

GRATEFUL DISCIPLES

Bring Stewardship to Life in Your Parish





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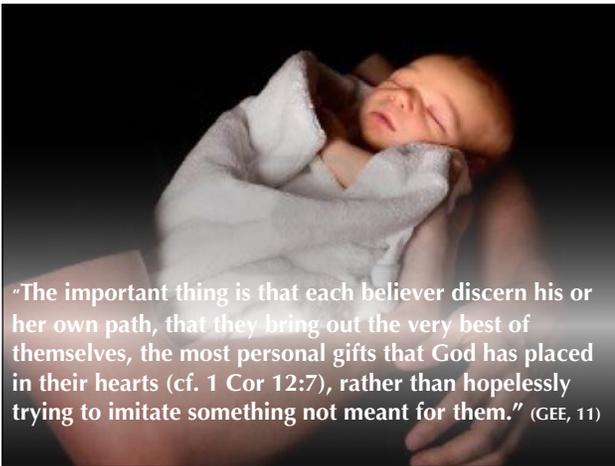
Our Plan for Today

- Foundations of a Spirituality of Stewardship
- Discipleship, Stewardship and Evangelization
- Six Steps to Form Grateful Disciples
- Forming Stewards as Missionary Disciples





Created in God's Image,
Called to Holiness



"The important thing is that each believer discern his or her own path, that they bring out the very best of themselves, the most personal gifts that God has placed in their hearts (cf. 1 Cor 12:7), rather than hopelessly trying to imitate something not meant for them." (GEE, 11)



Humans in the image and likeness of God

"The transparency through whom God is seen."

Collaborators with God in the continuing task of creation



"In this way, led by God's grace, we shape by many small gestures the holiness God has willed for us, not as men and women sufficient unto ourselves but rather "as good stewards of the manifold grace of God" (1 Pet 4:10)." (GEE, 18)







Things you don't expect to hear from the back seat...



*"Once one chooses to
be a disciple,
stewardship
is not an option."*

*(Bishop John McRaith,
SDR, Preface)*

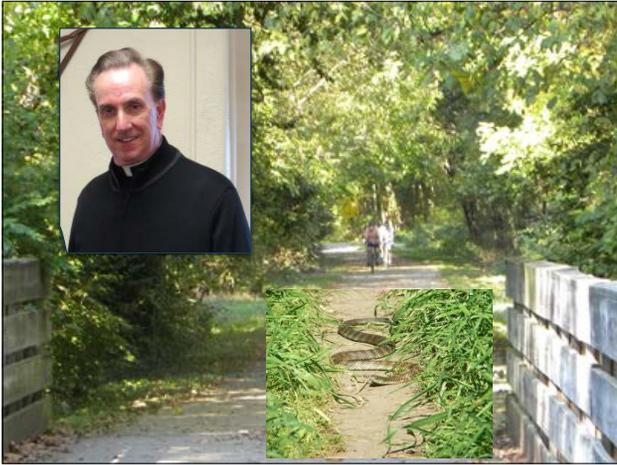


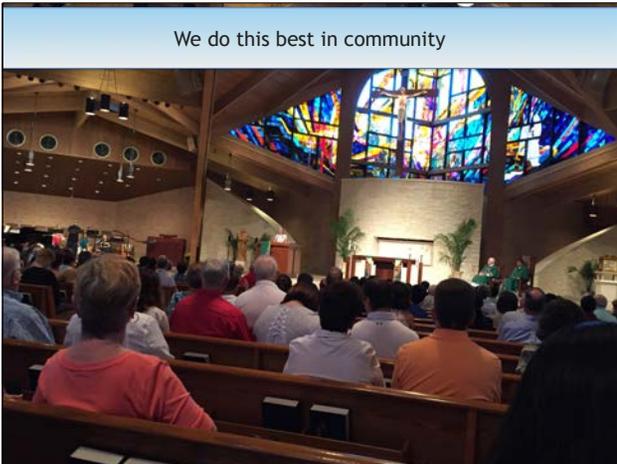
*...Beginning in conversion,
change of mind and heart,
this commitment is
expressed not in a single
action, nor even in a
number of actions over a
period of time, but in an
entire way of life.*

*It means committing one's
very self to the Lord.*

(SDR, Introduction)...

