

Implementing Stewardship Efforts in Your Dioceses and Parishes

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Introducing Stewardship Formation in a Diocese

Theological basis of providing ideas to encourage parishioners to live a life of stewardship

“In pastoral care [of souls], sufficient use must be made not only of theological principals but also of the findings of the secular sciences so that the faithful may be brought to a more adequate and mature life of faith.” (Gaudium et Spes, no. 62)

Thus, it is important to use efforts such as the ones described in this presentation to bring people to a full understanding of faith and relationship with God and others.

Introducing Stewardship Formation in a Diocese

Communications

- Stewardship Awareness Sunday
- Diocesan Stewardship Newsletter/Bulletin
- Stewardship email distribution list
- Use of other social media
- Video production
- Website

Introducing Stewardship Formation in a Diocese

Education

- Parish Council and leadership presentation (getting started)
- Stewardship Committee presentation (getting started)
- Networking (models and mentors)
- On-going parish consultation services
- Diocesan Stewardship Day
- Parish Ministry Leaders training/presentation
- Regional meetings of parish stewardship committees/staff
- ICSC conference scholarships

Introducing Stewardship Formation in a Diocese

Materials

- Brochures and other materials for parish efforts
- Diocesan Stewardship Manual
- Parish Stewardship Evaluation
- Logos, graphics, themes, etc.

Introducing Stewardship Formation in a Diocese

Organizational

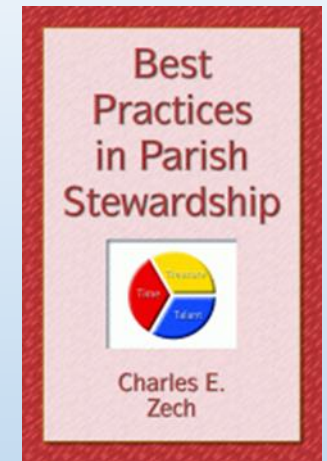
- Diocesan Stewardship Committee
- Diocesan-wide parish stewardship survey
- Diocesan meetings of parish volunteer coordinators/
stewardship staff/stewardship committee members/parish
pastoral council members

We've looked at...

- The FOCUS of Stewardship
- Introducing Stewardship Formation in the Diocese
- The question remains: *How can we establish a parish environment that will encourage people to **live stewardship as a way of life?***

Best Practices in Parish Stewardship

1. Be a welcoming parish
2. Appoint a stewardship council
3. Include stewardship as vital part of parish plan
4. Emphasize stewardship in all parish formation and education programs
5. Provide the opportunity for lay witness presentations
6. Encourage parishioners to make a pledge
7. Communicate with parishioners on stewardship
8. Remember, good stewardship starts in the parish house



Role of the Pastor (*handout*)

“A pastor’s prayerful meditations on Christian stewardship should precede the start of a parish stewardship program. Prayer becomes a potent and precious resource for the process because the primary objective in stewardship education is always a renewal of commitment to Christian discipleship.”

“To be successful, the pastor must make a complete, constant, personal and official commitment to stewardship as a constitutive element of Christian discipleship.”

Stewardship and Development in Catholic Dioceses and Parishes: A Resource Manual

Forming a Stewardship Committee (Zech #2)

- Under parish pastoral council
- Responsible for stewardship awareness and annual stewardship efforts
- NOT under the auspices of parish finance council
- Number of members varies due to size of parish



Committee Member Profile

- Spiritually motivated
- Exemplify and live out stewardship....give generously of their time, talent and treasure
- Envision and define where stewardship can take the parish
- Possess qualities to ensure success - accountable, optimistic, persistent, creative, willing to share their faith

Responsibilities of a Stewardship Committee

(*handout*) *bolded are the 20+ steps to carry out stewardship in a parish

- **Develop an Annual Plan** (*handouts*) (Zech #3)
- **Prepare a time and talent listing or catalog of parish activities** (keep it current)
- **Provide opportunities for gifts discernment**
 - Living Your Strengths Workshops (Gallup) catholicstrengthsinstitute.org
 - Called and Gifted Workshops (Catherine of Sienna Institute)

Responsibilities of a Stewardship Committee

- **Carry out the stewardship effort of time, talent and treasure on an annual basis**
 - Timing/Planning (*handout*)
 - **Lay Witness Testimonies/Weekend** (*handout*) (Zech #5)
 - Letters/Brochures/Commitment Cards/Giving Guides (*Zech #6*)
 - Homilies
 - Ministry Fairs
 - In-pew Ask
 - **Follow-up** (make sure people are contacted)
 - **Commissioning Sunday**

