# **About Confirmation Names**

Confirmation names are a special part of the confirmation process for Roman Catholics, especially those in English-speaking countries. Before the ritual of being confirmed, those seeking confirmation choose to take a saint's name with whom they identify. After confirmation the confirmed can pray to the saint for guidance and protection.

## **Significance**

Confirmation is a rite or sacrament in the Christian tradition. For Roman Catholics, confirmation usually occurs in early adolescence. Other Christian denominations place confirmation soon after baptism. Coming from the New Testament, confirmation is related to the receiving of the Holy Spirit by the apostles on Pentecost. At the time of confirmation, the Holy Spirit is thought to descend on the person and bestow spiritual gifts.

#### **Features**

Roman Catholics going through confirmation choose a saint they feel an affinity for as their confirmation name. The patron saint then serves as their guide and protector. Choosing a confirmation name is not biblical and does not come from the official Catholic liturgical book. The custom originated in the United Kingdom and is also practiced in the United States, Germany and Poland.

### **Types**

The set of confirmation names is as long as the list of saints that can be found in the resources section below. Some of the more popular confirmation names for girls are Mary, Teresa and Catherine. For boys they are Michael, Thomas and Francis.

# Considerations

The common advice for those trying to decide on a name is to research saint names and find one that fits their personality or spiritual goals. Those seeking confirmation are also encouraged to pray and seek a saint that is willing to guide them as they seek a closer relationship with God.

# **Benefits**

At the time of confirmation after a confirmation name is chosen, the confirmed is said to receive spiritual gifts from the Holy Spirit. These gifts include speaking in tongues, healing, discerning of spirits and prophecy.

# **How to Choose A Saints Name**

During the Catholic sacrament of Confirmation, God the Holy Spirit comes upon you to bestow numerous spiritual gifts and "confirm" the faith given you in Baptism when Original Sin was wiped away. You choose a Confirmation name before Confirmation. This new name, imposed by the bishop during Confirmation, becomes a part of your full name. It comes after your first and middle names and before the last name.

- Find a list of canonized saints in the Roman Catholic Church by reading a book or doing online research. Saints are people who have lived holy lives and are now in heaven as members of the Church Triumphant. Their life stories provide examples for others on how to overcome spiritual obstacles on Earth.
- 2 Read about male saints if you're male, and female saints if you're female. Generally speaking, you'll want to choose a name that matches your gender.
- 3 Pray to the Holy Spirit, and ask Him for help in finding a saint whose life you'd like to imitate. This saint will be bonded with you spiritually, and in essence becomes your heavenly patron who intercedes for you before God.
- 4 Narrow your selection to two saints. One of them will be your new Confirmation name. Think about the specific virtues those saints exhibited, such as patience, perfection, diligence, humility, mortification, meekness, obedience, prayer, charity or simplicity. Find a virtue that connects with you.
- 5 Consider the one or two special stories told about those saints on your "short" list to help you find a spiritual connection. For example, St. Maximilian Kobe gave up his life for another person's life in a German concentration camp during World War II, and so showed the virtue of selflessness. St. Francis, a spiritual leader who founded a religious order, led a simple life of poverty and greatly loved animals.
- Take your list of two saints to a family member or friend who is a practicing Catholic. Talk about the saints' lives with that person, and discuss what attracts you spiritually to these holy people.
- Select your Confirmation name, and inform your family and friends. Get used to it by saying it over and over again in your mind. Practice writing it as part of your full name.
- 8 Before you are confirmed, pray to the saint whose name you will be using as your Confirmation name. Ask this saint to intercede for you, to help you make the right moral choices, and overall to be a powerful spiritual guide the rest of your life.
- 9 Buy pictures, holy cards, statues and books associated with your Confirmation's namesake. These visual reminders of your saint will help you reflect upon his or her unique virtues.

Check out saints on line: www.catholic.org Choose saints!

