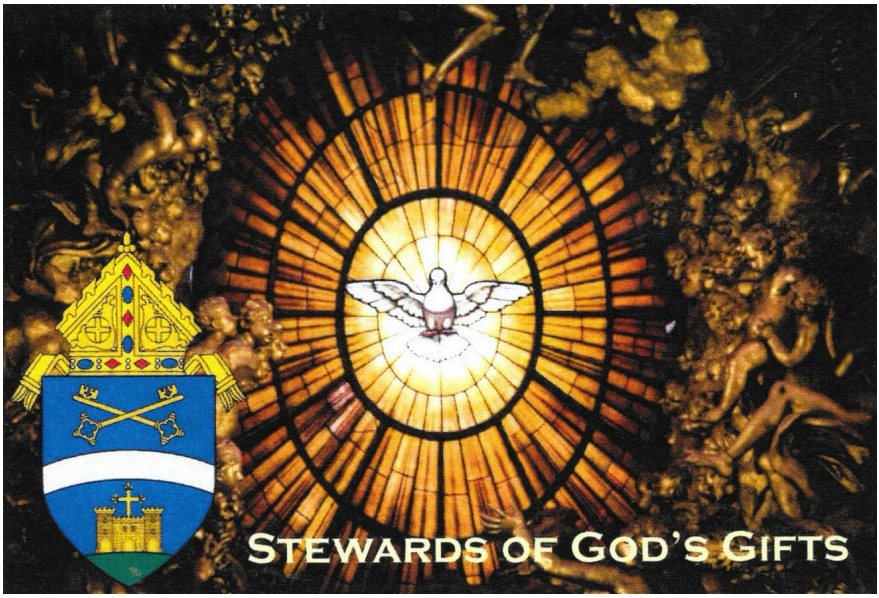


Building the Kingdom of God in the Diocese of Belleville

The Changing Power of the Holy Spirit

Grant that we, who are nourished by the Body and Blood of your Son ***and filled with his Holy Spirit****, may become one body, one spirit in Christ* (Eucharistic Prayer 3).

Pastoral Priorities

1. Youth & Young Adult Ministry
2. Family Life
3. Faith Formation
4. Growing Parish Life & Ministry

Our Mission: DISCIPLESHIP

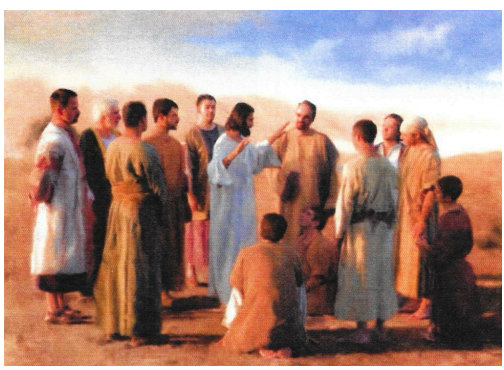
Attraction to Jesus (Luke 8:46-48)

Making Jesus Known

Proclamation, Worship, Adoration,
Friendship, Listening, Imitating, Following

As disciples, MAKE disciples (Matthew 28:19-20)

Baptize, Teach, See Me



The Way a Disciple Lives is called Stewardship



Stewardship: A Disciple's Response
United States Conference of Catholic Bishops
https://www.dor.org/tasks/sites/home/assets/File/disciplesresponse.pdf

+

Three Primary Expressions of Stewardship

Time ✝ Talent ✝ Treasure

Time: God gives time; our prayer is the return.
Talent: God gives abilities; our use of them for building the Kingdom is the return.
Treasure: God gives us the skill for making money; our use of that money divulges our priorities.

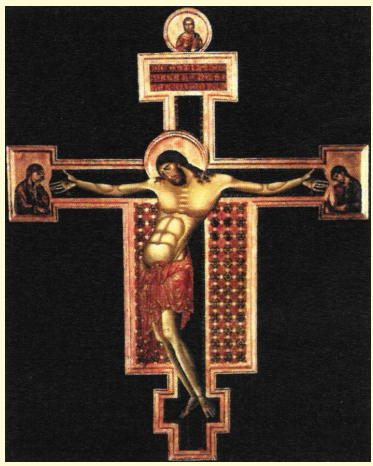
Foundational Dynamic of Stewardship

Gifted ➲ Grateful ➲ Generous

God keeps giving; He never stops.
It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks.
Whatever you did for the least of my brothers and sisters, you did for me.

Four Pillars of Stewardship

Hospitality + Prayer + Formation + Service



1. Hospitality

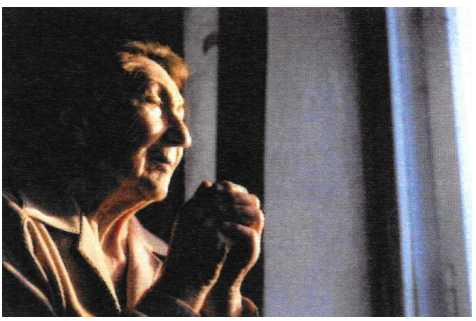
Having been welcomed, we welcome.
Luke 1:26-27
Stranger-danger is really for children.
Our welcoming must take shape in
- Sunday Mass
- Committee work
- Bearing another's burdens
- Acknowledging suffering
- Reconciling
- Respect
- Encouraging talents by example
- Being welcoming

Questions for Reflection/Discussion

1. When have I most felt welcomed?
2. How am I welcomed at my parish?
3. How do I welcome at my parish?
4. How expansive is our welcome at my parish?

