



Choosing your Confirmation Name and Saint's Report

In choosing your Confirmation name, it is important to remember that this is possibly the only time you will choose a name for yourself! Prayerfully reflect upon the traits of a saint and choose one whom you admire or aspire to imitate. The tradition of taking on a new name to show a new role can be traced 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, meaning "father of many," to Abraham, meaning "father of many nations." Again, in the New Testament, we find Simon's name changed to Peter, meaning "rock," because he was the rock upon which Jesus founded his church.

The only requirement in choosing your name is that it be one of the many saints. You may use the name given at Baptism if you are already named after a saint. In this way, you can further emphasize the three-fold process of Christian initiation: Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation. The name chosen must be a Blessed or canonized Christian Saint. **A canonized Christian Saint is a man or a woman who has displayed heroic virtue and has been recognized by the Church.**

Secondly, during Confirmation preparation time, candidates will research their chosen saint and prepare a **short essay**.

The following points should be included in your essay:

- *Saint's birth name, origin and dates of birth and death.*
- *Is he/she a Patron Saint? Why?*
- *What sort of obstacles did this person have to overcome in his/her life?*
- *What do you find most interesting about this Saint?*
- *Why did you choose this Saint?*

Good websites to help your search:

www.catholic.org/saints www.americancatholic.org
www.ewtn.com/saintsholy

This is a continuation of your faith formation and education. Enjoy the journey! If you have any questions or need additional resources or suggestions, please ask! E-mail: renee@ccsjn.org or call the religious education office at 832-2162.