



CHOOSING YOUR CONFIRMATION NAME-Guidelines For Writing Your Confirmation Name Choice Paper:

Your name gives you an identity; it tells other who you are. When you were baptized, your parents chose your name. If you do not know your parents' reason(s) for choosing your name, this is the time to ask them about it. Now that you are about to be confirmed, it is time to affirm their choice of name for you or to choose a name that represents a sign of your growth in faith or an identity which you would like to gain through identifying with a particular saint.

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

Your Confirmation name should reflect your role as a maturing Catholic. We hope you will affirm your Baptismal name. Find out what your name means. Does the meaning of your name capture your spirit? Your faith? Is it meaningful to you? If not, you may wish to choose a different Christian name for Confirmation that would be appropriate. Perhaps you would like to take the name of a saint (or a saintly person like Oscar Romero or Dorothy Day) that you admire.

After you decide on a name, write about the information you used in making your decision. Begin by telling the story of your Baptismal name: how was it chosen for you? Does it fit you? Then relate your choice to affirm that name or your decisions to select a new one and the reason why you wish to take an additional name. Tell us about any saints or saintly persons who have your name of choice.

This is a paper, not a few sentences or a paragraph and should be a minimum of 1 page, double-spaced, 12 point type. Relating the story of your name should take time. This will be part of your religion curriculum and read and graded by your catechist.

Please note: This is not just a paper about a saint. This is about YOU and should include information about a saint whose name you will share and/or from which your name is derived. It might also include information about a member of your family tree for whom you were named.

This paper is due January 24, 2018.