# PATRON SAINTS IN ORDER OF PATRONAGES

	MATTHEW
ACTORS	GENESIUS
	BERNARDINE OF SIENA
	JOSEPH OF CUPERTINO
AIRMENT	JOSEPH OF CUPERTINO
AIRMENT	OUR LADY OF LORETO
	JOHN BERCHMANS
	RENE GOUPIL
ARCHERS	SEBASTIAN
ARCHITECTS	BARBARA
	.CATHERINE OF BOLOGNA
	LUKE
ASTRONOMERS	DOMINIC
ATHLETES	SEBASTIAN
AUTHORS	FRANCIS DE SALES
	ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY
	MATTHEW
BARBERS	COSMAS & DAMIAN
BARREN WOMEN	ANTONY OF PADUA
	ANTONY THE ABBOT
	ALEXIUS
BEGGARS	GILES
BLACKSMITS	DUNSTAN
	RAPHAEL
	JULIAN THE HOSPITALLER
BOOKBINDERS	PETER CELESTINE
BOOKKEEPES	MATTHEW
BOOKSELLERS	JOHN OF GOD
	GEORGE
	ARCHANGEL GABRIEL
BRICKLAYERS	STEPHEN
	NICHOLAS OF MYRA
	ANTONY
	VINCENT FERRER
CABDRIVERS	FIACRE
CABINEMAKERS	ANNE
	PEREGRINE LAZIOSI
	RAYMOND PENAFORT
	JOSEPH
CATECHISTS	CHARLES BORROMEO
	ROBERT BELLARMINE
	FRANCIS OF ASSISI
	FRANCIS DE SALES
CHARITABLE SOCIETIE	S VINCENT DE PAUL
CHILDBIRST	GERARD MAJELLA
	NICHOLAS OF MYRA
	DOMINIC SAVIO
CHURCH	JOSEPH
CLERICS	GABRIEL
	VITUS
	ALPHONSUS LIGUORI
	JOHN NEPOMUCENE
CONVULSIVE CHILDREI	NSCHOLASTICA
	MARTHA
	GILES
	VITUS
DEAF	FRANCIS DE SALES
DENTISTS	APOLLONIA
	NSJUDE
	MARTHA
DOMESTIC ANIMALS	ANTONY

DRUGGISTS	COSMAS & DAMIAN
	MAURICE AND LUDIA
DYING	JOSEPH
	SMATRONA
	EMYGDIUS
	FRANCIS OF ASSISI
	JOHN BOSCO
	FRANCES XAVIER CABRINI
	FERDINAND III
	DYMPNA
	VITUS
	GERARD MAJELLA
	LUCY
	RAYMUND NONNATUS
	ISIDORE THE FARMER
	JOHN THE BAPTIST
	JOSEPH
	FLORIAN
FIREPREVENTION	CATHERINE OF SIENA
	TARCISIUS
	ANDREW
FISHERMEN	PETER
	THERESE OF LISIEUX
FORESTERS	JOHN GUALBERT
FOUNDERS	BARBARA
	HOLY INNOCENTS
FULLERS	ANASTASIUS THE FULLER
FUNERAL DIRECTORS	JOSEPH OF ARIMATHEA
	DELARD/FIACRE/ PHOCAS
	AGNES
	LUKE
	DUNSTAN
	ANTONY THE ABBOT
	MICHAEL
	BARBARA
	MARTIN DE PORRES
	TERESA OF AVILA
	JOHN OF GOD
	CAMILLUS DE LELLIS
	JOHN OF GOD
	AMAND
	ANNE
	EUSTACHIUS
	HUBERT
	MAURICE
	ROCH
	ELIGIUS
JOURNALISTS	FRANCIS DE SALES
JURISTS	JOHN CAPISTRAN
LABORERS	ISIDORE
LAWYERS	THOMAS MORE
LAWYERS	YVES
LEARNING	AMBROSE
	CRISPIN & CRISPINIAN
	JEROME
	DUNSTAN
	VENERIUS
	DUNSTAN
	ANTONY OF PADUA
	VALENTINE
	THERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

