Stewardship
GROWING OUR FAITH

Catholic Stewardship Renewal

Discerning Your Talents

Through the grace of God, we are each given gifts and we are called to share these gifts in love of God and neighbor. Through prayerful discernment, we can become more intentional with sharing our gifts with our parish and community.

As part of the discernment process, if we reflect on the experience we have every year at the Easter Vigil and on Easter Sunday when the priest - standing before the gathered people of God says:

> *"Dear brothers and sisters, through the Paschal Mystery we have been buried with Christ in Baptism, so that we may walk with him in newness of life. And so, now that our Lenten observance is concluded, let us renew the promises of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced Satan and his works and promised to serve God in the holy Catholic Church."*

Following this exhortation, the gathered assembly engages in the three-fold renunciation of Satan and the three-fold affirmation of our Catholic Faith. Finally, they are sprinkled with Holy Water as a sign and reminder of our baptism, and enter the Easter season renewed in faith.

The yearly parish Catholic Stewardship Renewal process is very similar in that it gives us an ongoing opportunity to reaffirm our commitment to our parish and its ministries. It is our way of concretely renewing our commitment to our parish and showing that – through that commitment - we belong to our parish family and are supportive of its vision, mission, and ministries.

To help guide this discernment, on the back of this document there are some questions to ask yourself as you make your Catholic Stewardship Renewal commitment to your parish family.

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Discernment Reflection Questions

Come Holy Spirit, Come

Pillar of Hospitality

- Are there gifts I have that can help foster hospitality in the parish? How can I be more welcoming to both new and long-term parishioners? Do I actively participate in activities that promote good relationships?
- Are there ways I can help increase outreach to the poor and needy in the community?

Pillar of Prayer

- When I stand before God and He asks, "What have you done with the gifts I have given you?" How will I respond?
- Lord, how would you like me to become more fully involved in the life of the Church?
- Lord, why did You place me where I am today? What do You want me to do with the gifts You have given me?

Pillar of Formation

- How can I share my faith with youth and adults in faith formation activities? Teach a class? Lead a discussion? Research a program?
- Am I active in growing in my faith through participation in faith formation opportunities like small groups, bible studies, book clubs, pilgrimages?

Pillar of Service

- Where can I better serve the parish so that every parishioner feels a part of the parish family?
- What does my parish need? Is there a ministry that needs gifts and talents that God gave me?
- How can my gifts help serve others and contribute to making my parish alive and thriving?