

March—May 2019

Ongoing Formation

This is a time for ongoing formation of the Stewardship Council and parish. Ideas include:

1. Use of “Spirituality of Stewardship” DVD series in small groups
2. Ministry introductions at Mass
3. Registration of new parishioners after Masses
4. Use of Sacramental Formational Moments such as First Holy Communion. Bulletin clips on stewardship
5. Encourage inclusion of “stewardship” in homilies
6. Stewardship presentations at new parishioners' reception
7. Consider having a ministry fair in the spring or as part of a parish picnic or other parish event.
8. Post Stewardship YouTube videos to your parish Facebook page and website.

Let us thank our loving Lord for His blessings through this Stewardship Renewal

For assistance call Eric Haselhorst
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Service: “serve one another through love” (Gal 5:13).

Joyfully Receiving and Sharing

2018 Annual Parish
Stewardship Renewal
Schedule:

Recommendations and
Ideas

2018 Annual Renewal Process

Key Phases & Dates

PREPARATION PHASE

JUNE – OCTOBER 2018 (See pages 4 – 7)

CALL TO COMMITMENT PHASE

OCTOBER 21 – NOVEMBER 18, 2018

(See pages 8 – 9)

Stewardship Commitment Sunday:

• NOVEMBER 17-18, 2018

FOLLOW-UP PHASE

DECEMBER 2018 – FEBRUARY 2019

(See pages 10 – 11)

ONGOING FORMATION

MARCH – MAY 2019

(See pages 12)

“As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God’s varied grace” (1 Peter 4:10).

2. For parishioners who did not complete forms, a call or visit to their home to assist them or answer any questions. Offer to complete the forms over the phone or in person if needed.
3. After the Time/Ability forms are recorded and new ministry lists are compiled, gather the ministry heads together for breakfast, lunch dinner and distribute them.
 - a. This should be completed by the end of January or sooner for small parishes.
 - b. Ministry heads then contact every person on their list, new and old. Other members can help in this process.
4. Stewardship Council follows-up after two weeks to see if the ministry heads have contacted their people. If not, offer to help.
5. The key to follow-up is hospitality. How can we best welcome, invite, accompany and love each parishioner? “Do not neglect to show hospitality...” (Hebrews 13:2).

Gift—“all good giving and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no alteration or shadow caused by change” (James 1:17).

ith and keeps one from entering into Darkness.

Most High for all who practice it” (Tobit 4:10-11).

Follow-up Phase

“I signed up, but nobody contacted me!”

Frustrating, for both the parish and parishioners. We know it is very important for parishioners to receive prompt and timely acknowledgement for their commitments, therefore **here are some ideas:**

1. The follow-up committee has been developing a “game plan” since August. Now is the time to implement. It might include:
 - a. A large group of parishioners to sort through the Time/Ability/Tithe-Alms forms; perhaps separating the Treasure from the Time/Ability, allowing Tithe-Alms forms to be confidentially processed by a small group selected by the pastor.
 - b. Compile the Time/Ability forms on a weekend or evening, using multi computers for input. (Use Google Docs or Dropbox for multiple points of data entry)
 - c. Send a postcard in the first week to every parishioner who returned any form.
 - d. Call the parishioners in the first week thanking them for returning forms.

Almsgiving: “For almsgiving delivers from dea

Almsgiving is a worthy offering in the sight of the

What is Stewardship?

Stewardship is the grateful response of a Christian disciple who recognizes and receives God’s gifts and shares these gifts in love of God and neighbor.

Gratitude for these gifts is expressed in prayer, worship, offering and action by eagerly sharing these gifts out of love of God and one another (National Catholic Stewardship Council 1993).

Once established, it is important for a parish to renew its understanding and practice of stewardship.

This booklet will help you do just that with the renewal schedule and some practical guidelines, recommendations and ideas. For additional information refer to the Stewardship manual on the Stewardship page of the diocesan website.

www.dcdiocese.org/stewardship

For all questions call Eric Haselhorst
620-227-1537.

Why an annual renewal? “Unity”

Introduction

Preparation Phase

June

The Start! Gather materials such as the renewal calendar and last year's evaluations of what worked and what did not. If you do not have previous data, start with the 2018 "calendar of events" and begin planning.

Stewardship Council Agenda Items for June:

1. Review last year's effort.
2. Look over last year's time/ability/tithe-alms.
3. Pray. Pray with this year's theme: "Joyfully Receiving and Sharing".
4. Begin thinking about your Ministry Fair, Lay Witness Talks (who would give), and how this year's theme can be used.

July

July is the vital time to review and revise T/A/T-A commitment forms.

Stewardship Hack: Use electronic commitment forms via Google Documents

www.google.docs.com

3. Stewardship Renewal is not the time to speak of last year's income and expenses. That discussion should follow the fiscal year generally August/September time frame. That conversation should be brief with all details available online.

November 17/18, 2018:

Stewardship Commitment Sunday

This is the Sunday where parishioners return their Time/Ability/Tithe-Alms Commitment Forms.

