



St. James Parish

Religious Education Program

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CHOOSING YOUR CONFIRMATION NAME

Your name gives you an identity. It tells others who you are. When you were baptized, your parents chose your name. If you do not know your parents' reasons for choosing your name, ask them about it. Now that you are about to be confirmed, it is time for you to confirm your Baptism by using the name you received at Baptism, or choosing another.

The tradition of taking a new name to show a new role can be traced back to the Old Testament. When Abram was called to lead his people to believe in the one God, his name was changed from Abram meaning the "father of many" to Abraham, meaning the "father of many nations." Again, in the New Testament we find Simon's name changed to Peter, meaning "rock," because he was to become the rock upon which Jesus founded His Church.

Your choice of a name for Confirmation must be the name of a saint. This saint should be a person you want to be like. Maybe he/she exemplified a virtue or charisma that you admire, is known for some act of charity or service that you admire or had the same struggles as you and had a way of working with those struggles that you admire.

THE STORY OF YOUR SAINT

After you decide on a name, do some research on the life of your saint. Every saint is known for particular qualities or virtues. Write a report summary of your saint's life story.

Your saint report should answer the following questions:

- Who was the saint?
- What is the saint's feast day?
- What did he/she do to make them a saint?
- What special virtues did this saint have?
- What do you admire about him/her?
- Why did you choose this saint?
- By imitating the qualities of this saint, how can you become a better Christian.

An illustration of your saint or a symbol that represents him/her should be included. If your saint has a special devotional prayer or novena, this should be included.

Your Saint Report is due by: Dec 5 for REP students and Dec 6 for SJS students