

# LIVING AS AN ACTIVE STEWARD

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GRATEFULLY RESPONDING AND GIVING



# STEWARDSHIP DEFINED

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- **“The grateful response of a Christian disciple who recognizes and receives God’s gifts and shares these gifts in love of God and neighbor.”**
  - Gratefulness is not something abstract and intellectual...it must be something concrete and visible.
  - We are all called to be disciples – intentional followers of Jesus who trust in Him and seek to follow His call and commands.
  - **“Our Lives Are Not Our Own.”** Everything we are and everything we have comes to us from the Lord. As God has given to us, so we are called to give back...both to God and neighbor by living lives of sacrificial love and service.

# THE PROMISES OF BAPTISM



- You have asked to have your child baptized. In doing so you are accepting the responsibility of training him (her) in the practice of the faith. It will be your duty to bring him (her) up to keep God's commandments as Christ taught us, by loving God and our neighbor. Do you clearly understand what you are undertaking?
  - On your part, you must make it your constant care to bring him (her) up in the practice of the faith. See that the divine life which God gives him (her) is kept safe from the poison of sin, to grow always stronger in his (her) heart. If your faith makes you ready to accept this responsibility, renew now the vows of your own baptism. Reject sin; profess your faith in Christ Jesus. This is the faith of the Church. This is the faith in which this child is about to be baptized.
- PARENTS: **We do**

# THE 3-LEGGED STOOL OF CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

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- **Leg #1 – Prayer**
  - Attendance at weekend/Holy Day Mass in the parish (or another parish when travelling).
- **Leg #2 – Participation**
  - Give a portion of your time and talent to assist in building up the parish community.
- **Leg #3 – Sacrificial Giving**
  - Pledge and stay current on a proportional tithe of treasure to support the work and ministry of the parish.





# THE MINISTRY OF ACCOUNTABILITY

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- Each October **all** parishes in our diocese will participate in the ***Catholic Stewardship Renewal (CSR)***. Like “Time, Talent, & Treasure” campaigns of the past, this parish renewal will ask **all** parishioners to:
  - **Commit** to attend Mass & use a portion of their time/talent to help support the work and ministry of the parish.
  - **Pledge** and stay current on a sacrificial tithe of treasure to assist in funding the work and ministry of the parish.

# THE SPIRITUALITY OF THE *CATHOLIC STEWARDSHIP RENEWAL (CSR)*

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- The CSR is not **just** an administrative exercise, but an opportunity to:
  - **REVIEW & REDIRECT** – How am I doing as an active steward? What can I do to strengthen my ability to live out my discipleship?
  - **REAFFIRM & RECOMMIT** – By my participation in this process I am concretely stating "I am a part of this parish community and supportive of its mission and vision."

The most important spiritual element of the CSR is the fact that it is a communal activity, undertaken by the whole parish, and geared toward strengthening all parishioners on the road to discipleship.



# SO WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

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- The stewardship commitment you made in 2022 will determine enrollment status for 2023 enrollment with the understanding that:
  - The *Catholic Stewardship Renewal* will take place this coming October for all parishioners.
  - Parish families with students sponsored for enrollment in the school will be required to participate in this process.
  - You will receive a letter tonight asking you to acknowledge that you understand the expectations of Christian Stewardship. This letter must be signed and returned to the parish to complete the registration process.

**Begin the process of prayer, examination of life, and discernment as to how God can best use you to build up the parish community!**

