Stewardship is THE Answer A blueprint for parishes after Covid-19



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Calling the Questions

CATHOLIC

What is in your heart and on your mind?

What do you wonder about the future for your parish?





THE GIFT OF STEWARDSHIP

"Stewardship is an expression of discipleship with the power to change how we understand and live out our lives." -SDR, 3

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YOUR DEFINING MOMENT

How has stewardship changed how you understand and live out your life?

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THE IMPACT OF GRATITUDE

The difference thankfulness makes

"Gratitude is strongly and consistently associated with greater happiness. Gratitude helps people feel more positive emotions, relish good experiences, improve their health, deal with adversity, and build strong relationships."

— Giving thanks can make you happier Harvard Health Publishing, August 2021

OUR "WHY"

Share the difference stewardship makes

- Be prepared to witness!
- Magnify grace with gratitude and your grateful response
- Discipleship faith in daily life

SEEING ANEW: WHAT WAS AND IS

"They devoted themselves to the apostles teaching, to the breaking of the bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles..."

Word



"But those sown on rich soil are the ones who hear the word and accept it and bear fruit thirty and sixty and a hundredfold." (Mk 4:20)

Service



"Life grows by being given away, and it weakens in isolation and comfort. Indeed, those who enjoy life most are those who leave security on the shore and become excited by the mission of communicating life to others." (Aparecida, 350 quoted in EG, 10)



Worship

"We seek to form adults who actively cultivate a lively baptismal and eucharistic spirituality with a powerful sense of mission and apostolate." (OHWB, 17)



Community

The parish...is a community of communities, a sanctuary where the thirsty come to drink in the midst of their journey, and a centre of constant missionary outreach. (EG, 27)

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SEEING ANEW: WHAT WAS AND IS

"...All who believed were together and had all things in common...and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people." - Acts 2:42ff



Word

How do you (personally and your parish) hear and live the Good News of Jesus Christ?



Service

How do you invite, encourage, and form people to be good stewards of all they are, have, and will be?



Worship

How do you live a "lively baptismal and eucharistic spirituality with a powerful sense of mission and apostolate?"



Community

How is your parish a community of faith in which people belong to Christ and to one another?





What was or is "working?"

If helpful, think in the categories of word, worship, service, community

EVANGELIZING COMMUNITY

Hospitality

Think beyond the doors of church. Help people to feel at home at your parish. Fuel warmth. Strengthen relationships.

Belonging

Show care. Have empathy. Help people offer their gifts in new and profound ways. Stretch yourself and your community.

Witness

Share Christ's love, person-to-person. Live Eucharist. Sacrifice. Be "best neighbors."

SHAPE PARISH CULTURE

"God has created me to do him some definite service. He has committed some work to me which he has not committed to another." - St. John Henry Newman



- Vision
- Values
- Strengths
- Practice

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- Gratitude
- Discipleship
- Call/Vocation
- Discernment

IT'S TIME FOR A CHANGE



Get clear on your vision Build a vision team Plan for it Share the vision Make the vision reality



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Plan for a new day DREAM - Vision DISCOVER - What was and is DISCERN - See potential DO - Commit to action





THE TIME IS NOW

This is the day which the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

"Stewardship always starts with the personal experience of the Risen Christ in our midst and in our hearts. It is a vocation to discipleship. The following of Christ as a disciple entails a personal response, and this call can result in a positive impact on our faith communities."

- SDR, Preface



YOUR OPPORTUNITIES

What comes to mind for you?

Where might you and your parish focus time and attention?

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FOR MORE



<u>https://</u> <u>GratefulDisciples.net</u>



<u>https://clfcenter.mn.co</u> Threaded discussions, courses, networking