MARINERS	NICHOLASOF TOLENTINE
MARRIED WOMEN	MONICA
	ALBERT THE GREAT
	DYMPNA
MESSENGERS	GABRIEL
MIDWIVES	RAYMUND NONNATUS
	ARNULPH
	FRANCIS XAVIER
MISSIONSLEA	ANARD OF PORT MAURICE
MISSIONS	THERESA OF LISIEUX
	MONICA
	CHRISTOPHER
MOUNTAINEERS	BERNARD OF MENTHON
MUSICIANS	CECILIA
	GREGORY THE GREAT
	LUKE
NOTARIES	MARK
NURSES	AGATHA
NURSES	CAMILLUS DE LELLIS
	JOHN OF GOD
NURSING SERICE	ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY
ORATORS	JOHN CHRYSOSTOM
ORPHANS	JEROME EMILIANI
	LUKE
	MICHAEL
PARISH PRIESTS	JOHN VIANNEY
PAWNBROKERS	NICHOLAS OF MYRA
	COSMAS & DAMIAN
	THERINE OF ALEXANDRIA
PHILOSOPHERS	JUSTIN
PHYSICIANS	COSMAS & DAMIAN
	LUKE
	JAMES
	BARTHOLOMEW
POETS	DAVID
	MICHAEL
	ANTONY OF PADUA
	CHRISTOPHER
	GABRIEL
PREACHERS CA	THERINE OF ALEXANDRIA
	JOHN CHRYSOSTOM
	GERARD MAJELLA
PRIESTS	JOHN VIANNEY
PRINTERS	AUGUSTINE
	GENESIUS
	JOHN OF GOD
	DISMAS
PRISONERS OF WAR	LEONARD
	JOSEPH CAFASSO
DUDU C DELATIONE	BERNARDINE OF SIENA
	GABRIEL
RADIOLOGISTS	MICHAEL
	IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA
	JAMES THE GREATER
	CRISPIN & CRISPINIAN
SAILORS	BRENDAN
	ERASMUS
	BRIGID
	ALBERT THE GREAT
SCULPTORS	CLAUDE
SECRETARIES	GENESIUS

SEMINARIANS	CHARLES BORROMEO
SERVANTS	MARTHA
	ZITA
SHOEMAKERS	CRISPIN & CRISPINIAN
SICK	CAMILLUS DE LELLIS
SICK	JOHN OF GOD
SILVERSMITHS	ADRONICUS
SILVERSMITHS	DUNSTAN
SINGERS	CECILIA
SINGERS	GREGORY
SKATERS	LIDWINA
SKIERS	BERNARD OF MENTHON
SKIN DISEASES	MARCULF
SOCIAL JUSTICE	JOSEPH
SOCIAL WORKERS	LOUISE DE MARILLAC
SOLDIERS	GEORGE
SOLDIERS	MARTIN OF TOURS
SPELEOLOGISTS	BENEDICT
STONECUTTERS	CLEMENT

STONEMASONS	BARBARA
STONEMASONS	REINHOLD
STONEMASONS	STEPHEN
STUDENTSCA	ATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA
STUDENTS	THOMAS AQUINAS
SURGEONS	COSMAS & DAMIAN
SURGEONS	LUKE
SWORDSMITSH	MAURICE
TAILORS	HOMOBONUS
TANNERS	CRISPIN & CRISPINIAN
	SIMON
TAX COLLECTORS	MATTHEW
TEACHERS	GREGORY THE GREAT
TEACHERSJOHN	THE BAPTIST DE LA SALLE
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	SGABRIEL
TELEVISION WORKERS	GABRIEL
TELEVISIONS	CLARE OF ASSISI
THEOLOGIANS	ALPHONSUS LIGUORI
THEOLOGIANS	AUGUSTINE

THROAT SUFFERS	BLAISE
TINWORKERS	JOSEPH OF ARIMATHEA
TRAVELLERS	CHRISTOPHER
VOCATIONS	ALPHONSUS
WATCHMEN	PETER OF ALCANTARA
WEAVERS	ANASTAIS
	ANASTASIUS
WEAVERS	PAUL THE HERMIT
WIDOWS	PAULA
WINE MERCHANTS	AMAND
WINEGROWERS	MORAND
WINEGROWERS	VINCENT
WOMEN IN LABOR .	ANNE
WORKING MEN	JOSEPH
WRITERS	FRANCIS DE SALES
YACHTSMEN	ADJUTOR
YOUTH	ALOYSIUS GONZAGA

