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# HOW TO CHOOSE A CONFIRMATION NAME

## INTRODUCTION

A question often raised during Confirmation preparation is, *What name will I use for my Confirmation?*

A candidate has two options when choosing their Confirmation name – their Baptism name or a saint's name. Although choosing a Confirmation name has never been an official part of the sacrament, it has been a popular custom in many faith communities.

Given names are a very important part of a person's identity. Parents put a lot of thought into choosing a child's name. It is appropriate for a candidate to confirm the name given at Baptism.

If a saint's name is chosen, the candidate should look for qualities within the saint that they themselves would like to develop. Possible saints to consider could include

- the parish, school or diocese patron saint
- the patron saint of the child's ethnic or cultural background

When we look at the lives and actions of saints, we see the works of the Holy Spirit alive in people.

Whether a candidate chooses to use their baptism name or a saint's name, there is a richness in investigating the saints within our greater Christian story. The following websites and questions could be used as a guide.

## WEBSITES

Loyola Press – Saint stories for all ages.

<http://www.loyolapress.com/saints-stories-for-kids.htm?cld=115673>

Catholic Online – Saints Fun Facts.

[http://www.catholic.org/saints/fun\\_facts\\_arch.php](http://www.catholic.org/saints/fun_facts_arch.php)

Holy Spirit Interactive - A Saint a day

<http://www.holyspiritinteractive.net/kids/saints/>

## MY SAINT SEARCH

- What is your saint's name?
- Use an atlas, a globe or online map to find where your saint was born and lived.
- What is one gift of the Holy Spirit that your saint has that you would like to develop?
- How do you know that your saint had this gift?
- If you could ask your saint one question, what would it be?
- What are five interesting facts about your saint?