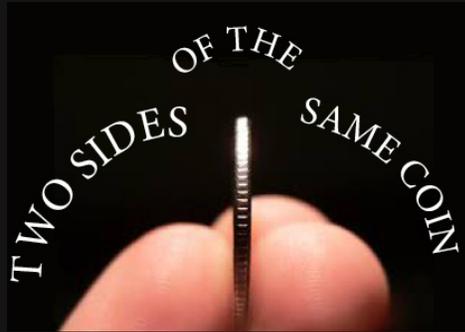


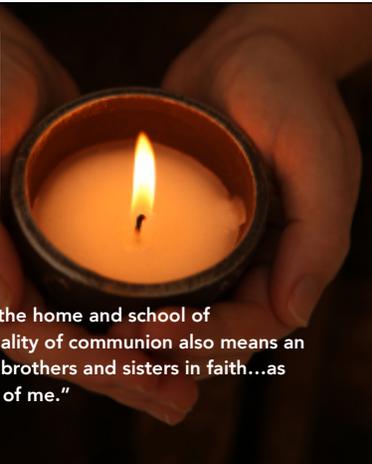






EVANGELIZATION AND STEWARDSHIP





"To make the Church the home and school of communion...a spirituality of communion also means an ability to think of our brothers and sisters in faith...as 'those who are a part of me.'"
—Novo Millennio Ineunte, 43

Belonging within the community does make a difference!





The Vision: Stewards in Community

Establish the vision of the parish as a community of disciples and stewards

Stewardship throughout the year

Grateful Disciples: Forming Stewards in Community © Catholic Life and Faith



"To attempt to be stewards on our own or even with the help of the community will ultimately be futile. We need the power of the Holy Spirit to rise above our pettiness and self-centeredness in order to be for and with others as Jesus was. Without prayer, a life of stewardship will not last." — Bishop Robert Morneau, Paths to Prayer

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Step One

**The Vision:
Stewards in Community**

- Everything we are and have comes from God
- We learn to respond in gratitude
- Such gratitude is nurtured within the community of believers

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Lead Grateful Disciples

Pastor

Stewardship Committee

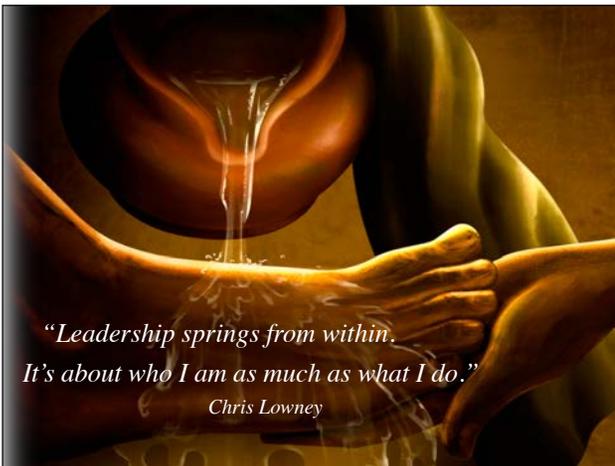
Wider Parish Leadership

Build on One Another's Talents

Servant leaders who entrust ministry to parishioners



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*“Leadership springs from within.
It’s about who I am as much as what I do.”*

Chris Lowney

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Step Three

Stewardship Education and Formation

- Always tied to discipleship
- On-going
- Every age and stage of life and faith
- Rhythm of liturgical year

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Quick Share!

“ Name one example: How does your parish form people to live as disciples in their daily lives? ”

Welcome and Engage Everyone

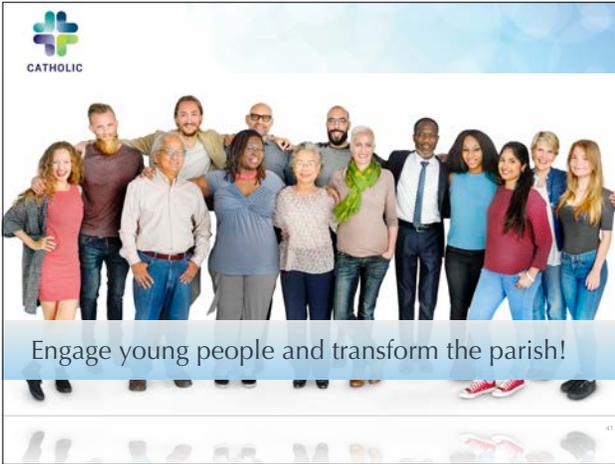
The Parish Community Really Does Matter!

Create a climate in which people are more likely to hear the message of stewardship

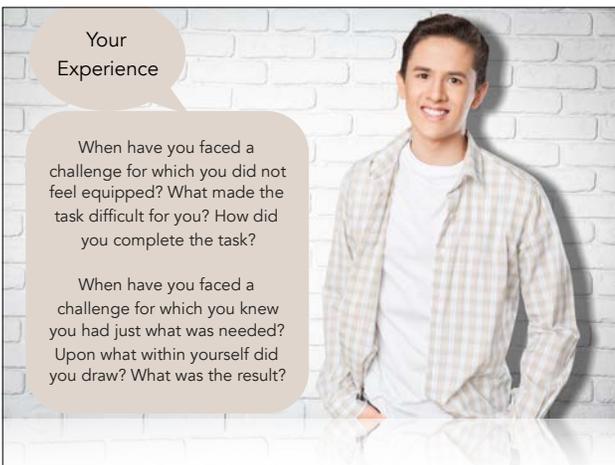
“Belonging leads to believing!”

