Candidate Name St. Peter Parish Saint Report

#### Joan of Arc

Patron Saint of Members of the Military

### Feast Day-May 30

I have chosen Saint Joan of Arc as my Confirmation name because I believe she is a wonderful role model for young women. My grandmother's name is Joan and since she is my sponsor, I thought it was a good name for me to choose. My dad is also in the Navy and she is the patron saint of the Members of the Military.

Joan of Arc was born on January 6, 1412 in Domremy, France. She was just an ordinary girl. She could not read nor write. She had to help with the household chores, take care of all the animals in the fields, helped bring in the harvest and she was 'very good with a needle.'

She heard voices when she was 13 years old that called her to save France from the English during the 100 Years War. She also had visions and she believed they were of St. Michael, St. Margaret and St. Catherine of Alexandria. France was at war with England and they were losing the war. The English occupied much of France. She was given troops to command. She wore armor and carried a white banner that represented God blessing the French royal emblem. She stood up to all the people who doubted her, and she was very successful in leading her troops to victory.

She was captured by some soldiers and was sold to the English allies. She was charged with heresy and sorcery. After 14 months she was condemned to death. She was burned at the stake. As she was dying, she asked an English soldier to hold up a cross made out of two-pieces of wood, so she could see it and she kept repeating the name of Jesus. The only thing that remained untouched by the fire was her heart. Her ashes were thrown into the River Seine in case people came to worship her at her grave and treat her as a saint.

The reason I think Joan of Arc is a good patron saint for me is that I want to join the Navy after I finish college. I want to become a nurse and work on a hospital ship taking care of all the sick and injured sailors and soldiers. I think they are all very brave to leave their families and defend our country. I miss my dad very much when he is away on duty, but he always tells us we need to be brave for him so that he can be brave when he does his job.

I also think she is good because even though she couldn't read or write, she didn't let that get in her way of doing what God called her to do. Sometimes I have a hard time with my schoolwork and I sometimes thought that maybe I couldn't become a nurse because of this. But Joan of Arc did really great things even though she couldn't read,

and people made fun of her. She believed in herself and all the gifts God gave her, and she did really great things. My grandma always calls me "her little cookie" because she says I always give even the bad things in life a good taste. I think it is important to make sick people feel better and not just by using medicine but by being nice to them and to talk to them and stuff.

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