

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

YOU ALSO MUST BE **PREPARED.**

— MATTHEW 24:44 —



SAINT STEPHEN FIRST MARTYR



399 WOODLAND DR, HINESVILLE, GA 31313 | 912-876-4364 | SSFMCC399@GMAIL.COM

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2025

St Stephen First Martyr

Upcoming Events:

December 1st - 7p – Knights of Columbus Meeting – Anyone interested in becoming a KOC, or existing members please attend the monthly meeting to discuss upcoming plans.

December 2nd - 7p – Grief Support Meeting - Find comfort and healing from your grief of a lost loved one or companion.

December 5th - First Friday Mass - 12p English and 7p Spanish – There will be Eucharistic Adoration starting an hour and a half before Mass and Rosary will begin thirty minutes before Mass.

December 6th - 10:30a – First Saturday Rosary – Join us for Rosary in the Church

December 6th - 2p-8p – Knights of Columbus Rib pick up and sales, please see information in the inserts.

December 6th – 6p-9p – St. Vincent DePaul Carol-Oke – Join us in supporting the food pantry and for some Karaoke fun, more information is in the inserts.

December 8th – Holy Day of Obligation – Immaculate Conception of Mary Mass at 5p in English and 7p in Spanish

December 11th – 1:30p - St. Vincent DePaul meeting – Join us for our monthly meeting to discuss the upcoming Holiday's and our pantries goals to help the community.

December 14th – 12p Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass, Procession and Celebration

DATE	MASS TIME	MASS+ INTENTIONS
Sat. 11/29	5:00PM	†Soul of Ofelia Capapas ~Normita Baluyot
Sun. 11/30	8:00AM	†Soul of Dr. Cliphane McLeod ~Henry & Ione Phillips
	10:00AM	Special Intentions for Carol & Terry Force ~Bonny Carreker
	12:00PM	Pro Populo – For the Community
Mon 12/1	5:30PM	Our Parish Community
Mon 12/1	7:00PM	Our Parish Community
Tues. 12/2	12:00PM	51 st Wedding Anniversary of Douglas & Linda ~Linda Blanchard
Weds. 12/3	12:00PM	Our Parish Community
Thurs. 12/4	12:00PM	Our Parish Community
Thurs. 12/4	7:00PM	Our Parish Community
Fri. 12/5	12:00PM	Our Parish Community
Fri. 12/5	7:00PM	Our Parish Community
Sat. 12/6	5:00PM	†Souls of Peter & Yvonne Johanson ~Eric & Rita Johanson
Sun. 12/7	8:00AM	†Soul of Ambrosine Phillips ~Henry & Ione Phillips
	10:00AM	†Soul of Magdalena Ramirez ~Leticia Gentile
	12:00PM	Pro Populo – For the Community



12/1- Juan Gonzalez, Joy Osorio

12/2- Deshawn McGirt, Zachery Plank

12/3- Gregory Anthony, Donald Spencer

12/4- Joshua Borrero, Karen Habeck

12/5- Dale Kiefer

12/6- Trevon Smith



Janice Robertson, Nancy Hill, Tom & Jeannine Wing, June Holt, Leslie Shaw, Stacy Fletcher, Sandra Powell, Joyce Elliott, Laurie Elliott, Doug Walker, Hettie Johnson, Dillion Bovinge, Summer Jones, Robert JoVan, Lounell Scott, David Weeks, Walter Helmick, Andre McCall, Nellie Orta, Angela Wheeler, Sara Wheeler, Merle Stroud, Renee Millner, Larry Harris, Dottie Cozier, Fred Hand, Iris Potett, Mary Huffman, Joan Rambach, Chambers Family, Jane Chatman, Gudrun Poertner, Cindy Gray, Ethin Nettle, Bonny Pecenak, Amy Smith.

(Names remain on the list for 30 days unless notified)

1st Sunday of Advent: The guest

"Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming." (Matthew 24, 42).

WORD OF LIFE

Advent begins, and with it, a new liturgical year. The time begins to prepare for Christmas and, as all beginnings, there is a lot of novelty, despite what we are going to remember and renew – the coming of the Son of God – is already known by all.