Touches people in their daily lives The parish is “home.”

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Commit to Annual Renewal

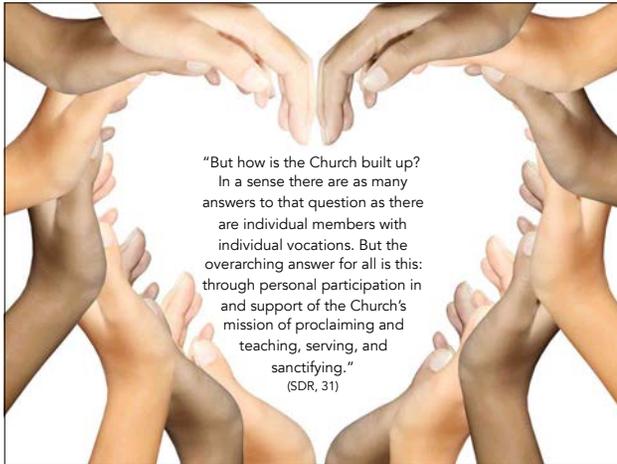


On-going Rhythm within the Liturgical Year

Commitment to Christ and the Church
Personal and Communal Reflection
Invite Participation in Ministry

Spiritual Renewal — brings faith to life



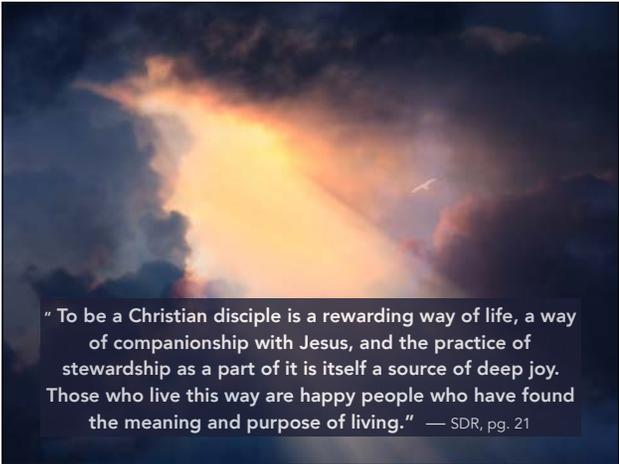


"But how is the Church built up?
In a sense there are as many
answers to that question as there
are individual members with
individual vocations. But the
overarching answer for all is this:
through personal participation in
and support of the Church's
mission of proclaiming and
teaching, serving, and
sanctifying."
(SDR, 31)

Step Five

Commit to Annual Renewal

- A spiritual process with practical implications
 - Connect life with faith
 - Time, Talent, Treasure +
- Transforms individuals and the community
- Follow-up is essential



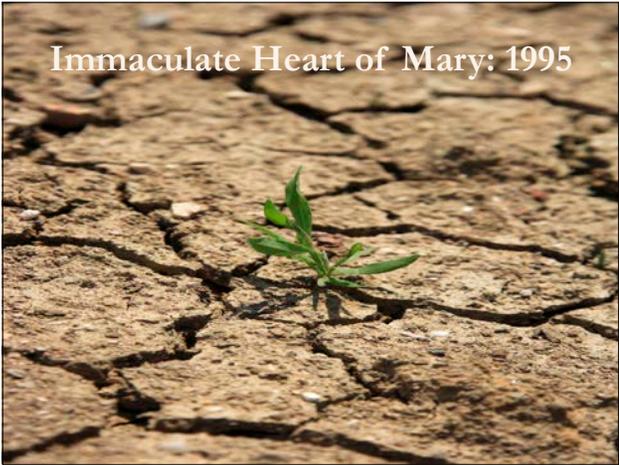
" To be a Christian disciple is a rewarding way of life, a way of companionship with Jesus, and the practice of stewardship as a part of it is itself a source of deep joy. Those who live this way are happy people who have found the meaning and purpose of living." — SDR, pg. 21

 Growing as a Community of Stewards

- Greater engagement
- Increased involvement
- Naturally evangelizing
- Deeper spirituality
- Separate wants from needs...
- People have a need to give
- Willingness to be challenged
- Joy!



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Building a Community of Disciples Who are Growing as Good Stewards

Construction!

Attention to our physical and spiritual needs



God Bless
Our Church.
May we always
follow your light!
Debbie + Tom LeMaster
Michelle Holly
Allison

Immaculate Heart of Mary: 2007





Evidence: a 12 year snapshot

- Members
 - Registered households increased by 22%
 - Median age:
 - 1999: 46
 - 2008: 31





Your Partner in Ministry

- ♥ Live and Virtual workshops and training
- ♥ Leadership development
- ♥ Consulting and Partnering
- ♥ Stewardship, Evangelization, Engagement and Strengths



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