

SPECIAL ASPECTS OF CONFIRMATION ~ SAINT NAME

Choosing a Saint. What about that name change?

DASH 2 (7th graders) begin that year with the parent/teen project: "Who Am I." It is a conversation reflecting on your identity (name, meanings of it, Saints connected to it, and Baptism.) You research your baptismal name in case you really like the Saint you might be named after! This is your starting point to get to a **BIGGER** decision – choosing a Saint for Confirmation – when you get into **DASH 3 (8th grade)**. **At the end of DASH 3**, after conversation with your sponsor, and time of prayer to decide, **you will write a brief reflection about why you chose this saint.** Those guidelines will be given in the Spring.

Things to know for **DASH 3 (8th grade)**:



- If your baptismal name **IS** a saint name, you may choose to keep this as your Confirmation name. However, the choice is present to choose a new patron saint who will specially guide you in your spiritual life.
- ****If your baptismal name, or middle name is NOT a saint name, then our Bishop of Joliet requires that you do choose a canonized Catholic saint.** (Blessed and Venerable holy persons are not approved by our Bishop.)

- Whether you must choose or want to choose, what's the reason? To choose a saintly "role model" to aspire to be like and to seek their intercession. What's in a name? In short: a name change is connected to a lifestyle change to holiness and faith/trust in God. In the Old Testament God changed Abram to Abraham; Saria to Sarah; Jacob to Israel; Peter to Cephas; Saul to Paul. When God/Jesus gave a name change, it meant they begin a new person with God.
- Some of you *may* want to choose a name because it is a family tradition or you want to honor someone you love. As long as the name is a Catholic Saint, and **you can speak to the life of the Saint** and **why you want their influence in your life**, choosing that Saint is fine.

Check out: <http://dowym.com/voices/quiz-which-saint-are-you-most-like/> just for fun!