

Confirmation Name



The Church has observed the custom of “taking a new name” as symbol of the Lord calling us to “something new” or to a new role in following Him. We find this in our Scriptures. At Confirmation, a Catholic may choose a spiritually symbolic name to honor a particular saint, or the name of someone in their life who is a model of faith to them. It is also perfectly fine to keep your Baptismal name, especially if named after a Catholic Saint. We ask each Confirmation candidate to learn more about their chosen “Patron Saint” in whose name they are being confirmed. We hope that each candidate would get to know their patron, pray to that saint and imitate their faithful living. Candidates will be guided by their catechist/teacher, in their classes, on reporting on what they learned about their chosen Saint.

Choosing a Sponsor

Each Candidate must have a sponsor at Confirmation, whose function is to bring the candidate to receive the sacrament; present the candidate to the Bishop for anointing; and to help the candidate after Confirmation to live and act as a true witness and disciple of our Lord.

Just as the candidate had Godparents at their Baptism, the sponsor at Confirmation serves a similar purpose. In fact, it is desirable, if possible, to have one of the Godparents also serve as the sponsor, thus strengthening the connection between Confirmation and Baptism. Confirmation completes what was begun at Baptism.

The sponsor chosen by the candidate must fulfill certain requirements, as stated in Church law.

- Must be at least 16 years of age
- Be a fully initiated member of the Catholic Church, having received their Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist
- Leads a faithful sacramental life and participates in his/her parish community; if married, the marriage was in a Catholic ceremony

A person who will be sponsoring a candidate for Confirmation must secure from the Pastor of his/her parish (even if a parishioner at St. Patrick) a **Letter of Eligibility** indicating that the above requirements have been met. ***This form must be signed by the Priest of the parish, and contain the “Church Seal” of the parish of the sponsor.***

****You can find a copy of St. Patrick’s Letter of Eligibility by choosing the tab **Parish Forms** on this website and then choose **Confirmation Sponsorship Form**.**