

1-15-26

Choosing a Sponsor

A sponsor is a person who assumes, along with the parents, the responsibility for the student's faith. The purpose of a sponsor is to ensure that the rich and beautiful faith of the Church is passed on to the child in the most *loving* and authentic way possible. The person you choose must be at least 16 years old, a Confirmed and practicing Catholic and if married, must have been married in the Catholic Church. Choose someone who is easy to talk to, who can help you grow as a Christian and be your spiritual friend.

Child's Name. _____

Sponsor _____

Choosing a Saint's Name

Don't just choose a name that sounds good. Choose the name of a Saint that you would like to imitate as a mature Christian and who will pray for you the rest of your life. You can Google names and life stories of hundreds of Saints.

Saint Name _____

Please return this form or respond by email ASAP. We must have this information by Monday, February 15, 2026.

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Choosing a Confirmation Name

When you were born, your parents chose your name. They may have chosen it in honor of a special person in their lives—a grandparent, aunt or uncle, or close friend. They may have chosen it because of its meaning, or because they felt a close connection to a holy man or woman of our faith—one of the saints. Or maybe they simply liked the name! Most likely, it was a combination of many factors. (If you do not know why your parents choose your name, why not ask them?)

Your name gives you an identity; it tells others who you are. Throughout our lives, we identify ourselves with many names—the mascot of our school, the region of the country we live in, or the title of the career we choose. However, there is one name above all others that, through our Baptism, we should strive to be known by in the world: **Catholic Christian**.

At your Baptism, you were called by name and became a child of God. You entered the Catholic community by name. Now it is your turn.

As part of your preparation to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, you have the privilege and responsibility—just like your parents did when you were born—to choose a name.

Guidelines for Choosing a Confirmation Name

- Your Confirmation name should reflect your closer identification as a member of the Catholic Christian community.
- Your Confirmation name should be the name of a saint.
- You may choose your baptismal name, or you may choose a completely new name.
- **PRAY!** Just as with any important decision, ask the Holy Spirit to guide you as you choose a saint to be your patron or patroness.

Where Should I Begin?

A great place to start is by reading about the lives of the saints. Some books focus on one saint, while others provide brief stories about many saints. Check out your local library, or feel free to contact Carla at 701-360-2932 or by email Carla@stjohnsgrafton.com.

You can also use the internet to research saints. You may search for a saint's name but be sure to check that the source is Catholic. Do not use Wikipedia. Here are some reliable Catholic websites:

- saints.sqpn.com
- www.catholic.org/saints
- www.catholicsaints.info
- www.americancatholic.org/Features/Saints/byname.aspx