

Stewardship – Doing the Right Thing

What is a Steward? A steward is defined as a disciple of Jesus who "receives God's gifts gratefully, cultivates them responsibly, shares them lovingly in justice with others and returns them with increase to the Lord." [1] In essence, we have been given many gifts from God, and are asked to care for them for the next generation.

What is Catholic Stewardship? Catholic stewardship empowers the Church, as individuals and as a community of faith, by means of wisely giving our time, applying our talents, joyfully sharing our treasure, and faithfully witnessing our tradition. By giving to the church, we become a part of the purpose for which it was created to spread the Good News about salvation. When we give of our time and talent, we are actively involved in the church's mission. When we give of our wealth, we support that mission with our own power of life.

What is Financial Stewardship? Financial stewardship focuses on the treasure portion of the Catholic stewardship. Financial stewardship is the idea that all we have: material possessions, monetary gains, income, properties, and financial assets belong to God. It also addresses both personal finances and family economics to build skills in money management and to understand income, debt, credit, and property. In addition, financial stewardship allows for Christian responsibility and accountability relating to all money matters.

Financial stewardship honors the past, supports the present, builds the future.

The money you earn is the result of your hard work and wise decisions. How can it be considered a gift? The talent and knowledge you use to earn it are yours through the grace of God as are the opportunities for education and advancement. You may think of yourself as a "self-made" person but who gave you the "self?" We are richly blessed by our loving and generous God and among our blessings are those that enable us to make a living.

Your financial support makes it possible for your Parish to continue to:

Be a force of change. Offer quality liturgies and several Masses. Provide meaningful faith formation experiences for children, youth and adults. Feed and clothe the poor in our community. Fight social injustice. Value diversity and outreach for all. Maintain a rich historical and spiritual presence in our community.

To paraphrase St. Paul, many of our parishioners are the living stones that build up and sustain our Parish. With hearts and hands, we all must do what we can to keep our Parish growing now and in the future. Christ's call is not a passive one, for we are responsible for the present and the future. Sharing of our time and talent is our grateful response to God for what He has built for us.