

**St. Theresa of Lisieux Parish  
Catholic Community of Billerica  
Religious Education Program – Confirmation**

**Confirmation  
Name Form**

*Please complete and return to the Religious Education Office*

**Confirmation Name - Reason and Tradition**

At a baptism, the person's first name is used in the ritual. Our name is very important to us, since it identifies who we are as a person. **God calls us each by name!** There are many people in the bible whose name changed as God called them uniquely. Through the sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation, God anoints us to share in His mission.

As the sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation have been separated, a tradition has evolved for *confirmation candidates to (sometimes) choose a name for themselves*, especially if their given name is not one of a saint already.

During the Rite of Confirmation, your sponsor will present you to the Bishop. The sponsor will either present you by your first name (your formal name, not a nickname) or your Confirmation name, if you choose to take one. After you receive the sacrament of Confirmation, how you use this additional name is up to you.

*Thus says the LORD...  
Fear not, for I have  
redeemed you;  
I have called you by  
name: you are mine.  
-Isaiah 43:1*

**Choosing a Confirmation Name**

If you choose to take a name when you receive the sacrament of Confirmation, it should be a name common in the history of Christianity (a saint or a name from the Bible). Choose something meaningful. Take some time to reflect on whether or not your baptismal name reflects the mission (vocation) to which you feel God calls you.

Often, people choose a name of a saint whom they admire greatly for their story or how they serve the Church as a patron. For example, someone might choose St. Cecilia because she is the patron saint of music, St. Joseph for his example of fatherhood, or St. Francis for his commitment to the environment. You might also choose to take the name of a person in your life whom you admire as an example of Christian commitment.

Consider **the app from Our Sunday Visitor**, or use one of the many books and websites to look for names of saints. One popular website is the Saint of the Day from St. Anthony Messenger Press: [www.americancatholic.org/Features/SaintofDay/default.aspx](http://www.americancatholic.org/Features/SaintofDay/default.aspx)

Sponsors and parents are invited to be a part of this process through discussions and research of saint's names.

**Candidate Baptismal Name:**

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**Confirmation Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Reason for choosing this name:** \_\_\_\_\_

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Please return to:  
St. Theresa - Office of  
Religious Education  
470R Boston Road  
Billerica, MA 01821

978-667-3733 x45

Or email (preferred):  
[TonyCarbrello@parishmail.com](mailto:TonyCarbrello@parishmail.com)