



Stewardship Transforms Lives

"How can I repay the Lord for all the good He has done for me?"

(Psalm 116:12)

WE ARE CALLED...

Our Baptism calls us as Christians to a lifelong vocation of discipleship as children of God. Strengthened by the Holy Spirit, we are called as disciples to follow Jesus, and to grow in holiness by the graces God showers upon us.

WE ARE DISCIPLES...

By allowing ourselves to be transformed by our relationship with God we have the ability to transform and share our gift of faith with others in the ordinary events of our everyday lives.

WE ARE GIFTED...

We are blessed with unique gifts and talents. We are asked to be responsible stewards of our gifts, utilizing them in a faith-filled spirit of generosity.

WE ARE JUST...

We are asked to love, to be in a relationship with God, ourselves, our neighbors, and our world by living Gospel values and tangibly witnessing to others God's miraculous love.

As recipients of God's loving grace, our hearts are filled with gratitude.

A Stewardship Prayer

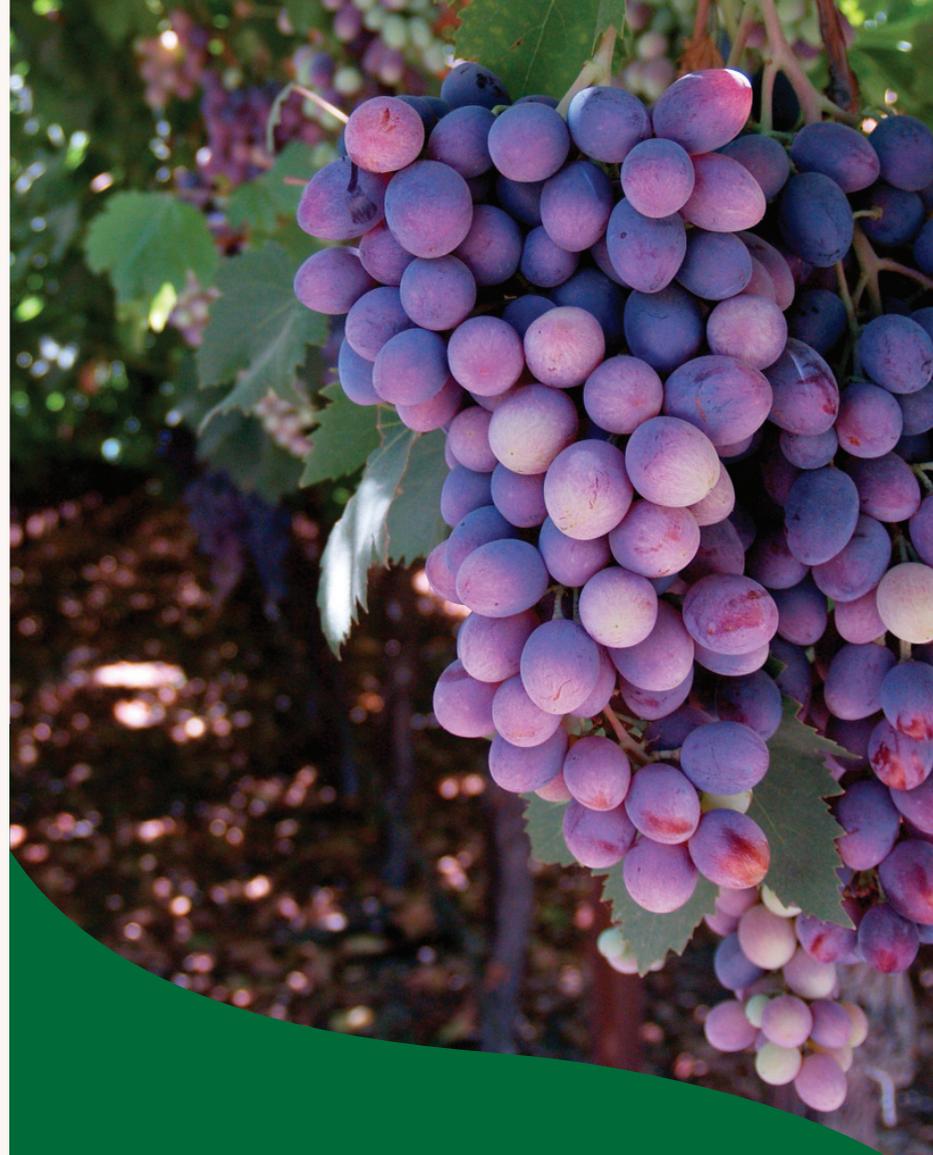
My church is composed of people like me.
I help make it what it is.
It will be friendly, if I am.
Its pews will be filled, if I help fill them.

It will do great work, if I work.
It will make generous gifts to worthy causes,
if I am a generous giver.

It will bring other people into its worship,
if I invite and bring them.
It will be a church
of loyalty and love,
of fearlessness and faith,
and a church with a noble spirit,
if I am filled with these same things.

Therefore, with the help of God,
I will dedicate myself to the task
of being all the things
that I want my church to be.

Amen.



Stewardship

A Way of Life

Good Shepherd Catholic Church

8710 Mount Vernon Highway | Alexandria, Virginia 22309
P (703) 780-4055 | F (703) 842-8232 | E office@gs-cc.org



Stewardship: A Sacrifice of Thanksgiving

Sacrifice. For many, the word itself evokes an image of self-denial, suffering or pain. But “sacrifice” is actually a word that means “to make holy.” All of the gifts God has given us are holy. When we use these gifts for the glory of God and the good of others, we allow their holiness to flourish. Our

sacrifices – motivated by a spirit of gratitude for God’s goodness to us - bring us a happiness and satisfaction that are beyond anything we ourselves could ask for or imagine.

Let us consider Stewardship as the virtue that enables us to see that our offerings of talent, time and treasure can be a sacrifice of thanksgiving that we offer to God with joy!

Father Tom Ferguson, Pastor

Time



Stewardship involves spending time with God in prayer, Mass attendance, Eucharistic Adoration, scripture reading, silence, meditation and other spiritual exercises. Every day is a gift from God! During this time we ask God how He wants us to use

the gifts He has given us. Stewardship involves sharing time.

“Everything we gain comes from what we give.”

St. Teresa of Avila

Talent



When we set aside time to talk with God in prayer we become spiritually prepared to offer ourselves in service to others. Stewardship involves recognizing that God has given each individual unique talents so that together we can do the work of Our Lord. What an honor to be entrusted with a gift no other person but you can give! Stewardship involves sharing talent.

“Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.”

(1 Peter 4:10)



“Stewardship is a way of giving thanks.”

Treasure

Of all the ways we are asked to be generous, giving from our treasure can sometimes be the most challenging. God understands this. He calls us to give for this reason. Giving of our treasure will do much good, but the most good it will do is free us from our attachment to material things. This frees us to serve God and draw closer to Him.

Stewardship includes sharing time, talent, and treasure.

Throughout the Gospels, Jesus challenges us to give as it has been given to us. Aware of our financial blessings, we strive to give generously to build the kingdom of God on earth! Stewardship is not a way to raise money. It is a conversion of our heart. Stewardship involves sharing treasure.

“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

(Luke 12:34)