The attitude with which the Church invites us to begin this time of preparation is that of being vigilant, to be getting ourselves in shape so that the arrival of the Lord does not take us by surprise or poorly prepared. Because of this, the "word of life" for this week tells us we should act as if we were going to receive at home a very special guest, the most important, and as if we risked that, by not being alert, he would go by without stopping. Of course, to have this attitude, it is necessary that we are truly interested in his coming and in taking him into our home, it is necessary that we consider the meeting with him as the best luck that life could offer us. Unfortunately, if going to mass or taking communion were attached to receiving money or having a few more grams of health, surely there would be many who wouldn't miss the Sunday appointment. What would I be willing to do for a million euros? No physical sacrifice would be scorned, nor effort not confronted; it wouldn't matter how early the alarm had to wake me or the patience I had to have with my boss. And for you, Lord? Aren't you worth more than that? Doesn't your friendship have a higher worth than the money? Who was at my side when my friends failed me? Who will be with me when death arrives? Who has done for me even a small part of what you have done for me?

Christ needs that you love him for himself and is waiting for you to take him as your best guest.

Purpose: Prepare ourselves to take Christ into our lives with a good examination of our conscience, to discover that we have done wrong and try to correct it. Pray and go to mass more.

Domingo I Adviento: Acoger al invitado

"Estad en vela, porque no sabéis qué día vendrá vuestro Señor.» (Mt 24, 42)

PALABRA DE VIDA

Empieza el Adviento y, con él, un nuevo año litúrgico. Comienza el tiempo dedicado a preparar la Navidad y, como todo comienzo, tiene mucho de novedad, a pesar de que lo que vamos a recordar y renovar -la venida del Hijo de Dios- es ya conocido por todos.

La actitud con la que la Iglesia nos invita a estrenar este tiempo de preparación es la de estar en vela, la de irnos poniendo en condiciones para que la llegada del Señor no nos coja ni desprevenidos ni poco preparados. Por eso, la "palabra de vida" de esta semana nos dice que deberíamos actuar como si en casa fuéramos a recibir a un invitado muy importante, el más importante, y como si corriéramos el riesgo de que, de no estar alerta, él pasara de largo sin detenerse. Claro que, para tener esta actitud, hace falta que nos interese de verdad su venida y acogerle en nuestra casa, hace falta que consideremos el encuentro con él como la mayor suerte que nos ha podido deparar la vida. Por desgracia, si ir a misa o comulgar estuviera unido a recibir dinero o tener unos gramos más de salud, seguro que habría muchos que no faltarían a la cita dominical. ¿Qué estaría yo dispuesto a hacer por un millón de euros? No habría sacrificio físico que despreciase, ni esfuerzo que no afrontase; no me importaría lo temprano que tuviese que sonar el despertador o la paciencia que tuviese que emplear con mi jefe. ¿Y por ti, Señor? ¿Es que no vales tú más que eso? ¿Es que tu amistad no tiene un valor mayor que el dinero? ¿Quién estaba a mi lado cuando me fallaron los amigos? ¿Quién estará cuando me llegue la muerte? ¿Quién ha hecho por mí tan solo una pequeña parte de lo que has hecho tú?

Cristo necesita que le quieras por él mismo y está esperando que le acojas como el mejor invitado.

Propósito: Prepararnos para acoger a Cristo en nuestra vida con un buen examen de conciencia, para descubrir qué hemos hecho mal e intentar corregirlo. Rezar e ir a misa más.



FRANCISCANS OF MARY - FRANCISCANOS DE MARIA

Email: information@franciscansofmary.org

Website: <https://franciscanosdemaria.org/en>

Email: consultas@frmaria.org

TV: <https://magnificat.tv/>



Franciscans of Mary

Missionaries of Gratitude

PRAYER

Jesus, I trust in you.

*I know that whatever happens to me is a fruit
of your love.*

Jesus, I love you.

You are first in my heart.

Jesus, I adore you.