Responsibilities of a Stewardship Committee

- **Develop a hospitality or welcoming program** (Zech #1)
- Ensure hospitality/community building activities occur on a regular basis throughout the year (handout)

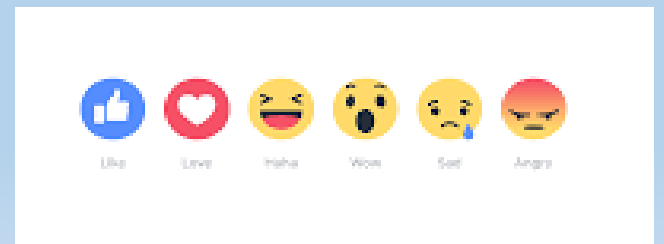
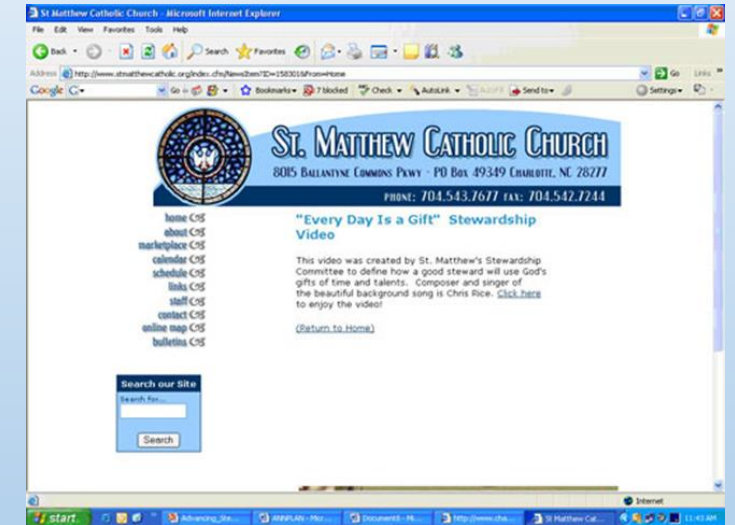


Responsibilities of a Stewardship Committee

- **Educate and evangelize (Zech #4)**
 - Parish leaders – annual training and greater focus on prayer
 - Stewardship in faith formation programs for children, teens and adults
 - RCIA
 - Parish Stewardship Mission
 - How to move to increasing level of commitment of time, talent and treasure (take a step)
 - **Children's stewardship component**
 - **In-service and continuing education to stewardship committee**

Responsibilities of a Stewardship Committee

- **Communicate throughout the year (Zech #7)**
 - Stewardship thoughts in parish bulletin, brochures, newsletters, homilies, prayers of the faithful
 - Accountability by sharing a state of the **parish annual report** that includes financials as well as faith and service activities (*handout*) (Zech #8)
 - To invite parishioners to continue participation and transformation (permeate the message throughout the year)
 - Use website and other social media



Responsibilities of a Stewardship Committee

- **Show appreciation to those involved with parish ministry (including clergy)**
- **Evaluate the annual plan each year**
- **Expand your focus beyond the parish**



Each of these 20+ areas of responsibility have detailed work to be done. Let me just share what 2 of these areas can look like.

Hospitality and Community Building

Welcoming the New Parishioner

We provide 19 different ideas of things parishes have done to welcome new parishioners.

On-going Hospitality

We provide 24 different ideas of things parishes have done to provide ongoing hospitality to parishioners.

On-going Community Building

We provide 27 different ideas of things parishes have done to provide ongoing community building activities for parishioners.

Expand your focus beyond the parish

International Level – Uganda Mission work by Blessed Trinity Parish, Ocala, Florida

- It started in 2003 with a picture of a stick church in Sr. Juliet's hometown of Nalweyo, Uganda and a promise to build a much-needed bigger church.
- Sister Juliet works at Blessed Trinity parish ministering to the sick.