Here are some ideas:

1. Baskets at all the entrances with members of the parish accepting forms
2. Parishioners return forms by presenting them in procession to the altar before Mass or during offertory time.
3. Forms are collected during offertory with the normal collection.
4. Homily is of the Stewardship Theme.

All done? Not yet but there is a light at the end of the tunnel

Introduction

rist has welcomed you, for the glory of God" (Rom 15:7).

Oct. 21–Nov. 18

Call to Commitment

The rubber meets the road!

October 2018

Distribute Stewardship Parish Renewal Forms to all parishioners.

Ideas:

1. Distribute at Mass.
2. Deliver to their homes.
3. Send home with school children.
4. Mail.

November

Stewardship Weekends.

Stewardship weekends should include:

1. Stewardship themed homilies.
Download from the stewardship website or write your own. Example:
Oct 21 Focus on Hospitality and Tithe/Alms
Oct 28 Focus on Formation and Faith
Nov 4 Focus on Service
Nov 11 Focus on Prayer
Nov 18 Commitment Sunday
2. Lay Witness Talks: visit www.dcdiocese.org/stewardship/renewalresources
 - a. Lay Witness talks should be a story to inspire, be hopeful, visit about the grateful response.

Stewardship Council Meeting Agenda Items for July:

1. Review last year's time/ability/tithe-alms forms
 - Determine if these represent accurately your parish's ministries.
 - Be unafraid to make changes from last year. Make it fresh looking!
 - *Stewardship Hack: Use pictures of real parishioners in ministry, this makes it personal*
 - Use this year's theme in deciding what ministries to highlight "Joyfully Receiving and Sharing"
 - Plan on attending the Stewardship Conference the Diocese provides Saturday, August 25, 2018.
 - Pray. Pray for the conversion of your parish in a Stewardship Way of Life, as we show gratitude to God and share with one another.
 - Ask other parishes for samples of their forms to get ideas.

August

Stewardship Council Agenda Items for August:

1. Begin preparation for:
 - a. Ministry Fair
 - i. What should it look like?
 - ii. Theme? A Cruise ship? A Golf Course? Food? Have fun!
Be creative.

Stewardship Hack: Blend the ministry fair with another festival to avoid multiple events

 - b. Lay Witness Talks
 - i. Who?
 - ii. Download outlines from the Stewardship Webpage www.dcdiocese.org/stewardship/renewalresources
Stewardship Hack: Watch the video series titled "The Power of Stories in Stewardship Renewal" found at www.dcdiocese.org/stewardship
 - c. Follow up committee
 - i. Who will collect all the forms afterwards?

Hospitality – "Welcome one another, therefore, just as Ch

- ii. How will parishioners be contacted who did not fill them out?
 - iii. Who will compile the forms in a timely fashion (less than a month)? — consider multiple points of data entry with Google Docs or Dropbox (www.docs.google.com, www.dropbox.com)
 - d. How will Ministry Leaders receive the new lists and who will follow up with them?
- 2. Designate a person or persons to begin writing a couple of articles on stewardship, the renewal theme, and what is happening in the parish. These will be published on the website, bulletin and newsletter in the upcoming months.
- 3. Begin a discussion of how to promote stewardship year-round. What are the things we are doing now that could be repeated in the spring?
- 4. Send council members to the Stewardship Conference the Diocese provides where the theme will be explained and ideas exchanged. This conference will be August 25, 2018.
- 5. After picking up the new stewardship posters, distribute them and place them throughout the church campus. Discuss how to best use this year's theme: "Joyfully Giving and Receiving"
- 6. Pray. Using this year's theme to focus upon. (sample on website www.dcdiocese.org/stewardship)

September

The date to remember is **November 17/18, 2018**. This is Commitment Sunday. During September publish a stewardship article in the parish newsletter and/or bulletin. This of course should be done every month, year-round, but the September meeting can focus on the renewal theme of "Joyfully Giving and Receiving"

Stewardship Council Agenda Items for September:

1. Follow up discussion on: (See August notes)
 - a. Ministry Fair
 - b. Lay Witness Talks
 - c. Follow-up committee
 - d. How will ministry heads be given new lists and what follow up will there be with them?
2. Contact the PSR Coordinator, Confirmation Catechists and parochial school principal and teachers and help them use stewardship resources.
3. Be certain the new stewardship posters are posted throughout the church campus. Continue to discuss how to best use this year's theme in the renewal efforts.
4. Pray. Use the Sunday Gospels of November 2018. Experience the joy of the Gospel by living God's way of stewardship.

October

November 17/18, 2018 is just around the corner!

Stewardship Council Agenda Items for October:

1. The Ministry Fair should be planned.
2. Lay witness speakers should be selected and work on talks.
3. The Follow-Up Committee should have a game plan ready.
4. Bulletin and newsletter articles on Stewardship should be published.
5. Posters should be displayed.
6. The pastor and Stewardship Council will need to compose any letters about the renewal that will be included in the renewal packets.

Formation – "I turned my thoughts toward knowledge; I sought and pursued wisdom and reason ..." (Eccles 7:25).