# PATRON SAINTS IN ORDER OF SAINTS BERNARD OF MENTHON......SKIERS

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ADELARD/FIACRE/ PHOCA	
ADJUTOR	
ADRONICUS	SILVERSMITHS
AGATHA	NURSES
AGNES	······································
ALBERT THE GREAT	. MEDICAL TECHNICIANS
ALBERT THE GREAT	SCIENTISTS
ALEXIUS	
ALOYSIUS GONZAGA	YOUTH
ALPHONSUS	
ALPHONSUS LIGUORI	
ALPHONSUS LIGUORI	
AMAND	
AMAND	
AMBROSE	
ANASTAIS	
ANASTASIUS	
ANASTASIUS THE FULLER	
ANDREW	
ANNE	
ANNE	
ANTONY	
ANTONY	
ANTONY	
ANTONY OF PADUA	
ANTONY OF PADUA	
ANTONY OF PADUA	
ANTONY THE ABBOT	
ANTONY THE ABBOT	
APOLLONIA	
ARCHANGEL GABRIEL	
ARNULPH	
AUGUSTINE	
AUGUSTINE	
BARBARA	ARCHITECTS
BARBARA	FOUNDERS
BARBARA	
BARBARA	
BARTHOLOMEW	PLASTERES
BENEDICT	SPELEOLOGISTS
BERNARD OF MENTHON	MOUNTAINEERS

BERNARDINE OF SIENA	ADVERTISERS
BERNARDINE OF SIENA	PUBLIC RELATIONS
BLAISE	THROAT SUFFERS
BRENDAN	SAILORS
BRIGID	
CAMILLUS DE LELLIS	HOSPITALS
CAMILLUS DE LELLIS	
CAMILLUS DE LELLIS	SICK
CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA	MAIDENS
CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA	PHILOSOPHERS
CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA	PREACHERS
CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA	STUDENTS
CATHERINE OF BOLOGNA	ART
CATHERINE OF SIENA	FIREPREVENTION
CECILIA	MUSICIANS
CECILIA	
CHARLES BORROMEO	CATECHISTS
CHARLES BORROMEO	SEMINARIANS
CHRISTOPHER	MOTORISTS
CHRISTOPHER	PORTERS
CHRISTOPHER	TRAVELLERS
CLARE OF ASSISI	
CLAUDE	
CLEMENT	STONECUTTERS
COSMAS & DAMIAN	BARBERS
COSMAS & DAMIAN	
CRISPIN & CRISPINIAN	
DAVID	
DISMAS	PRISONERS
DOMINIC	
DOMINIC SAVIO	CHOIRBOYS
DUNSTAN	
DUNSTAN	
DUNSTANLIC	GHTHOUSE KEEPERS

DUNSTAN	LOCKSMITHS
DUNSTAN	SILVERSMITHS
	EPILEPTICS
	MENTALLY ILL
ELIGIUS	JEWELLERS
ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY	/BAKERS
ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY	/ NURSING SERICE
EMYGDIUS	EARTHQUAKES
	SAILORS
	HUNTERS
	ENGINEERS
	CABDRIVERS
	FIREMEN
	NIEMIGRANTS
	AUTHORS
	CATHOLIC PRESS
	DEAF
	JOURNALISTS
	WRITERS
	CATHOLIC ACTION
	ECOLOGISTS
	MISSIONS
	CLERICS
	MESSENGERS
	POSTAL WORKERS
	RADIO WORKERS
	TELECOMMUNICATIONS
	TELEVISION WORKERS
	ACTORS
	PRINTERS
	SECRETARIES
	BOY SCOUTS
	SOLDIERS
	CHILDBIRST
	EXPECTANT MOTHERS
	PREGNANT WOMEN
	BEGGARS
GILES	CRIPPLES
	SINGERS
	MUSICIANS
GREGORY THE GREAT	TEACHERS

