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## DAILY INSPIRATION

### **BISHOP ROBERT J. CUNNINGHAM**

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CONTRIBUTING WRITER



I have always been intrigued that the day after Christmas we celebrate the feast of Saint Stephen, the first martyr, the first to give His life for Christ and His Gospel. As soon as we celebrate the savior's birth we are,

so to speak, reminded of the cost of discipleship, the cost of becoming a companion to the savior and sharing in His mission. The word martyr means witness. We are not all called to lay down our life literally as Stephen did, but we are called to witness to our faith, to lead others to Christ by our words and deeds.

The Most Reverend Robert J. Cunningham is the Roman Catholic Bishop of Syracuse. He is the spiritual leader of 285,000 Catholics throughout seven counties in Central New York.