**So Many Saints, So Little Time!!**

**A guide to choosing a patron saint for Confirmation**

Seventh graders have the exciting opportunity to choose a Confirmation saint and patron! This patron can be a tremendous support and friend as you journey through life. But who will you choose? Where will you start?? It can be overwhelming. Here are some starting points to get you going if you are stuck:

* PRAY!! It has been said that the truth of the matter is that our saints pick us instead of us picking them, and if we are good listeners in prayer, we will be directed or drawn to a saint!
* START WITH A DATE – Think of your birthday, baptism date, or other special date and see which saint shares that as a feast day.
* CONSIDER AN INTEREST – Art? Music? Sports? Outdoors? Animals? Writing? Etc… find who is a patron of those with your interest and go from there.
* CONNECT TO A CAUSE – Are you passionate about social justice or the right to life? Are you connected to a cause because of personal experience whether through illness, disability, disease, poverty, etc…? Chances are there is a saint who struggled with or lived supporting your cause.|
* PICK A CLASSIC – Some saints are more well-known than others, either because they have been around a long time or they have a familiar part in history… St. Peter, St. John the Apostle, St. Patrick, etc… their stories are a great place to start.
* CHOOSE AN ADMIRABLE QUALITY – Is it martyrdom? Is it service? Is it conversion? Is it loyalty to vocation? Is it purity and chastity? Towards which virtue do you want your saint to drive you? Once you decide, find a saint who is that example to you.
* GO MODERN – Saints are not just from 100s of years ago! There are many excellent choices of saints from our present day, which is a great reminder that sainthood is real and attainable!

***And the list can go on and on….***

It is our **goal** that all those in the first year of confirmation preparation prayerfully consider and be confident in their patron choice. Your patron choice and saint report should be completed by the end of May. That way we will all begin the second year of preparation knowing our patron saint very well.

Let's all pray for one another, that we'll know which saint is calling each one of us!

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