Since 2004 they have:

Purchased:

- 25+ Acres
- 30 Wells
- 25 Water Tanks
- Over 11,000 solar lamps
- Computers for the school labs

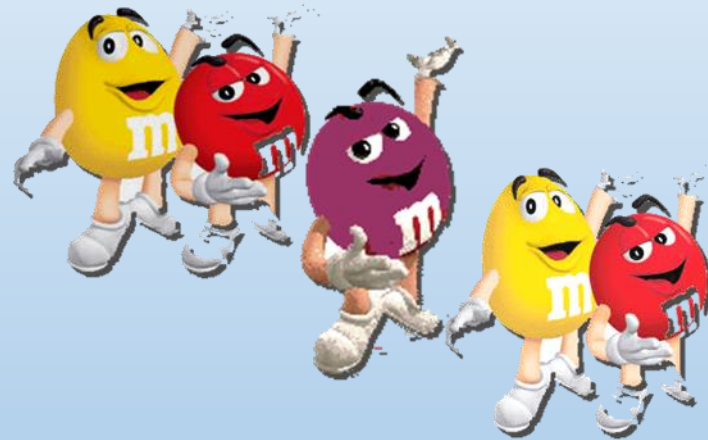
(If you can't go, pray then give)

Built:

- 36 churches with a capacity ranging from 300-1000
- 1 convent
- Blessed Trinity grade school
- Trinity Catholic high school (Phase 1&2)
- St. Peter & Paul school
- 4+ sub parish schools
- A 21-bedroom staff house
- A 4-bedroom teacher house
- Priest's house
- 3 married teacher duplexes
- 4 dorms
- Kakinda Clinic

Five M's to Building a Network of Resources

- **M**aterials
- **M**eetings
- **M**ixing
- **M**odels
- e**M**ails



Five M's



1) Materials and Resources

- Stewardship: Disciples Respond A Practical Guide for Pastoral Leaders (International Catholic Stewardship Council – ICSC)
- Children's Stewardship Manual (ICSC)
- Keeping Stewardship Alive – Proven Stewardship Ideas (ICSC)
- Best Practices in Parish Stewardship (by ICSC and Chuck Zech)
- DVD's and CD's (ICSC)

Five M's



1) **Materials** and Resources (continued)

- **Websites:**

catholicstewardship.com

blessedtrinity.org

stlukecatholic.com

stmarymagdalen.org

seattlearchdiocese.org

archstl.org

catholicdioceseofwichita.org

Five M's

2) Meetings

- ICSC Annual Conference and Institutes
- Diocesan Stewardship Days
- Regional Stewardship Meetings
- Conference Call Meetings
- Other Stewardship Seminars/Conferences



Five M's

3) **Mixing**

- Individual phone calls
- Individual meetings
- Individual email
- Webinars



Five M's

4) Models

- Archbishop Murphy Award Winners

- ❖ **St. Francis of Assisi**, *Wichita, KS*
- ❖ **St. Joseph**, *Downingtown, PA*
- ❖ **St. Charles Borromeo**, *Youngstown, OH*
- ❖ **St. Matthias**, *Somerset, NJ*
- ❖ **St. Anne**, *Columbus, GA*
- ❖ **St. Luke the Evangelist**, *Houston, TX*
- ❖ **St. Michael**, *Olympia, WA*
- ❖ **Blessed Trinity**, *Ocala, FL*
- ❖ **St. Thomas More**, *Centennial, CO*
- ❖ **Immaculate Heart of Mary**, *Cincinnati, OH*
- ❖ **St. Pius the Tenth**, *Greensboro, NC*
- ❖ **Queen of Peace**, *Gainesville, FL*
- ❖ **La Purisima**, *Orange, CA*
- ❖ **St. Francis of Assisi**, *Raleigh, NC*
- ❖ **St. Paul**, *Valparaiso, IN*
- ❖ **St. Mary Magdalen**, *Altamonte Springs, FL*
- ❖ **Blessed Sacrament**, *Wichita, KS*
- ❖ **Good Shepherd**, *Alexandria, VA*
- ❖ **St. Patrick**, *Scottsdale, AZ*
- ❖ **St. Laurence**, *Sugarland, TX*
- ❖ **St. Agnes**, *Naples, FL*

- Select Diocesan Models (Top 10 in each diocese)

Five M's

5) eMail

- Group email exchange - diocesan, regional or national



Resources

- *Stewardship: A Disciple's Response*
USCCB.org
- *Company's Coming*
by Richard J. McCorry
- *When They Come Home*
by Melanie Rigney and
Anna M. Lanave
- *Inviting Catholics Home*
by Sally L. Mews
- *Sustaining and Strengthening
Stewardship* by Jim Kelley
- *Beyond the First Visit*
by Gary L. McIntosh
- VIDEO: *What Visitors See!*
by Gary L. McIntosh
churchgrowthnetwork.com
- *Growing an Engaged Church*
by Albert Winseman
- *Living Your Strengths:
Discover Your God-Given
Talents and Inspire Your
Community*
by Albert Winseman, Donald
Clifton, & Curt Liesveld

Questions and Suggestions

Contact Information

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