*You are more important than my job, my
money or any other thing.*

Jesus, I GIVE YOU THANKS

*For having created me, for having become
man, for having died and risen from the
dead, for the Eucharist and Confession, for
the Church, the Blessed Virgin Mary and the
saints, for the things that I have had, for the
things that I have, because I am able to help
others, and for the affection that I receive.*

Jesus, I ask for your forgiveness.

*For the evil that I have committed and for the
good I have failed to do.*

Jesus, I ask for your help.

*I ask for spiritual graces, such as the
overcoming of my defects and for material
help, for me, for others and for society.*

Jesus, I offer myself to you.

You can count on me for whatever you want.

LIKE MARY.

*With the tenderness of your mother and
through Her way of living by living the
virtues. Amen.*





**HARVEST
of HOPE**
COSECHA de ESPERANZA

WE PRAY TOGETHER

Heavenly Father, who in Your providence have brought us together at this time and in this place, we ask You to guide, inspire, and bless our Diocese of Savannah and the Harvest of Hope campaign.

Provide us, Your children, with the rich soil of faith, hope, and love, that the seeds we are planting now will bear abundant fruit for generations.

As we work together for the full coming of Your kingdom, O Lord, may we find a new way of belonging to You and to one another, rejoicing always in Your generosity.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Planting seeds for the future of
the Diocese of Savannah*



**AN ABUNDANCE OF
THANKS!**

In this season of Thanks and Giving, Father Estrada and the Harvest of Hope Committee want to thank all of you who have supported the campaign. St. Stephen First Martyr family members, friends and even visitors have come together to try and get us to our goal. Because of your sacrifices we are closer to beautifying and updating our buildings. More than that, we are also supporting the greater church by helping to fund the education of all who are called to consecrated life and offering financial support for evangelization projects all over our Diocese.

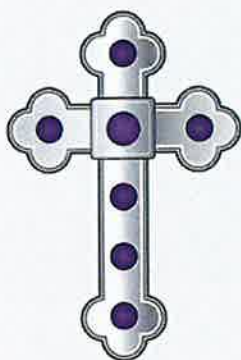
We have a quite a way to go but every gift, every sacrifice is special and appreciated. Thank you!

Make your gift today!

**If you or someone you know is still
interested in supporting our parish's
Harvest of Hope Campaign, please scan the
QR code below to make a gift with a credit
or debit card:**



For more information, please contact our campaign director Iris Bodré at
863-940-1483, ibodre@guidanceingiving.com



**HARVEST
of HOPE**
COSECHA de ESPERANZA

ORAMOS JUNTOS

Padre Celestial, que nos has reunido hoy y aquí en Tu providencia, te pedimos guíes, inspires y bendigas nuestra Diócesis de Savannah y la campaña Cosecha de Esperanza.

Otorga Señor a Tus hijos, el terreno rico de la fe, esperanza y el amor, para que las semillas que sembramos hoy den frutos abundantes para las generaciones venideras.

Mientras trabajamos juntos por la venida plena de Tu reino, Señor, que encontremos una nueva forma de ser para Ti y para los demás, regocijándonos siempre en Tu generosidad.

Te lo pedimos por Cristo Nuestro Señor. Amén.

Sembrando semillas para el futuro de la Diócesis de Savannah.



¡Llenos De Agradecimiento!

En esta época de acción de gracias y generosidad, el Padre Estrada y el Comité Cosecha de Esperanza desean agradecer a todos los que han apoyado la campaña. Familiares, amigos e incluso visitantes de la parroquia San Esteban Mártir se han unido para ayudarnos a alcanzar nuestra meta. Gracias a sus sacrificios, estamos más cerca de embellecer y modernizar nuestros edificios. Además, apoyamos a la Iglesia en general contribuyendo a la formación de quienes son llamados a la vida consagrada y ofreciendo apoyo financiero para proyectos de evangelización en toda nuestra diócesis.

Aún nos queda mucho camino por recorrer, pero cada donativo, cada sacrificio, es especial y se agradece enormemente. ¡Muchas gracias!

