

YOUR CONFIRMATION NAME/SAINT REPORT

In the early Church, many adult converts had received names at their birth that came from pagan religions. One of the signs of their total rejection of that former life and their rebirth into the life of Jesus was to drop the old name and take on a new one. The name was selected for its meaning to the Christian community. Names like Fidelia (faithful) or Theophilus (love of God) or Christopher (Christ-bearer) were chosen. As time went on, people often selected the names of saints of an earlier time--like Peter, Mary or Paul.

The choice of a name was taken seriously. One's name was intended to express the quality of one's person and the ideals a person would strive to develop. To choose the name Paul was a kind of pledge to try to imitate Paul's courage and dedication in spreading the Gospel, for example. Mary or variations of Mary were popular for various reasons. Jesus changed Simon's name to Peter (rock) because he wanted Peter to become as firm as a rock and a solid base for establishing the community.

Now as you prepare for Confirmation, you are asked to select the name by which the bishop will call you. You may:

- a) **use the Christian name you received at Baptism to show the unity of the sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation;**
- b) **choose another name which has a special meaning for you because it expresses something of what you hope to become as an adult Catholic Christian;**
- c) **choose the name of a saint or person who has and continues to be an example of how you want to live the Catholic Christian life.**

Think it over carefully. Talk it over with your parents and sponsor. Your new name should mean a new start for you. Your name should be a challenge for you to grow.

You are required to *write a report* **or** *put a poster together* about the name you are choosing for your Confirmation. If you write a paper for Confirmation, it should be one page, two paragraphs in **Times New Roman font 12**. (this is currently font used)

- First paragraph should include name you have chosen; saint from which name was chosen, and a little background on the saint.
- Second paragraph should include ways or qualities this saint will help you in your faith journey.
- **Make sure your name is on the paper**—there is no need to reference sources or background information.
- If you design a poster, make sure you put similar information regarding the name of the saint chosen as well as background on why you chose the saint.
- This paper or poster is due by December 16th!