

Student Name: _____

CHOOSING YOUR CONFIRMATION NAME

Your name gives you an identity: it tells others who you are. When you were baptized, your parents chose your name. If you do not know your parents' reasons for choosing your name, ask them about it. Now that you are preparing for Confirmation, it is time to choose the name that YOU will take as a sign of your growth in 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 God. His name was changed from Abram, meaning the "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 to become the Rock upon which Jesus founded His Church.

Your Confirmation name should reflect your new role as a Christian. The custom of using the name given you at Baptism is encouraged, or perhaps you would like to take the name of a person you admire. Many Confirmation candidates, recognizing their growing bond of love with their parents, take a parent's name. Others choose their sponsor's name, or the name of a patron saint that represents something significant in their life. ***The only limit that is placed on your choice is that it must be the name of a Saint - or a variation of that name.***

After you have decided on a name, use the space below and explain your choice. Then look up some information on the saint whose name you chose. Every saint is known for some particular qualities or virtues. By imitating these qualities, how can you become a better Christian?

Name Chosen: _____

Meaning of name: _____

Why I chose this name: _____

Saint's names reference websites:

www.americancatholic.org

Click on "Saints"; choose from many options, including "Saints by Date" or "Saints by Name"

www.catholic.org

Click on "Saints"