

Mission and Vision

FSSP Mission Statement

Using the ancient liturgy as our well-spring, we form our priests in the traditions of the Church to serve at the altar and in the parish so that the **fullness of Christ** might enter the emptiness of the world.

St. Michael the Archangel Parish is an apostolate of the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter (FSSP). As such we share the mission of the FSSP by bringing to life the traditions and customs of ancient liturgy in our daily lives.

Parishioner Good Status

The question of *Parishioner Good Status* is important. Active Parishioners at St. Michael the Archangel RC Church rightfully look to their parish for any number of activities. Among those services there are:

- ✓ Celebrations of the ancient liturgy on weekdays, Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation.
- ✓ Eucharist adoration and customary devotional liturgical practices.
- ✓ Sacramental services such as Baptisms, Weddings, Extreme Unction and Funerals.
- ✓ Certified letters of good status provided for sacramental celebrations in other parishes.
- ✓ Year-end donation statements available for tax purposes.
- ✓ Benefits regarding Catholic catechesis, sacramental preparation for Communion and Confirmation.

Active Parishioners

To be considered “active,” parishioners must be registered at St. Michael the Archangel RC Church and attend Sunday Mass faithfully for a sufficient period of time. An Active Parishioner is also expected to support the parish using the envelope system.

The monetary support of our expenses is an important aspect of parish finance. However, the use of envelopes is not primarily about money. The envelope provides a record of Mass attendance. When the Parish Office is asked to certify *Parishioner Good Status*, the Pastor first looks for the registration, the frequency of envelope use, and involvement in other parish activities. It is important to keep in mind that after an absence of over two years, the parishioner becomes inactive.

- ✓ Registration forms are available in the vestibule and from the parish office.
- ✓ Envelopes are mailed annually and/or upon parishioners’ request.

Inactive Parishioner Status

Those who do not meet the expectations of Active Parishioners are classified as “Inactive Parishioners”. Inactive Parishioners do not qualify for or enjoy the same benefits as an Active Parishioner. This includes Mass intentions, sacramental preparation, home visits, and the sacrament of extreme unction.

Provisional Certification

In cases where *active parishioner status* is not verified by a regular record of Mass attendance, parishioners can be given "provisional" or "temporary" certification. In such cases, the record of Mass attendance will be re-evaluated in the future. If the parishioners have not been attending Sunday Mass and using the envelope system, St. Michael the Archangel RC Church reserves the right to withdraw certification of *active parishioner status* at any time.

Non-parishioner Status

Non-parishioners are primarily those who have never registered, supported or served at St. Michael the Archangel RC Church.

Sacramental Preparation

Parents are the primary educators of their children, the onus, therefore, of preparing children for the reception of the sacraments rest in the home. At the parish of St. Michael the Archangel we try to support the efforts of parents by providing sacramental preparation classes which supplement the religious education received at home.

Sacramental preparation is available to active parishioners and is mandatory for all those wishing to receive the Sacraments of First Holy Communion or Confirmation at the parish of St. Michael the Archangel.

Holy Communion is usually received by children who will have achieved their seventh year before 1st June and is accompanied by first Confession the day before reception.

The conferral of the Sacrament of Confirmation is the privilege of the Bishop. The parish of St. Michael the Archangel receives a date each year, usually for May, when the Bishop will exercise his prerogative to confirm those he deems suitable, and who have achieved their twelfth year before 1st May.

Sacramental Preparation classes are carried out in the hall of St. Michael the Archangel every Sunday from January to May. Each class begins promptly at 9am. In order to allow for quiet during these sessions parents, particularly those with children not taking part in classes, are respectfully asked to wait in the Church or to attend the adult catechism classes offered by the Pastor.

Sacramental Preparation classes for both First Holy Communion and Confirmation are fourteen weeks long. Attendance at ALL classes is necessary and ALL homework assignments must be completed promptly.

As the Pastor is responsible for the worthy distribution of the Sacraments and he reserves the right to quiz, question, and if necessary refuse these Sacraments based on the suitability of candidate.

Materials and books for First Holy Communion are:

- St. Joseph's First Communion Catechism
- Come to Mass (coloring book by Lepanto Press)
- The Mass for Children
- First Communion (Angelus Press)

Copies can be purchased online or are available from Mrs. Davidson during the classes.

Material for Confirmation can will be provided by the parish.