



Church of St. John the Baptist Youth Confirmation Formation

Confirmation Name

Confirmation is the completion of initiation begun with Baptism. **Therefore, the name you received at Baptism is the name you should use at your Confirmation.** Parents chose this name for you; you were baptized in Christ in this name.

The process of taking a name is originally found in the Scriptures. When people in the Bible decided to follow Jesus (normally as adults) they would often receive a new name from Christ. Simon was renamed Peter (see Matthew 16:17-18) and later Saul was renamed Paul (see Acts of the Apostles 13:9). The practice continued in the Church as newcomers were baptized as Christians, especially if they were originally named after a pagan god or hero. The new name, usually associated with early martyrs and saints, identified the person as having become a “new” person in Christ. This new name was taken at Baptism. In early times, Confirmation and First Communion were received together with Baptism. Over time, the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist were separated from Baptism. **It is preferable and appropriate that you keep your baptismal name for Confirmation.**

We also recognize that there may be someone who really counted on selecting a name. In this case, the name should be of one who has demonstrated by their life, their devotion and their following of Christ - in other words – a saint. There are books and web sites, which list the names of Catholic Saints.

- Web site suggestions:
 - <http://www.catholic.org/saints>
 - <http://www.catholic-forum.com/saints/patronnm.htm>

You need to write an answer to the following questions for which name you chose:

Baptismal Name:

Why did your parents choose the name they gave you at Baptism?

If it was a relative explain who they are to you.

If it was for another reason – explain.

Find out if there is a connection with a Catholic saint– explain who that person is.

New Name:

If you choose another name explain its meaning to you and give a short bio of the saint.

All candidates will need to complete and submit a paper **no later than Formation Session 7.**

Remember that the name you submit is the name which the Bishop will use when he confirms you. When he anoints your head with oil, he says, “NAME, receive the Holy Spirit.” Make sure you are comfortable with the name you choose.

Please note that taking a separate Confirmation name has no legal standing. Confirmation names are, however, recorded in the Confirmation registry of the parish.

Confirmation Candidate: _____

Confirmation Name: _____
(Please attach your paper)