



Saint Mark the Evangelist Parish

CHOOSING A CONFIRMATION NAME

Our names identify us in a unique way. One of the traditional practices of the Church at the time of Confirmation is choosing a Confirmation name. Your parents may have spent many hours thinking about what name to give to you. Perhaps you were named after a parent, a grandparent or a relative to give a special honor to that person. Maybe you were named after a saint who had a special meaning for your parents.

You should take time to prayerfully reflect on choosing a Confirmation name. You may wish to choose the name of a saint or a relative who has modeled their faith in an exceptional way. You may wish to choose your baptismal name strengthening the connection between Baptism and Confirmation as Sacraments of Initiation. *A new name at Confirmation can be symbolic of a new beginning or new stage in your faith life.*

Whether you choose to use your baptismal name or the name of a saint it can be an opportunity for you to reflect on important areas of your faith life. First, you should recall the importance of baptism in your life, the journey of discipleship that began on that day and meaning Christ has in your life today. Second, choosing a Confirmation name can help you to research the roots of that name and to appreciate the holy men and women of previous ages who demonstrated deep faith and commitment to Christ. Whether you stay with your baptismal name or take a new name, that name becomes part of your religious history and identity.

Please note that you may not change your Confirmation name once it has been submitted on the *Confirmation Information Form*. Documentation and information required for this sacrament is entered into sacramental records, supplied to the parish of baptism and forwarded to the appropriate diocese. Therefore, **please reflect carefully on the name you choose for Confirmation.** The name entered on the form will be the name used on the day of Confirmation for the Bishop and for all documentation recorded in the sacramental records of this parish and the parish of baptism. In the past, on the day of Confirmation, candidates have crossed out names on the Name Tags worn for the bishop and written in another name. Changing the name on the name tag is not permitted.