



Stewardship *-in-Action*

St. Mary & St. Anthony

March, 2008
Volume 6 Issue 3

Time Talent Treasure

THOUGHTS ON STEWARDSHIP

A few years ago, there was a Ruffles potato chip ad showing two Eskimos sitting in the midst of a vast uninhabited frozen waste. One man was having a wonderful time eating his bag of Ruffles, while the other was looking longingly in his direction. When the second man asked him for a chip, the first man declared to his lone companion, "But if I gave to you, I would have to give one to everybody."

At about this same time, there was a Doritos ad with Jay Leno as the spokesman. After extolling the great flavor and crunch, Leno gave Doritos eaters free rein: "Crunch all you want...we'll make more!"

As Christians, we have a stewardship theology that is more Doritos than Ruffles. That is, share all you have because, God will provide! And, it is that way, because we live in God's abundance. We just need to open our eyes to realize it, and open our hands to share it.

In other words, God provides all that we have, and all that we are. He gives us our time, our talents, and our treasure, so that we can be good stewards, and caretakers of these things that we keep for God. This means, that we need to constantly ask ourselves how God wants us to use what He has given us.

God wants us to be a blessing to others, as he has blessed us. He wants us to support the work of the church, so that we can hear God's Word regularly, and share that saving Word with others. And, God does that because in his divineness he knows what he has entrusted to each of us, and what we can do with these gifts.

As we continue to progress through our monthly meetings, the Stewardship committee, made up of members of both parishes will be providing more and more information about the various stewardship opportunities that are available to each of us. These opportunities will not all center around the giving of money, as stewardship is far more than just money. But, commitment WILL be a part of all of it, for we all have a common responsibility and privilege to support the work within the parishes with the good things that God gives us; our time, our talents, and our treasurer.

Stewardship should never mean scarcity, or the giving away of our last cent so that we have nothing for ourselves. But, we do believe that our God is a God of steadfast love and generosity. And, that he is a God who gives us all that we need from day to day. It is in our recognizing this, God's abundant giving to each of us, that we are able to answer God's call to share this abundance and support God's work in the world.

Faithful stewardship may indeed feel like a risk, and we may at times feel like it is going to take more than we can afford. But as the Bible repeatedly tells us, God is more Doritos than Ruffles. This means, that if we have faith and trust God as we should, God will continue to make more and will continue to bless us. Good stewardship of what God gives us is an essential part of faithful Christian living, so live out your faith as you consider the time, the talents and the treasurer that God has blessed you with.



THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE
WANTS YOU AND YOUR IDEAS

“Our mission is to live every aspect of our lives as stewards and to inspire others to be committed to a life of stewardship through education and encouragement.”

Whatever you have to give... be it time, talent, or treasure... a little or a lot, please consider becoming part of this group.

The Next Stewardship Committee Meeting:
Tue. April 8 @ 7 p.m.
St. Mary's Rectory
We need **YOUR** input!!

**WHAT will you give back to God?
JOIN A MINISTRY OR FORM A NEW ONE!**



A STEWARDSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Saturday, April 26th at 7 pm at St. Mary

Ideas for the Talent Show for God: Do a skit on honesty. Have a puppet show on a favorite Bible story. Say a special prayer in sign language or Spanish. Dress up like St. John Bosco and juggle like he did. Perform ballet to give glory to God. These are only a few suggestions. There are so many ideas in this Christian theme! Individuals or groups can perform. If you need help, e-mail Berni Cardwell at cardwell1992@earthlink.net or call at 419-668-7347

Rehearsals will be April 12th and 26th at 11am at St. Mary. Watch the bulletin for more ideas. Registrations are in the bulletin racks at both parishes.)

Mark Your Calendar!
Your support will be appreciated!

“Stewardship is based on an individual's need to give, not the church's need to receive.”