

(Due no later than November 3, 2008)

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Patron Saint's name for Confirmation: what you need to know.

In the early days of the Church, people often took a new "Christian" name when they were baptized as young people or adults, because they were being reborn to a new life. Your parents gave you a name when you were baptized as a baby. Now you have the option of choosing a "Confirmation name" of your own. It can simply be your baptism name. Or you may choose a name that is meaningful to you in terms of your Catholic faith. It could be the name of a saint you admire or hope to emulate, or the saint's name of a relative you wish to honor. Ask your parents what name they chose and why. Look up some saints on the internet or using resources available to us in the parish. There is no requirement that it be the name of a canonized saint, but it should not be offensive.

Whether you simply repeat your baptismal name or choose a patron saint, you will say this name to the bishop and he will announce it as he Confirms you. Please put the name you have chosen in the space below so we can enter it accurately into the parish sacramental records.

Please print: _____

(Also print your first and last name so we know who is choosing this name: _____)

Please submit Confirmation Saint Report (page 3) by November 5, 2008.

Sponsor for Confirmation: what you need to know.

In the early Church, a Godparent was someone in the Church who was ready to take the place of your parents and raise you as a Catholic if they were martyred or died another way. Since Confirmation completes and deepens Baptism, it is great to have your Baptismal Godparent(s) repeat their pledge at your Confirmation. Or you may choose a new person to sponsor you at Confirmation. ***Since they stand in for your parents, they can not be your parents.*** (Your parents could sponsor your friend, though, and your friend's parents could sponsor you).

To be your sponsor, someone must:

1. be at least 16 years old (normally);
2. have received Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation in the Catholic Church themselves;
3. if married, have a marriage that is recognized by the Catholic Church;
4. regularly participate in Sunday Mass and strive to live a life in harmony with the Church.

If they are registered and active members of Our Lady of Grace, you may simply write their name below:

Please print: _____

If they are not members of our parish, they must write or call the parish they are registered in and ask for a Sponsor letter (or form or certificate) stating that they are known there as a practicing Catholic, eligible to be a Sponsor. Every Catholic parish gets such requests and mails such letters every week. They should have it mailed to your parents, who should then attach it to this sheet and turn it in to OLG Faith Formation by November 3, 2008. If for some reason your Sponsor cannot attend the service, it is possible to have someone serve as a proxy for them. It is possible for one of your parents to do this, or the Catholic parent of a friend.

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