

Policy 103 – Active Parishioner Policy

St. Cecilia Catholic Church shall maintain a comprehensive list of its parishioners for the purpose of parish and diocesan information. Additionally, St. Cecilia Catholic Church shall formally identify and designate “active” parishioners, as further defined below, for the purpose of those parish services and ministries for which such a distinction is important and necessary. Active parishioner status, understood in the context of a single household, shall receive priority in school registration, eligibility for in-parish tuition rates, and as well as parish educational and sacramental services.

An **active parishioner** is defined as a single household that demonstrates an ongoing commitment to St. Cecilia Catholic Church through worship, stewardship, and participation in parish life.

- I. **Registration and Practice of the Faith** - an active parishioner is formally and currently registered at St. Cecilia Catholic Church and follows the Precepts of the Catholic Church (Code of Canon Law 2041–2043), including:
 - A. Attending Holy Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation
 - B. Confessing sins at least once each year
 - C. Receiving Holy Communion at least during the Easter Season
 - D. Observing the required days of fasting and abstinence
 - E. Providing for the needs of the Church
- II. **Participation in the Sunday Collection** - an active parishioner regularly places a personalized collection envelope in the Sunday collection basket, with or without a monetary offering, as a sign of Mass attendance and participation.
 - III. The primary way that St. Cecilia Catholic Church can verify Mass attendance is through the regular use of personalized collection envelopes. These envelopes are numbered, dated, and include the parishioner’s name and contact information. If at least two (2) personalized envelopes are not received within a three (3) month period, with or without a monetary offering, a parishioner may be moved to inactive status.
 - IV. Personalized collection envelopes may be obtained through the Church Office. In the absence of an envelope, a personalized check or any envelope clearly marked with the parishioner’s name will be treated in the same manner. Parishioners who give online are encouraged to place their envelope in the collection basket with the box checked indicating online giving.
- III. **Stewardship of Time, Talent, and Treasure** - an active parishioner strives to be good stewards of St. Cecilia Catholic Church by offering their time, talent, and treasure in support of the parish’s mission.
 - IV. Furthermore, as financial support is essential to the ongoing life and mission of the parish, active parishioners are asked to share this responsibility according to their ability. A weekly contribution of \$10 (averaging approximately \$500 a year) is considered a minimum level of support. This expectation is especially important for families of St. Cecilia Catholic School who receive the in-parish tuition rate, as that reduced rate reflects their ongoing financial support of the parish in addition to tuition.
- V. **Ongoing Communication** - an active parishioner maintains regular communication with the Pastor and the Church Office. This is especially important during times of hardship or when a household is unable to attend Holy Mass.

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