint.
- Step 3: “Saint” abbreviated as “St.” = A *Saint* is a Blessed who has been “canonized” in the Catholic Church; this means s/he is added to the official list. A person is added to the canon (official list) because a second miracle occurred after this person’s beatification. Of course, any Saint can be chosen for a Confirmation patron.
 - NOTE for your research: The pope may adjust or completely waive the miracle requirements; for example, a pope may decide that a miracle is not required prior to a martyr's beatification, but he may require one before canonization.

- NOTE: You may choose someone who is of a different gender than you as your role model, but you can't change the name to be masculine or feminine to match your gender (for example, John can't be changed to Joanne, etc.)
- Vocabulary is defined in easy-to-understand terms here: <https://www.usccb.org/offices/public-affairs/saints>

3-Make a decision and write the report. To review:

Minimum length requirements:

- one side of one typed page; 1-inch margins all around; single spaced; Calibri 11 font – it can be longer than 1 page, but no more than 2 pages
- Report may be hand-written in clear, legible, handwriting on binder paper with no fringe. If hand-written, the length will most likely spill over to a second or third page.

Content requirements:

- Use the template.
- Upload to your Confirmation Portfolio--You must keep a copy of this report because you will need to refer to it next year for an assignment.