



Mary, Queen of the Family Parish Blacktown

IMPORTANT INFORMATION BEFORE CONFIRMATION

CONFIRMATION NAME

During the Confirmation ceremony, the Bishop addresses each candidate by their "Confirmation Name". This may be your existing baptismal name if this is the name of a saint.

Most candidates choose a new Confirmation name and this also must be the name of a saint. The important thing is that you know something about the saint and pray to that saint for help and guidance.

A name in the family

In countries with a strong Catholic tradition, some names have become very popular and may be popular in your family. If you want to take such a name, it is a good opportunity to find out about the saint and the traditions associated with him or her. Sometimes, these may be saints about whom little is known historically.

Common names

If you choose a name such as John, James, Catherine or Maria, you should know which saint of that name you are choosing - there are many Saints called by these names. For example: St. John the Baptist, St. John the Evangelist, St. John Chrysostom.

Starting from scratch

A good way to start is to find a book in the library or to look up a list of saints on the Internet and find a saint whose life you find interesting and attractive.

Where to find the "right saint"

The library in any Catholic school will have saint books. There are a few little ones for sale in the pious goods stall in our church. You can also try the Internet:

www.catholic.org/saints

www.vatican.va/news-services/liturgy/saints/index_saints-blesseds_en.html

www.wordbytes.org/saints/names

Confirmation name card

You will be given your Confirmation name card to fill in on Workshop 1.

SPONSOR

Each Candidate for Confirmation must have a sponsor.

The sponsor must be:

- 16 years old or older
- A fully initiated Catholic Christian
- NOT a parent of the candidate

The sponsor should be active in his/her own faith and able to take on the role as a good role model. Ideally the sponsor should be the child's baptismal godparents. This helps to bring out the link between Baptism and Confirmation.



Please notice:

If you are having the child's godparents as sponsors then both godparents can present the child. Not more than two godparents are permitted.

If you are choosing someone other than the child's godparents then the child must only have one sponsor.

DRESS FOR CONFIRMATION

Confirmation is a special occasion so we dress up a bit. A pretty dress or skirt and top is appropriate for the girls and a nice shirt and trousers for the boys, ties are optional.

NO: Jeans, T-shirts, cargoes, hoodies, sneakers, thongs or high heels, please!

CAMERAS AND VIDEOS

The Bishop has ruled that there is to be no cameras or video cameras in use during celebrations of the Sacraments of Initiation in the Diocese of Parramatta. This is a ruling we strictly adhere to at Mary, Queen of the Family Parish. There will be an opportunity for the individual and group photo after the Confirmation Ceremony.

