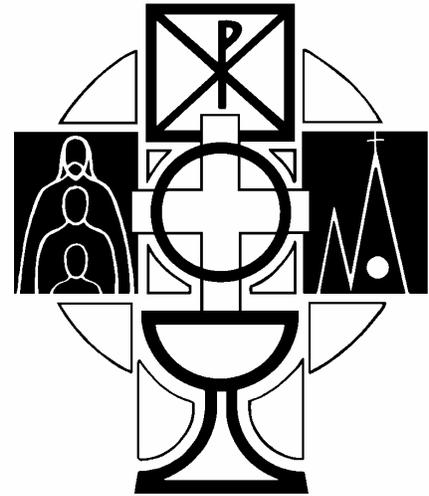


A Stewarding Parish

After the family, the parish is our faith community. Stewardship brings a new, stronger, life to a parish. People want to be part of a stewardship parish, because it offers them the opportunities *to use their gifts* for others and because *it brings the gifts of others* to strengthen their own faith and love.

Pastor and people together build and maintain a stewardship parish. Stewarding parishes have a special look and feel about them:

- People flock to Sunday Mass, daily Mass, and other devotions because they want to spend time in prayer.
- People feel welcome in the Church, whether they are life-long members, strangers, practicing Catholics or long separated.
- People look for ways to put their talents to work in service to the Lord. This is not just volunteering – it's *ministering*.
- People share their faith. At Mass or in prayer groups, they share directly. They also share their faith indirectly by the example they set in the home, workplace, and community.
- People are generous in sharing their resources to meet the needs of the parish, diocese, Universal Church, and the community. They rarely have to be asked; they give out of gratitude to God for all they have received.
- People and pastor ask regularly: **“What does God need us to do, at this time, in this place?”** And they act on their answers.



As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good steward's of God's varied grace.

1 Peter 4:10