

January, 2021

Turn in this sheet before January 31

Candidate and Sponsor:

Meet together any time during January. Discuss these topics and questions, writing your thoughts here. The Candidate writes the responses.

Confirmation Name

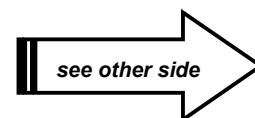
All Candidates select a name which the Archbishop or Bishop will call the Candidate during the sacrament of Confirmation. This is a name from Christian tradition: the name of a saint, blessed, or faithful witness from the Old Testament. It may be that one of the Candidate's own names matches these criteria, or another name may be chosen.

Spend time researching and praying about this name you will select as your Confirmation Name. This is the Name the Bishop will name you as you receive the sacrament of Confirmation. You are in a certain way selecting this person as your *patron* for your ongoing journey of Catholic faith and life. Make this choice with much thought and care. There are good reference books available. Try <http://www.catholic.org/saints>. Check that your source is trustworthy and not sharing legends; also, look for the *canonization* process, or the person may be a *popular* person but not one whose name should be selected for *this* purpose.

The "Creed" consideration at the bottom of the next page may provide some insight for your selection. *Once you have chosen a Confirmation Name, write your responses to these questions:*

- Which name have you selected for your Confirmation Name?

- Give a brief history of this person – who is this saint?
- What makes this person's life and faith worth imitating?
- How will you be a stronger Catholic Christian by this person's witness of heroic faith?



Candidate's Name: _____
Candidate's E-Mail (if applicable): _____

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Candidate and Sponsor: discuss this page together.

Read through the selection below from *The Catechism of the Catholic Church* regarding the Nicene Creed (paragraphs 166-167). Seek to understand the meaning in these words.

□ ***Consider the following:***

- **As a Candidate for Confirmation, you should be able to recite the Nicene Creed.**
- Beyond having the words memorized, you should know the *meaning* behind the words and be able to *apply* them to your daily life. Provide your responses to the following questions:
 - What is my understanding of who is God the Father, God the Son (Jesus Christ), and God the Holy Spirit—three Persons in one God?
 - How do I experience God's presence in my life? How do I experience God guiding my decisions and actions?
 - What is my prayer life like? How would I like it to be? How would God like it to be?
- There may be a strong connection between:
 - (A) the way the Creed was professed, lived out, witnessed to, and passed on by the Saint you have chosen for your Confirmation Name and
 - (B) your own personality, spirituality, and the way God calls you to live your life.

Explore these possibilities and implications with your sponsor.

Creed

Faith is a personal act - the free response of the human person to the initiative of God who reveals himself. But faith is not an isolated act. No one can believe alone, just as no one can live alone. You have not given yourself faith as you have not given yourself life. The believer has received faith from others and should hand it on to others. Our love for Jesus and for our neighbor impels us to speak to others about our faith. Each believer is thus a link in the great chain of believers. I cannot believe without being carried by the faith of others, and by my faith I help support others in the faith.

"I believe" (Apostles' Creed) is the faith of the Church professed personally by each believer, principally during Baptism. "I believe" (Niceno-Constantinopolitan Creed) is the faith of the Church confessed by the bishops assembled in council or more generally by the liturgical assembly of believers. "I believe" is also the Church, our mother, responding to God by faith as she teaches us to say "I believe"—together.

(*The Catechism of the Catholic Church*, no's. 166-167. www.tinyurl.com/ccc-I-Believe)

Faith is the realization of what is hoped for and evidence of things not seen.

{ Hebrews 11:1 }