

Guidelines for Choosing Your Confirmation Saint

As you prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation you are asked to choose a Confirmation saint as your patron/patroness. At your Confirmation you will be confirmed using this name. You may choose your Baptismal name, select a name from the Bible, or a canonized saint of the Catholic Church. The saint you choose should reflect a devotion you have to the saint, virtues or gifts to which you aspire, or the patron saint of certain gifts that are dear to you.

1. Read and learn about several saints and their lives before making your choice. *You can choose a saint of either gender.*
2. Pray about the saint you are considering.
3. Your teacher will approve your selection of a saint before you complete the report to verify the saint exists.

Guidelines for the Saint Report

1. Your report should be **at least two pages long (MLA Format)** and cite your sources at the bottom of the second page or on an additional page. A sample saint report is provided for you to follow the format, please note we do read all reports and appreciate good grammar, accuracy and honesty. Your teacher or catechist may have further instructions on how you should write this report.

2. Your report should **explain who your saint is**, and provide as much detail as you can about his/her life. Here are some questions that can help you:

- When and where was your saint born? Did s/he live in one place?
- What did s/he do for a living?
- What drew him or her to Jesus Christ?
- Did your saint become a priest or nun, or was he/she a layperson?
- Did your saint know other saints of the Catholic Church? Did they get along?
- What sort of obstacles did your saint have to overcome to attain holiness?
- Did your saint write any books? Has another saint written about your saint?
- When and how did your saint die?
- On what date is your saint celebrated by the Church? Is there a reason why it is this date?
- On what date was your saint declared a saint by the Church?
- What is your saint the patron/patroness of?
- What miracles are attributed to your saint?

3. Your report should also **explain why you chose this saint**. Here are some questions that can help you:

- What virtues or qualities does this saint have that you admire?
- Do you and your saint have any similarities?
- Are there other saints who were devoted to your patron saint?
- Is your saint the patron/patroness of something that matters to you?
- How can this saint help you live your life as a confirmed Catholic?

4. You can include pictures, maps, and quotes from your saint. You can also include quotes about your saint made by important figures within the Church (including other saints).

Resources for Choosing a Confirmation Saint

Books:

Butler's Lives of the Saints
Saints for Young Readers (series)
Saint of the Day (series)

Websites:

www.ewtn.com
www.vatican.va
www.catholic.org
<https://www.franciscanmedia.org/source/saint-of-the-day/>
www.newadvent.org
www.catholicsaints.info

First Name Last Name

Confirmation Saint Report

CCD/SMS/Homeschool/Other

Date

Saint Joseph

I have chosen St. Joseph as my Confirmation saint. I like Joseph because of his role as foster-father of Jesus. Despite the fact that Joseph planned to have his own children, God had other plans for him. He sent the archangel Gabriel to Joseph and told him not to be afraid to take Mary into his home. Despite Joseph's confusion as to what others would think of him doing this, or what it would mean for his future, he did what the angel requested and was a devoted husband to Mary for the rest of his life.

Joseph resonates with me due to my desire to be a father. The fact that he was a carpenter also attracts me to him, as I have a desire to use my skill for making things that are useful to others, which I'm sure Joseph did. This undoubtedly influenced Jesus, who mentioned a builder many times in His parables.

Joseph also appeals to me because he is the patron saint of workers. He is the only saint (other than our Blessed Mother) who has more than one feast day (March 19th and May 1st). I'm sure this was due to his fidelity to God in leading the Holy Family with bravery, humility, and integrity. I can only imagine how scared he was when he was told to flee Bethlehem for Egypt, a land that he never knew. But, he showed his fidelity to God in shepherding Mary and the infant Jesus to this land in order to save Jesus's life. In a sense, humanity's salvation rested on this choice. Joseph could have refused or thought that he would be able to protect Jesus when Herod's soldiers

inevitably arrived. However, he trusted that God, who had commanded him to go, would protect him and his family throughout the journey.

All told, I chose St. Joseph because I hope to emulate his aforementioned virtues in my life, and rely on his intercession for help in discerning how God is calling me to be a father to His people. I hope to get a portrait of St. Joseph and hang it in whatever room I find myself living for the rest of my life. The world suffers from a crisis of fatherhood and I hope that with St. Joseph's help I can be a faithful and selfless father to others, whether this be with my own children or to any spiritual children if God is calling me to life as a priest, monk, or religious. Joseph is also the patron saint of the Church, and so I will pray to him to build up the Catholic Church so that the world may continue to come to know her bridegroom, our Lord Jesus Christ, and his saving Word.



St. Joseph, pray for us!

Works Cited

The Holy Bible, Revised Standard Version, 2nd ed.; Ignatius Press, 2006.

Alban Butler-Herbert Thurston-Donald Attwater, *Butler's Lives Of the Saints*, Christian Classics,
1996

St. Joseph - Saints & Angel, Catholic Online 2018,

https://www.catholic.org/saints/saint.php?saint_id=4. Accessed 17 July 2018.