AYÚDANOS, HOY! SI USTED O ALGUIEN QUE CONOCE DESEA APOYAR NUESTRA LABOR A TRAVÉS DE LA COSECHA DE ESPERANZA, ESCANEE AQUÍ PARA HACER UNA DONACIÓN CON TARJETA DE CRÉDITO O DÉBITO:



Para más información, póngase en contacto con nuestra directora de la campaña Iris Bodré en el 8630940-1483 o ibodreguidanceingiving.com y

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

O house of Jacob, come,
let us walk in the light of the LORD! (Isa 2:5)

Psalm:

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord. (Ps 122)

Second Reading:

You know the time;
it is the hour now for you to awake from sleep.
For our salvation is nearer now than when
we first believed. (Rom 13:11)

Gospel:

"So too, you also must be prepared,
for at an hour you do not expect,
the Son of Man will come." (Mt 24:44)

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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

"You do not know on which day your Lord will come," Jesus says. He is reminding us that we do not know the mind of God. But we do know the heart of God, and we know that it is filled with mercy for those who heed the warning: Stay awake!

Observances for the week of November 30, 2025

- Sunday:** 1st Sunday of Advent; Respect Life Sunday
Wednesday: St. Francis Xavier, Priest
Thursday: St. John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church
Saturday: St. Nicholas, Bishop
Next Sunday: 2nd Sunday of Advent

Readings for the week of November 30, 2025

Sunday:

Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/
Rom 13:11-14/Mt 24:37-44

Monday:

Is 4:2-6/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9/
Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday:

Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/
Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday:

Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/
Mt 15:29-37

Thursday:

Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a/
Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday:

Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Mt 9:27-31

Saturday:

Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/
Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8

Next Sunday:

Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 (see 7)/
Rom 15:4-9/Mt 3:1-12



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The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for
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**Saint Stephen's
Knights of Columbus
1st Annual
Rack of Ribs Sale
December 6th 2p-8p**



Available for Purchase:

- ✦ \$12 Rib dinners with sides & a roll.
- ✦ \$25 Individual Rack of Ribs.
- ✦ \$100 for 5 Racks of Ribs.
- ✦ Cash or Credit Card Accepted.

The Details:



- ✦ Cooked Over a Real Wood Fire.
- ✦ Proceeds will go to the Church for replacement of AC in Social Hall.
- ✦ Pick-up will be at the Social Hall from 2pm until 8pm or until we are sold out on December 6th. This is also the SVDP Karaoke Night, so you could plan to have a rib dinner and stay for the Karaoke.
- ✦ Advance tickets on sale after all Masses beginning November 8th by the Knights of Columbus members.
- ✦ Tickets can also be purchased in the Office or by contacting POC Rito Arredondo @ 912-391-7084



Are YOU Ready to Fight Against Cancer???

**JOIN ST STEPHEN
RELAY FOR LIFE TEAM**

To Join or Donate to our Team

<https://main.acsevents.org/goto/ststephenhinesville>



Any Cancer Survivors
or if you are going through Cancer
Contact Marsha for a Free Survivor's
Tshirt

**Relay for Life Liberty County
May 1st 2026**



ANY QUESTIONS TEXT OR EMAIL MARSHA CLIFTON
912-737-1344 OR LOOKYOURBESTWITHME@YAHOO.COM

**CAROL-OKE
CHRISTMAS KARAOKE**

Presented by Sacred Garden Gift Shop
Saturday, December 6 - 6:00 PM (after Mass)

**A SVDP Fundraising
Family Event**

We'll be collecting new socks,
non-perishable food, and
monetary donations to
support those in need



Join the Christmas Fun!

- ✦ Individual Karaoke Performances
- ✦ Group Christmas Caroling
- ✦ Contests & Prizes
- ✦ Door Prizes
- ✦ And a Very Special Guest Appearance!

Delicious Food & Festive Treats

- Knights of Columbus — Selling Rib Dinners & Individual Rib Slabs
- SVDP & Sacred Garden Gift Shop—Selling Drinks, Snacks items

Come share the joy, laughter, and music of the season!
Sing your heart out, celebrate with friends, and help spread Christmas cheer!