BREAK

2. Prayer



Matthew 26:39
Prayer is our
- intimate time
- with God

Develop discipleship
- by praying together:
- Mass, sacraments, hospital, nursing home, meetings

"I will pray for you" is not "Let's pray."
Prayer requires mystery, exemplifies trust.
Prayer requires vulnerability.
Prayer opens our hearts and minds.
Let's pray.

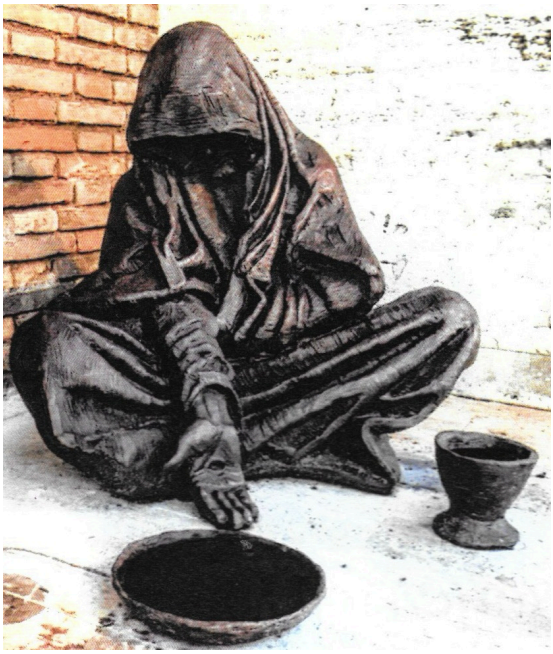


3. Formation

Isaiah 64:7
How pliable am I?
Disciples are open to formation.
Not just having facts and spewing them,
but becoming someone in love.
Disciples form a vision that is always viewed through Christ Himself.
Knowing what He wants is the challenge.
Too easily, education is seen as the conveyance of facts. For Catholics, formation *makes people who we are*. We're in the business of forming Christian human beings.
Discipleship requires formation in noticing the needs of others, in hearing the hungers of our hearts and the hearts of others. There is always a way forward together.

4. Service

Matthew 25:35-36
Disciples learn to read the signs of the times.
Disciples learn that the gifts we've been given are given for service, for building the Kingdom.
Hearing deeply *real* hungers
We put God's gifts of time, talent, and treasure at the service of His people.
Service is not one-size-fits-all.
Learn the other: teaching.
Take others where they are: Mom.
Charisms: www.stjohnsindy.org/charisms
UNCLICK "Send results to parish" button



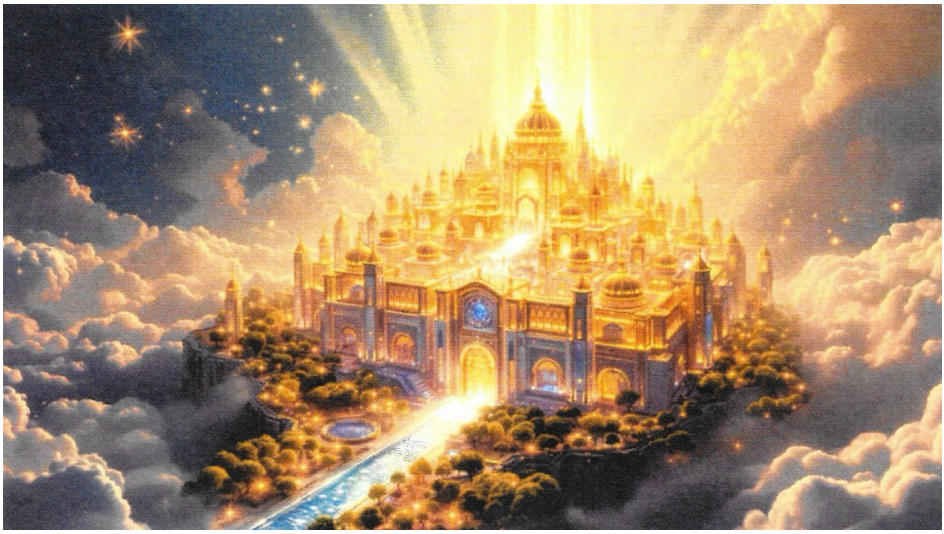
Questions for Discussion

1. How can our parishioners improve our life of prayer? What more do we need?
2. Who is doing formation in our parish? How might more parishioners benefit?
3. How does my parish become more willing to serve as a good neighbor in our town/city?

The Vision

Revelation 21:1-5 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth. The former heaven and the former earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. [2]I also saw the holy city, a new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. [3]I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, God's dwelling is with the human race. He will dwell with them and they will be his people and God himself will always be with them as their God. [4]He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain, for the old order has passed away." [5]The one who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new."

The Vision has been *given* to us. We don't create it.
The Mission is articulated by Jesus.
We must become EXPERTS at hospitality, faithful and fervent in prayer *together*, engaging in meaningful formation for something more, and increasing our charity, our grateful generosity for service.



The Vision is not simply MY PARISH. It is a whole Kingdom, a new city, the City of the Lamb, who makes all things new.

DISCIPLES IN THE DIOCESE OF BELLEVILLE
— can easily become more proficient in hospitality.
— grow more deeply devoted to prayer.
— hunger for the way of the Lord expressed in the Church's teaching.
— care for those most in need around us.

AS WE GO,
how are we being invited to WORK TOGETHER to build the Kingdom, to populate the City, to dry one another's tears, to bring new life, to become something spectacularly new?

INSTEAD OF FRETTING about which parish or school is closing and which is staying open, let's become more accustomed to setting our daily view on BUILDING THE KINGDOM.

LET'S WELCOME EACH OTHER AS FRIENDS who are making our way together to a brilliant future, filled not only with hope, but with faith, charity, and joy.