

Requesting the Sacrament

You are free to respond to God's call to live your faith more deeply—to worship, witness, and serve as a confirmed Christian. If you wish to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, write a letter of request to your bishop (or pastor) stating your desire. Follow these guidelines.

Greeting

Begin your letter with the greeting, Dear _____

Body of the Letter

Paragraph 1: Introduce yourself. Tell something about your family, your background.

Paragraph 2: Request the sacrament. Give several reasons why you would like to be confirmed.

Paragraph 3: Explain how you have prepared for the sacrament. It is important that you tell about specific parts of your preparation: your prayer life, your celebration of the other sacraments, your service for others exercised at home and within the parish, and so on.

Paragraph 4: Tell how you will continue to carry out your life of service to God and others through the power of the Spirit. Tell how you plan to make your Confirmation in the faith real and alive in the future.

Conclusion

Conclude the letter and write your complete signature.

Address your letter as follows:

Your return address	Stamp here
Person's title and name	
Street	
City, State, ZIP Code	

Your letter must be mailed by _____
(Date)

My Confirmation Name – Sharing the Story of Your Saint

Your name gives you an identity; it tells others who you are. When you were baptized, your parents chose your name. If you do not know your parents' reason for choosing your name, ask them about it. Now that you are about to be confirmed, it is time to choose the name you will take as a sign of your growth in Christ in your Catholic Faith.

The tradition of taking on a new name to show a new role can be traced back to the Old Testament. When Abram was called to lead his people to believe in the one true God, his name was changed from Abram to Abraham meaning "the father of many nations." Again in the New Testament we find Simon's name changed from Simon to Peter, meaning "Rock" because he was to become the rock upon which Jesus founded His Church.

Your Confirmation Name should reflect the role, the NEW role you will undertake as a more mature Catholic. Perhaps you would like to take the name of a person whom you admire. Many of the Confirmation Candidates, recognizing the growing bond of love with their parents, take a parent's name or a close personal friend. The only limit that is placed on your choice is that it must be a Saint's name, a variation of that name or a name from the Bible. You may also choose your Baptismal name since Confirmation is the completion of the Baptism experience.

"I believe in the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints..."

After you decide on a name, complete the following. You may use additional paper if necessary.

1. The saint I chose to pray and imitate in my preparation for Confirmation is:

2. I chose this Confirmation name because: _____

3. Pretend you are the saint's biographer. On the lines below, write a summary of your saint's life story.

4. What event in the life of this saint most impressed you? Why?

5. Every Saint is known for a particular quality or virtue. What special virtues did this saint have?

6. How could you imitate this saint today? Be specific!

7. Explain why your Confirmation name is meaningful to you.