Angel Tree Guidelines

Saint Stephen First Martyr Catholic Church

**Select a gift tag from the Angel Tree in Narthax.*

**Purchase the requested gift.*

**Return Unwrapped gift to the Narthax with the gift tag attached to the gift.*

*Gifts will be collected starting
November 27th thru December 14th.*

School of Gratitude

Father Estrada is hosting a School of Gratitude for Young Adults beginning Oct. 20th after 5:30p Mass and a SOG for Adults on Thursday's after 12pm Mass . Everyone is welcome to join!

Escuela de Gratiitud

El Padre Estrada está impartiendo una Escuela de Agradecimiento los lunes después de la Misa. ¡Todos son bienvenidos a unírse!



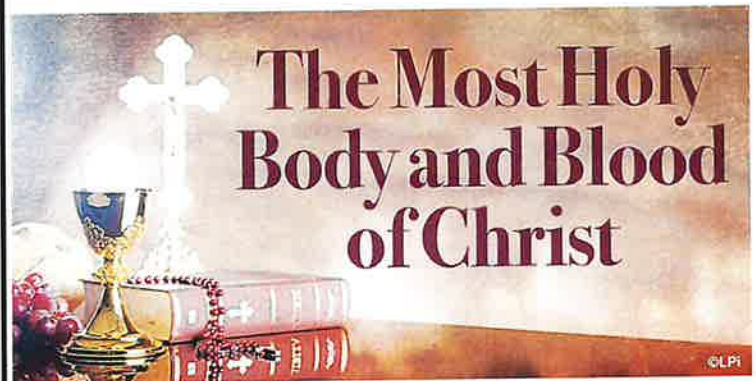
Thursdays 6-8:30pm
Saint Stephen Social Hall



Jueves de 6 -8:30 pm
Salón Social San Esteban

Guidelines for Receiving the Eucharist

You are not to eat or drink anything except for water or required medicine, for one hour before actually receiving communion. This is called the Communion or Eucharist fast. It is meant to help us focus on our Lord and what we are about to receive. Chewing gum, candy, mints, etc. during Mass is therefore inappropriate. Both forms for receiving the host are acceptable, in the palm of one hand with the other hand underneath, or on the extended tongue. Extend your hands palm-side up toward the priest and stand as close to the priest as possible when receiving Communion. Never take the host from the priest. After receiving the Eucharist, you say **Amen**. Proper reverence and respect is most important, hands should be reverently folded while waiting to receive the Sacrament.



SCAM WARNING

Please note: If you receive a request for gift cards purporting to be from your pastor, parish, or the Bishop, **it is a scam and should be ignored**. If you aren't sure if an email or message is authentic, do not reply. Check with the person or parish using another method.

PARISH SUPPORT

DONATIONS

Weekly Offertory – NOV 16

Min. of \$10,000 needed weekly to operate

Offertory	\$5,887
Building Fund	\$171
Online Giving	\$1,077
Total	\$7,135

3 great ways to support our Parish

1. **USE THE ENVELOPES** Located in the Pews.
2. **TEXT 'GIVE' TO 912-551-5553**
3. **GIVE ONLINE**—Scan QR Code or go to:
<https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/ststephenhinesville>



PROMISE TO
PROTECT



PLEDGE TO
HEAL

Are You Certified to Volunteer? VIRTUS training; background check; code of conduct. If you would like to volunteer in any way within the church go to virtusonline.org to register. (912) 201-4074.



HARVEST
of HOPE
COSECHA de ESPERANZA

Several Parishioners have already made a Commitment to our Parish for the Harvest of Hope. If you haven't done so please place your commitment cards in the offertory basket!

We are so thankful to those who have already made commitments and donations and are so grateful to our Parish! This campaign is aimed to bring great things to our Parish and the Diocese!

Active Parishioner Status

Each year we receive many requests from parishioners to qualify for weddings, be godparents or sponsors for the Sacrament of Confirmation, Communion and Baptism. When a request is made, we must be able to verify that a person is an "active member" of St. Stephen's Parish.

An active member is one who 1) Is properly registered with the Parish office and gives regular to the offertory through envelopes or online giving. 2) Faithfully attends Mass on Sunday's and Holy days of Obligation.

