

Called by Name: Selecting a Name for Your Confirmation

During the rite of Confirmation, the Bishop will call you by your Confirmation name as he anoints you with chrism. This signifies the incredibly special relationship you have with God. God knows you so well, He calls you by name.

When you were baptized, your parents gave you a name. Chances are at least one of your names is a saint's name. This is so that you will have a connection to a person who is a shining example of faith, a friend in heaven. If your given name is a saint's name, the Church encourages you to use that one for your Confirmation name. You may also select a new name for Confirmation. This will be the name the Bishop uses as you are anointed.

Whatever you decide to do, you should not select a name because it sounds cool, or because your friends will think it's funny. You should select the name of a saint with whom you have a connection. It should be someone you admire, who inspires you to live your faith. You should consider discussing this with your parents or sponsor. You should definitely pray about it.

Use this short worksheet to help you get started.

1. Some names I am considering are: _____

2. I need to have a name selected by (date): _____

3. The name I have chosen is: _____

4. The reasons I have chosen this name are (use a separate sheet of paper if necessary, this part is just for you):

The Essay: Now that you have selected a Confirmation name, write a 2-4 page typed double-spaced essay (in 10-12 point font) explaining why you have chosen this name. You should include a biography of your saint, and why this person's name is important to you. If you handwrite this essay it must be 3-5 pages. You must include a bibliography in MLA format listing the sources you have used to research your saint. Spelling and grammar will affect your grade. See the back of this sheet for a rubric.

Essay Due Date: _____

Rubric: This assignment applies to the Liturgy and Sacraments, Moral Formation, Life and Mission, and Missionary Spirit Standards.

E Your essay is exceptionally detailed. It demonstrates a real understanding of the importance of being called by name. It demonstrates sound research with regard to your saint. There are no spelling or grammatical errors.

M Your essay is complete and well done. You include a complete biography of your saint and you demonstrate sound reasoning for choosing this name. There are no, or almost no, spelling or grammatical errors. Your bibliography is complete and in the proper format.

W Your essay is partially complete. It may be missing certain important details. There are three or more spelling or grammatical errors. Your bibliography is incomplete or not in MLA format.

N Your essay is not complete. It does not demonstrate an understanding of using a Confirmation name, or it fails to show proper research. There are numerous spelling or grammatical errors. You do not have a bibliography.

Your Mark: _____ (This will be written on your essay when it is returned).

