



## **What Does it Mean to be a Member in Good Standing?**

Regularly, our registered parishioners ask for a letter confirming their "good standing" as members of the Church. *Often parishes ask godparents, and sponsors for the Sacrament of Confirmation for such documents.* At other times, members seek such a letter so that their children may attend a Catholic school. The reason for this is to insure that those who are serving in these roles of great responsibility are strong members of the Church. These obligatory laws or precepts are set in the context of a moral life which is bound to and nourished by participation in the Church`s liturgy. In other words, "good standing" means more than just completing a membership form.

These are the requirements at St. Mary`s:

1. You shall attend Mass on Sundays and on holy days of obligation and rest from servile labor. The only way to track your attendance is by your contribution record. A contribution record is established by the receipt of a check, bank transfer, or cash in an envelope with your name and address. Visitor and/or cash envelopes are provided in the gathering space of the church.
2. You shall confess your sins at least once a year.
3. You shall receive the sacrament of the Eucharist at least during the Easter season.
4. You shall observe the days of fasting and abstinence established by the Church.
5. You shall help to provide for the needs of the Church.

**You must meet the above requirements in order for us to provide you with the necessary document.**