Even though you attend Mass, if you are not registered with the Parish, we have no information about you and you are not eligible to be Sponsors, God-parents, etc. While assessments of an inquirer's status will be made individually, the above are the main factors that will be considered in making that determination. Please be sure to register with the office and keep your information up to date! You can easily send an email to ssfmcc399@gmail.com to make changes.

Parish Membership: Whether you are a longtime resident or have recently arrived in our parish -Welcome! Please use the form below to register or update your information. You may place this form in the collection basket. (We may call you for additional information.)

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Parish Staff

Pastor:

Fr. Eder Estrada, FM
eedstrada@diosav.org

Parochial Vicar:

Fr. Modeste Seloukou, FM

Deacon:

Doug Delzeith
ddelzeith@yahoo.com
(912) 977-5278

Sacristan:

Sam Beiter
beiterl@yahoo.com

Office Manager:

Annette Miller

Office Assistant:

Diana Young

Parish Catechetical Leader:

Berta Ganaway
saintstephenfaithformation@gmail.com

Parish Council President:

Office Hours:

Mon: 9AM-6PM

Tues-Thurs: 9AM-2PM

Gift Shop Hours:

TBD

SACRED GARDEN
GIFT SHOP
ST. STEPHEN



ssfmcc399@gmail.com



912-876-4364 (office)



912-876-3150 (fax)



ststephenshinesville.com

Mass Times

English Weekday Masses- Monday at 5:30p.

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at 12pm.

(Exposition and Holy Hour start at 10:30am followed by Rosary at 11:20am)

Spanish Weekday Masses- Monday and Thursday at 7pm.

(Exposition and Holy Hour start at 5:30pm followed by Rosary at 6:20pm)

Wednesday- 6-7p - Holy Hour with Rosary.

Saturday- Vigil 5:00 pm; 7pm Spanish in Jesup.

Sunday- 8:00am, 10:00am, 12:00pm (Spanish); 2:00pm Spanish in Jesup.

Confession- Weekdays during Holy Hour, Saturday 4:15-4:45pm & By Apt.

Bible Study

Every Tuesday from 10-11:30am all are welcome to come to the social hall for Bible Study discerning on the liturgy for the upcoming week.

OCIA Classes Wednesday Evenings: 7-8:30p in Social Hall

For Catholics and non-Catholics who wish to gain knowledge and information about the Catholic faith. The classes are also for those Catholic adults and high schoolers that have not completed their sacraments. The classes begin in September and will be completed by Easter. For additional information please call the office.

Religious Education

Saint Stephen the First Martyr Catholic Church provides opportunities for each person to receive the Sacraments and grow in greater communion with our Lord. Classes are available starting with 1st graders and meet Sundays Sept. through May.

Matrimony

Arrangements must be made at least 6 months in advance of the proposed date. Participation in a marriage preparation program is required. Couples contemplating marriage MUST meet with the priest before setting a date.

Baptism

For a child to be baptized, you must be attending Mass regularly, attend a Baptism class and fill out a registration form. **Classes are held the last Sunday of every month at 1pm and must be completed prior to scheduling baptism date.** One Godparent must be an active Catholic and attend class as well. A copy of the Child's Birth Certificate is needed at time of registration. Please contact the Office for scheduling.

Anointing of the Sick

Fr. Estrada is offering Anointing of the Sick during the First Friday's Mass at 12p. If needed at another time please contact the office or Father Estrada directly.

Prayer Ministry

The Prayer Ministry provides prayer support to our parishioners and to the community. There is a Prayer Intention book at the back of the church for you to write your prayer request or you can make a prayer request by email: ssfmccprayerministry@gmail.com

Active Parishioner Status

Each year we receive many requests from parishioners to qualify for weddings, be godparents or sponsors for the Sacrament of Confirmation, Communion and Baptism. An active member is one who is properly registered with the Parish office, regularly gives offertory, attends parish activities when possible and most importantly faithfully attends Mass on Sunday's and Holy days of Obligation. Even though you attend Mass, if you are not registered with the Parish, we have no information about you and you are not eligible to be Sponsors, Godparents, etc. While assessments of an inquirer's status will be made individually, the above are the main factors that will be considered in making that determination.