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HOLY INNOCENTS	FOUNDLINS
HOMOBONUS	TAILORS
HUBERT	
IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA	RETREATS
ISIDORE	LABORERS
ISIDORE THE FARMER	
JAMES	PILGRIMS
JAMES THE GREATER	RHFUMATISM
JEROME	
JEROME EMILIANI	ORPHANS
JOHN BERCHMANS	ALTAR SERVERS
JOHN BOSCO	
JOHN CAPISTRAN	JURISTS
JOHN CHRYSOSTOM	
JOHN CHRYSOSTOM	PREACHERS
JOHN GUALBERT	FORESTERS
JOHN NEPOMUCENE	
JOHN OF GOD	BOOKSELLERS
JOHN OF GOD	HEART PATIENTS
JOHN OF GOD	
JOHN OF GOD	NURSES
JOHN OF GOD	PRINTERS
JOHN OF GOD	
JOHN THE BAPTIST	FARRIERS
JOHN THE BAPTIST DE LA	SALLE TEACHERS
JOHN VIANNEY	PARISH PRIESTS
JOHN VIANNEY	PRIESTS
JOSEPH	
JOSEPH	CHURCH
JOSEPH	DYING
JOSEPH	
JOSEPH	
JOSEPH	WORKING MEN
JOSEPH CAFASSO	
JOSEPH OF ARIMATHEA	FUNERAL DIRECTORS
JOSEPH OF ARIMATHEA	TINWORKERS
JOSEPH OF CUPERTINO	
JOSEPH OF CUPERTINO	AIRMENT
JUDED	ESPARATE SITUATIONS
JULIAN THE HOSPITALLER	
JUSTIN	
LEANARD OF PORT MAUR	ICE MISSIONS
LEONARD	
LIDWINA	
LOUISE DE MARILLAC	SOCIAL WORKERS
LUCY	
LUKE	ARTISTS
LUKE	GLASSWORKERS
LUKE	
LUKE	PAINTERS
LUKE	PHYSICIANS
LUKE	
MARCULF	SKIN DISEASES
MARK	NOTABLES
MARTHA	
MARTHA	DIETITIANS
MARTHA	
MARTIN DE PORRES	
MARTIN OF TOURS	SOLDIERS
MATRONAD	
N/A L L H I N/	
IVIA I I I I L V V	ACCOUNTANTS
MATTHEW	ACCOUNTANTS
MATTHEW	ACCOUNTANTS
	ACCOUNTANTS

MATTHEW	TAX COLLECTORS
MAURICE	INFANTRYMENT
	SWORDSMITSH
MAURICE AND LUDIA	DYERS
MICHAEL	GROCERS
MICHAEL	PARATROOPERS
MICHAEL	POLICEMEN
MICHAEL	RADIOLOGISTS
MONICA	MARRIED WOMEN
	MOTHERS
MORAND	WINEGROWERS
NICHOLAS OF MYRA	BRIDES
	CHILDREN
NICHOLAS OF MYRA	PAWNBROKERS
NICHOLASOF TOLENTIN	E MARINERS
	AIRMENT
	WEAVERS
	WIDOWS
	CANCER VICTIMS
	FISHERMEN
PETER CELESTINE	BOOKBINDERS
PETER OF ALCANTARA	WATCHMEN
RAPHAFI	BLIND
RAYMOND PENAFORT	CANONISTS
	FALSELY ACCUSED
	MIDWIVES
	STONEMASONS
	ANAESTHETISTS
	CATECHISTS
	INVALIDS
	CONVULSIVE CHILDREN
	ARCHERS
	ATHLETES
	TANNERS
	BRICKLAYERS
	STONEMASONS
	FIRST COMMUNICANTS
	HEADACHE SUFFERS
	MISSIONS
	FLORISTS
	STUDENTS
	LAWYERS
	LOVERS
	LIGHTHOUSE KEEPERS
	WINEGROWERS
	CHARITABLE SOCIETIES
	BUILDERS
	COMEDIANS
	DANCERS
	EPILEPTICS
	LAWYERS
	SERVANT
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