The Choosing of a Christian Name

It is a long tradition of the Catholic Church for Confirmation Candidates to choose a patron saint’s name for their Christian name. The preferred name, however, is the baptismal name because it expresses the relationship that exists between Baptism and Confirmation, Confirmation being the completion of Baptism.

If a new name is taken, however, it should be the name of a recognized Saint of the Catholic Church. If your baptismal name is not that of a recognized Saint, a new name should be chosen for Confirmation.

Names of saints are chosen to serve as patrons and models for those being confirmed. Candidates should choose a Patron Saint’s name, not because of the attractiveness of the name, but because of the attractiveness of the Christian life that that person led.

Candidates Name ________________________________

I. Confirmation Chosen Saint’s Name ________________________________

Saint’s Feast Day ____________________________________________

Saint’s Place & Date of Birth __________________________________

Date of Death, & How they Died __________________________________

Basic story about this Saint’s life. Tell what they did to earn sainthood. What virtues did this saint practice in his / her life? (Continue on back side if necessary)

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________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________

How is this Saint a model for today’s Christian? ____________________________

________________________________________________________________

What do you most admire about this person? ____________________________

________________________________________________________________

II. Ask your parents or whoever named you how they picked the name you received at birth? Your baptismal name? Then write (on back) a brief story about what you found out.

III. Written Saint Paper: Write a report on why you chose your particular saint. Keep in mind the following questions. What part of the saint’s life did you find interesting? Do I have a special connection with that saint?