

## Confirmation Names

### Guidelines from our Bishops

Each year, as we prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation, we receive general questions regarding the name used by the candidate. Even though Confirmations have already been celebrated in some parishes, we thought these guidelines could help in preparation of your candidates.

- Candidates may use their baptismal name or another Christian name when receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation.
- A Christian name would be the name of a saint or blessed.
- Derivatives of names (Kelly for Catherine; Jenna for Genevieve) or Old Testament names are also appropriate.
- Candidates may use their first or second names if they are Christian names, or they may select a new Christian name.
- The candidate should know the relationship of the name to the religious Christian tradition.
- Exceptions can be made if a particular non-Christian or family name has significant meaning for a candidate that can be articulated to the bishop.
- Most importantly, candidates should be encouraged to learn about their patron as part of their preparation for the sacrament and should particularly focus on the virtues of their patron they wish to emulate.

We hope this is helpful to you and thanks to all of you who work so diligently with our young people preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

In Christ,

*Archbishop Jerome ListECKI      Bishop Jeffrey Haines      Bishop James Schuerman*

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## Resources for Confirmation Names

There are a number of online lists of patron saints and confirmation names. There are also numerous books of names and of the lives of the saints. A candidate may use a list to generate interest in a name, or to see if their own name is a saint's name. Then he or she should look to a more substantial biography. Following is a bibliography on saints, and several links to name lists. The young people will need to share information about their name or the name of the saint they choose.

### Online Lists of Saints

Roman Catholic Saints by Name - <https://www.catholic.org/saints/stindex.php>

Patron Saints by their Cause- <http://www.catholic-saints.info/patron-saints/patron-saints-causes.htm>

Patron Saints - <https://www.aboutcatholics.com/beliefs/alphabetical-list-of-patron-saints/>

Patron Saints with profiles of those saints - <https://catholicsaints.info/>

Saints & Angels - <https://www.catholic.org/saints/>

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## Bibliography

*Dictionary of Patron Saints' Names*  
by Thomas Sheehan  
Our Sunday Visitor, 2001

*Dictionary of Saints*  
by John J. Delaney  
Image; Revised ed 2005

*Encyclopedia of Saints*  
by Rosemary Guiley  
Checkmark Books, 2001

*Illustrated World Encyclopedia of Saints*  
by Tessa Paul  
Lorenz Books, 2009

*New Dictionary of Saints, East and West*  
by Michael Walsh  
Liturgical Press, 2007

*Our Sunday Visitor's Encyclopedia of Saints*  
by Matthew, Margaret, Stephen Bunson  
Our Sunday Visitor, Revised ed, 2003

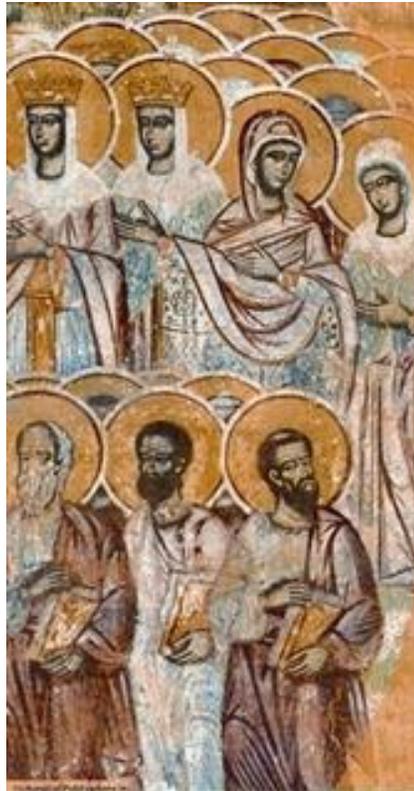
*Oxford Dictionary of Saints*  
by David Hugh Farmer  
Oxford University Press, 5th ed, 2004

*A Saint for Your Name: Saints for Girls, and  
A Saint for Your Name: Saints for Boys*  
by Albert Nevins and Ann Ball  
Our Sunday Visitor, Revised ed, 1999

*A Saint's Name*  
by Woodeene Koenig-Bricker  
Acta Publications, 2000

*Complete Christian Baby Name Book:  
Catholic Names of Saints, Angels & Virtues*  
by Nicole McGinnis  
IUniverse, 2008

Our Sunday Visitor offers several collections:  
*Saintly Youth of Modern Times, Saintly Women of Modern  
Times, Saintly Men of Modern Times, Saints of North  
America, Saints of Asia, Saints of Africa*



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