



HOW CAN THE PARISH HELP FOSTER STEWARDSHIP FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Over the next six months we will share how various parish roles can help foster stewardship for children and youth. It is

in teaching that we learn the best. Let us be open to sharing the message of Stewardship as a way of life.

ROLE OF THE PASTOR

A pastor will be successful in fostering stewardship among the children and youth of his parish if he is committed to promoting stewardship as a way of life for himself and the rest of the parish adults. With the pastor and the rest of the parish actively committed to a stewardship way of life, the children and youth will be witnesses to stewardship-in-action. In addition to making his own personal commitment to stewardship visible, the pastor can:

- Pray that the children and youth will embrace stewardship as a way of life and that they will experience spiritual growth as they follow in Jesus' footsteps.
- Visit the children's CCD classes on a regular basis to spend some time in prayer with them, while encouraging them to be good stewards of their time, talent and treasure.
- Take advantage of the Sunday Scripture readings that are reflective of a stewardship way of life, and include some ways in which children and youth can respond to that scripture reading in their own lives.
- Meet with the parish staff and leadership to promote and encourage stewardship education
- Encourage the parish Stewardship committee to form a sub-committee to coordinate the children's stewardship efforts.
- Personally participate with parish leadership in diocesan programs for children's stewardship education.
- Encourage the inclusion of children and youth in the annual parish stewardship renewal.

With the exception of a child's parents and family, the pastor is the most important model of Christian stewardship for children. A pastor's stewardship emphasis has a tremendous influence on the vitality of his parish in the next generation, and for generations to come

THE ASK:

INVITING PARISHIONERS TO DEEPER SPIRITUALITY THROUGH THE STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE



Professional fundraisers see the "ask" - that time when you invite an individual to invest more fully in your mission - as a pivotal point in donor relations. For those

who teach parish stewardship, the "ask" must be more than that. In this webinar, you will learn practical tips for asking parishioners to give of their resources, and how asking, as well as giving, can be an opportunity to deepen our relationship with Our Lord.

The Department of Stewardship and Development is offering this FREE 60 minute webinar Tuesday, July 8th at 1:00 p.m.

This webinar is presented by Sue Erschen, a freelance writer and consultant. Each webinar is normally \$59.00 per parish (*that's over \$400 a year*) But the Office of Stewardship and Development has paid your way! This webinar series is **FREE TO YOU**. Please take advantage of the investment we have made in your parish. These esteemed presenters provide quality education at costs much larger than this.

To register visit

<https://student.gototraining.com/r/5567033334166140672>

insert **July** when prompted for the discount code.

<p>Price \$129.00 USD per registrant</p> <p><i>July</i></p>	<p>Apply Discount Code</p>
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You will receive an e-mail confirmation from Tracy Stewart with the link you will use to join the webinar on Tuesday June 10th

SAVE THIS E-MAIL. Your parish can watch the webinar from the same computer, or you can register on different computers and watch in the comfort of your own office or home!

All 2014 webinars will be the second Tuesday of the month at 1:00 p.m. Set aside this date and time for the benefit of your parish and personal stewardship journey.

JAMAICAS: THE ULTIMATE STEWARDSHIP TOOL

The word Stewardship seems foreign to most parishioners. Very few church's have Stewardship committees and our own diocese is struggling to create a Stewardship council. As I reflect and pray about my department and our role in the stewardship mission I am reminded of what stewardship is.

Stewardship is a community. Not a committee. It is the gathering of people for the good of the Church.

When I moved to Lubbock from Dallas I was taken back by this one event held at every parish every year: A Jamaica. In plain terms a Jamaica is a huge fundraiser that each parish puts on in the summer to raise funds for church operating and various parish needs. But with all the time and effort that goes into a Jamaica, let's take a look at what is really happening here.

The first step in a Jamaica is the planning. Praying for a date that is convenient to the priest, the community and neighboring churches. Praying for and gathering volunteers for booths and deciding on the food and games provided. Entertainment and raffle items take planning and negotiating. Could we say this process is the first step in Stewardship? The sharing of our TIME with the parish community.

The second step in a Jamaica is the set up and actual event. The TALENT within the parish community. The volunteers working booths, the children performing folk dances, the priests and deacons shaking hands and kissing babies. Many of our parishes have this event down to a T. TALENT that is.

And finally in the Jamaica we are raising money for the church by sharing our TREASURE. Many booth items are donated so that 100% of the proceeds benefit the Church. Many raffle items are donated as well.

Stewardship is present every summer in our parish communities! Consider inviting members of your Jamaica committee to join your stewardship committee. They are already shining examples of stewardship!

Foster more engagement with these tips:

- Set up a booth with a parish information and a smiling face. Give away information about your parish such as ministries provided, mass times and unique parish information.
- Show where Jamaica funds from the previous year went. Did you purchase a church van? Did your youth travel on retreat? Did the men's club build a gazebo? Attendees will feel important and satisfied knowing they are helping the church grow.
- Have a sign up sheet! Collect contact information in the best way possible and be sure to FOLLOW UP. Whether you ask people to sign up for house blessings or for early CCE sign-up. Find a way to attract the non-practicing Catholics in your community and to foster your relationship with current parishioners.



- Share the many prayers and non-monetary gifts your church has given. Pictures are worth a thousand words. But you can also share statistics such as the number of rosaries said for aborted babies, the number of masses held at the nursing home, the increase in youth in CCE classes, etc.
- Do not be shy in sharing parish financial information at this time. If your collections are down, share that with visitors. If collections are increasing share that as well! You never know what someone needs to hear in order to return to an active life in the Church.
- Be sure a priest or deacon is easily visible throughout the event. For non-practicing or non-Catholics, the presence of holy man in casual vestments will bring a connection to them and the church.

Did you miss last month's webinar? Watch recording here: <http://bit.ly/RCDLDifficultPeople>

Upcoming Webinars

A Stewardship of Spirituality: Practical ideas

U August 8 - 1:00 p.m.

G

S Basic Steps for Developing a

E Parish Strategic Plan

P September 13 - 1:00 p.m.



O Hospitality as a Key to Stewardship

October 10 - 1:00 p.m.

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N Best Practices in Parish Stewardship

November 11 - 1:00 p.m.

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