

## SELECTION OF YOUR CONFIRMATION NAME

It has been an established tradition in the Roman Catholic Church to encourage the faithful to imitate the lives of those who have shown an authentic Christian witness in their lives. In other words, those who have lived their faith in keeping the Gospel values by word and example. Those who have been recognized as having lived an outstanding Christian life have been specially designated as “saints,” in the belief that they are already enjoying eternal life with God in heaven.

Many of these saints are especially celebrated by people of a particular region or culture, and they easily identify with the saints’ life journey as being similar to their own situations. There are literally thousands of saints officially recognized by the Roman Catholic Church, as well as millions more who have not received official sainthood, but who we believe are part of the “vast multitude, dressed in white, standing before the throne” of God as described in scripture. For this Sacrament of Confirmation, you are encouraged to select a saint who you feel is a particular spiritual role model for you in your life. If you do not have access to a Book of Saints, you may also visit the following web sites:



1. [www.americancatholic.org](http://www.americancatholic.org). Click on “saints”; scroll down and click on the link “Patron Saints” or any other in that particular listing.
2. [www.catholic-saints.org](http://www.catholic-saints.org).
3. Wikipedia. Enter category “Roman Catholic Saints.”
4. [www.ewtn.com](http://www.ewtn.com). Go to “search.” Under the “Faith” column, select “saints.” Names are alphabetical—click on a specific name for information.

You may use your current first or middle name, **preferably as long as it is also a name of a recognized saint of the Catholic Church.** Your selection of a confirmation saint’s name should be one that you can identify with, whether it be because of the life they led that you find as worthy of trying to imitate, or perhaps because they are a patron saint of a trade or occupation that you are involved in.

**At Class #9**, you will be asked to turn in at least a one-page report on the saint whose name you have chosen to take for Confirmation. Your report should include the following:

- a. A **short** biography of the saint’s life; when and where they lived; what they did for a living; when did they die, and why were they considered to be worthy of sainthood.
- b. Why do you personally identify with this saint?
- c. How can you imitate their model of holiness in your current life?

Of course, as time gets closer for Confirmation, you may discover a saint that is more appealing to you than your first choice, and you may ask to have your Confirmation name changed to reflect a new selection. If you have any questions regarding this process, please speak with either Fr. Robert, Pete Carleton, Mike Smith, or Deacon Chuck.