

Qualifications for persons receiving the member rate at Saint Marcus and Saint Lawrence Catholic Parishes

Effective: 14th July 2021

Memorial of Saint Kateri Tekakwitha

We have discovered significant ambiguity surrounding price rates for those seeking pastoral care. As parish leadership we have implemented the following policies to qualify for the “Member Rate” in order to clarify who qualifies, to avoid unnecessary conflict, and to ensure the long-term viability of our parishes.

In order to receive the member price rate for any pastoral service which requires a fee the following qualifications **must** all be met.

1. A person must be a registered member of the parish or be the direct descendent of the registered member.
 - a. A registered member is one whose name is recorded in the parish census
 - b. Their name has been recorded in the parish census for at least one year prior.
 - An exception is made for priests and religious who both serve the parish and are from the parish because they do not have “blood descendants” this privilege may be extended to those who are spiritual sons and daughters from other places.
2. A person must be an active member, by at least one or more of the following either past or present:
 - a. Regular attendance at Holy Mass
 - b. Volunteers in some capacity, cleaning, funeral lunch, music, parish committee, liturgical volunteer or group etc.
 - c. Participates in youth group, religious education, either as a student or adult instructor or chaperone
 - d. Parish staff
 - Because the pastor and parish staff may not be aware of everyone’s present or previous activity in the parish. Present active parishioners may advocate on behalf of said person. The pastor and parish staff may also inquire among other active parishioners as to the present or prior involvement of said individual.
3. A person must maintain a local address.
 - a. Local address means residence within 30 miles or less of the parish
 - b. In a healthcare facility within 60 miles of the parish
4. A person must have regularly made financial contributions within the last year.
 - a. Regular contributions are defined as: donations to the parish in the general collection that have been recorded and are made more than annually.
 - b. Persons in extreme illness, advanced age, or in a health care facility are exempt from this provided the above three criteria are met.

5. Appeals: If you feel that you are an exception to the above criteria you may submit written appeals to the Pastor for his consideration. The appeal must include logical reasoning as to the nature of the situation or it will be immediately denied. Therefore, list your reasons. The Pastor reserves the right to consult the pastoral council, the staff and/or any active member of the parish in good standing regarding said appeal.
6. This policy may only be amended, or done away with, with both the approval of the pastor and a unanimous vote of the finance committee.