**Stewardship As a Way of Life in the Archdiocese of Toronto**

“As individuals and as a parish community, we are all called to be faithful stewards of the many gifts that God has entrusted to us. Each of us needs to be fully engaged as a disciple of Jesus, grateful for what we have received from God, and eager to share it creatively and responsibly. This is the spirit of deep stewardship… Deep stewardship begins with gratitude and ends with responsibility. It involves individual and communal conversion, and calls us to live as disciples of Jesus in a spirit of generosity and total engagement in service to others.”

* *Archdiocese of Toronto’s Pastoral Plan*

**Background:**

In 2018, the Archdiocese of Toronto aims to strengthen our efforts in fostering stewardship as a way of life among the lay faithful and parish communities, as described in the Pastoral Plan. Beginning with eight parishes in 2018, the Archdiocese will assist parish leadership by providing formation, planning and implementation support.

By the end of 2018, the aim is for the eight initial parishes to develop a customized plan and begin implementation of activities that further foster stewardship as a way of life in the parish.

**How:**

Trainer and facilitator, [Leisa Anslinger](https://www.gratefuldisciples.net/about/) of Catholic Life and Faith, in collaboration with the Archdiocese of Toronto, will provide participating parishes with spiritual formation and planning guidance through:

* 1 Formation Day for Parish Leadership: February 10, 2018
* 8 Webinars (February – Sept 2018) through the Six Steps for to Forming Grateful Disciples as Stewards in Community (copies of the Grateful Disciples workbook will be provided to team members):

By working together to foster stewardship as a way of life across the diocese and with God’s grace, our parishes will become even more vital and vibrant communities where the lay faithful encounter Christ, deepen their faith and provide witness to Christ as they reach out to other.



**Meeting Plan 2018:**

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| **Meeting Date** | **Focus - Spiritual** | **Focus - Operational** | **Homework** |
| February 9, 2018, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., St. Bonaventure | Foundations | Initial overview | Live the Vision worksheet, page 15 (also provided at formation day) |
| March 21, 20187:00 — 8:30 PMWeb Meeting | The steward’s life is one of grateful discipleship | The vision: stewards in community | Appreciative Process: Vision, page 61 |
| April 17, 2018, 7:00 — 8:30 PMWeb Meeting | We are called to be servant leaders | Lead grateful disciples | Live the Vision worksheet, Grateful Disciples, page 27Appreciative Process: Lead, page 61 |
| May 8, 2018, 7:00 — 8:30 PMWeb Meeting | Leading people to embrace stewardship as a way of life is a process of discipleship formation | Form disciples as stewards | Live the Vision worksheet, page 36Appreciative Process: Form, page 61 |
| June 12, 2018, 7:00 — 8:30 PMWeb Meeting | We belong to Christ and one another | Welcome and engage everyone | Live the Vision worksheet, Grateful Disciples, page 44Appreciative Process: Welcome, page 61 |
| September 11, 2018, 7:00 — 8:30 PMWeb Meeting | Growing as stewards is an on-going process of conversion in Christ | Commit to annual renewal | Live the Vision worksheet, Grateful Disciples, page 52Appreciative Process: Renewal, page 61 |
| October 9, 2018, 7:00 — 8:30 PMWeb Meeting | Stewards are called to grow in gratitude and to be accountable for their faithful stewardship | Give thanks. Be accountable | Live the Vision worksheet, Grateful Disciples, page 58Appreciative Process: Give Thanks, page 61 |
| November 13, 2018, 7:00 — 8:30 PMWeb Meeting | We entrust ourselves and our ministry to the inspiration and strength of the Holy Spirit | Creating your stewardship plan, part 1 | Year-Long Plan, Part 1 (worksheet on Grateful Disciples website and provided at meeting) |
| December 11, 2018, 7:00 — 8:30 PMWeb Meeting | Stewardship is a joyful and meaningful way of life | Creating your stewardship plan, part 2 | Year-Long Plan, Part 2 (worksheet on Grateful Disciples website and provided at meeting) |