



Christian stewardship successfully bridges the material world around us and the world of the Spirit within us.

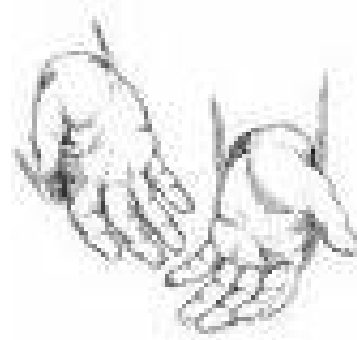
Stewardship gives joy! Those who voluntarily give their time and abilities for work in the parish and community will always experience joy if they give them for Christ. They are not, however, guaranteed freedom from frustration.



## STEWARDSHIP



Stewardship is not job-oriented or project-minded. It is a way of life for a lifetime. It helps us become aware that God is the ultimate giver of the gifts we have. Giving of our time, talent and treasure to God should be from the top—not from what may be left over.



“A Christian steward is one who receives God’s gifts gratefully, cherishes and tends them in a responsible and accountable manner, shares them in justice and love with others and returns them with increase to the Lord.”

~ *Stewardship: A Disciple’s Response*

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### **From the Bishops’ Pastoral Letter, *Stewardship: A Disciple’s Response***

Mature disciples make a conscious, firm decision, carried out in action, to be followers of Jesus Christ no matter the cost to themselves.

Beginning in conversion, change of mind and heart, this commitment is expressed not in a single action, not 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.

Stewardship is an expression of discipleship, with the power to change how we understand and live out our lives. Disciples who practice stewardship recognize God as the origin of life, the giver of freedom, the source of all they have and are and will be. They are deeply aware of the truth that “The Lord’s are the earth and its fullness; the world and those who dwell in it.” (Ps 24:1). They know themselves to be recipients and caretakers of God’s many gifts. They are grateful for what they have received and eager to cultivate their gifts out of love for God and one another.



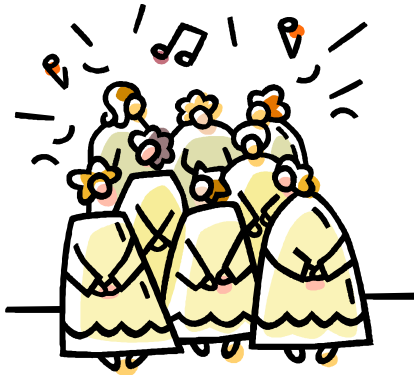
**Giving of time** involves being with God in prayer and worship, sharing our love with family and friends, and volunteering our time in church and community activities that help others and promote justice.

I can give of my time by:

- Regularly attending Mass
- Receiving the sacraments
- Daily prayer
- Daily Scripture reading
- Participating in a prayer group or chain
- Fasting
- Spiritual reading
- Visiting the homebound and those in nursing homes
- Clean-up events in my church or community
- Spending quality time with my family
- Volunteering at a soup kitchen or shelter

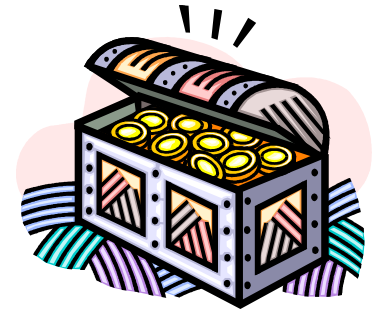


**Sharing our talents** arises from the fact that God has given each of us the ability and gifts to do certain things well and we are to develop those talents for the good of others. Many individuals commit a certain number of hours each week to prayer and charitable activities.



I can share my talents as:

- Lector
- Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion
- Minister of Hospitality
- Altar Server
- Cantor
- Choir Member
- Landscaper
- Cook for parish events
- Flower arranging
- Catechist
- Carpenter
- Plumber
- ESL Teacher
- Tutor



**Giving of our treasure** is equally as important as giving of our time and talent. Since God does not hold back on any area of His giving, so we are not to hold back on any area of our giving, especially in the crucial area of supporting our parish, diocese, Catholic agencies and community organizations.

I can give of my treasure through:

- Proportionate giving to the parish offertory
- Proportionate giving to the DSA
- Contributions to special second collections
- Direct contributions to agencies that serve the poor
- Gifts of stock to the parish, diocese or Catholic agency
- Contributions to community, school or national groups
- Donations to special projects in the parish, diocese or community