



Presentation Press



Our Lady of the Presentation Church

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The Core Values of Stewardship *by Jane Krawczyk, Director of Stewardship & Development*

“Now the company of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one said that any of the things which he possessed was his own, but they had everything in common. There was not a needy person among them.”
— Acts 4:32,34



This fall our parish stewardship committee will begin to read and reflect on a book entitled *Catholic Stewardship*. One of the concepts in the book is that although time, talent and treasure are memorable words, they are not inclusive enough to define stewardship. Authentic Christian Stewardship calls us beyond time, beyond talent, beyond treasure. Stewardship is a gift from God, a call to conversion in the midst of a materialistic world.

Our Annual Stewardship Renewal begins the weekend of October 17-18. You will hear speakers at Masses talk about our parish finances and share personal stories about living a life of stewardship, leading us into our Commitment Sunday weekend, November 7-8. To help you prepare for our annual Stewardship Renewal, I offer you insights about stewardship from Fr. Andrew Kemberling who has been teaching and preaching stewardship for years. He believes the spirituality of stewardship is based on four core values. Following are some of Fr. Kemberling's key beliefs related to those values.

Identity: We must begin with the truth and awareness that we are created in the image and likeness of God. We don't belong to ourselves – we don't own our gifts. They are to be shared with others.

Trust: Because we are not our own, we realize we are not in control. Trust comes with the acceptance that God is at work in the world and in my life; how I earn my money, how my talents develop.

Trust is being able to let go and know that God will provide. When able to do so people begin to trust God like they have never trusted before.

Gratitude: Gratitude follows trust. Gratitude unfolds as we deepen our understanding that everything we have is a gift from God. Everything!

Love: At the culmination of the stewardship conversion lies love. When we remember who we are, stewardship becomes a sign of love because we are willing to give our best and put God first. Most people think the stewardship of time is linked to talent. Giving time alone to God in prayer is the time we are called to share in stewardship. Once people tithe time to prayer, other elements of stewardship come naturally. Prayer is what aids in the conversion necessary for living stewardship.

With the arrival of fall and as we approach our Annual Stewardship Renewal, I hope you will take a little extra time to reflect on how you are living out God's call to Stewardship. Does your daily life include time spent in prayer? Are you supporting our faith community both financially and through sharing your talents? Does your life reflect your identity in God, a deep sense of trust, gratitude and love?

Annual Stewardship Renewal Timeline

October 17-18

Rex Scott, Parish Administrator

October 24-25

Steve Holdmeyer

November 7-8

Stewardship Renewal Commitment Sunday

*Turn in your financial pledge cards and
Time & Talent forms at Masses*

November 15-16

Bishop's Annual Appeal Commitment Weekend

*Information will be mailed to your home regarding the
Bishop's Annual Appeal. Please be generous.*

Stewardship Tip

Share Your Story...

Everyone who lives a life of stewardship has a moving, magical stewardship story. It is important that we share our stories, not only to convey them to others, but to reinforce our stories for ourselves. It's all too easy once a miraculous moment has passed to forget about it or write it off as coincidence. Reflect on a time, when through the sharing of your gifts, you became more deeply aware of God's presence in your life and in the lives of others. This month take time to share your story with a family member, a friend or with a parish committee.

Capital Campaign Readiness Assessment Survey Results

This past June, the Church Development Foundation (TCDF) conducted a Capital Campaign Readiness Assessment survey regarding renovation of our worship space. Results of this survey were published in a special insert in the September parish newsletter. Further input from parishioners is needed to make final decisions about our worship space renovation. You are invited to attend one of four parish wide meetings that are planned in November. Your support is needed as we move forward with the renovation of our worship space. Please participate by sharing your thoughts of the readiness assessment results, possible renovation plans, and, how to best prepare our parish for its future. Specific ways you can participate include:

- Keep our parish and its future in your prayers as we discern the direction to which we are called.
- Attend parish-wide meetings to offer your input. **See dates and times below.**
- Continue to read, listen, and participate as we together contemplate our options and make our decisions.
- Help leaders make wise decisions by talking with them and expressing your questions and concerns. You can contact Jane Krawczyk at 816 251-1100 or jkrawczyk@presentation-parish.org.
- Read the full Readiness Assessment Report, available in the parish office.

All Parish Wide Meetings Will Be in the Auditorium

Please plan to attend one of the following meetings:

Sunday, November 1 - 4:00 to 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, November 3 - 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Sunday, November 8 - 4:00 to 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, November 10 - 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Celebrating the Nativity of Mary

For the past five years, Our Lady of the Presentation School has participated in a fall service project to celebrate the "Nativity of Mary." Each year, students are asked to bring in baby items to an all school Mass. The donations benefit Birthright, Hope House, Rachel House and Redemptorist Social Services. Thank you to all of the students who brought hundreds of items to school to help young mothers and infants in the Kansas City community. Mrs. Mueller, the School Counselor and her five Student Council officers helped to coordinate this service project.



Above: Student Council officers Grace, Brady, Gabriella, Zach and Alex helped organize the service project. Pictured at left students Zach and Grace help sort donations.



Carnival Fun!

The school year got off to a great start! On August 18, we welcomed back 461 students. Thank you to all the parish families who supported our "Back to School" Carnival, August 22.



We Have 13 High School Graduates! *by Jo Engert*

In 2006, San Rafael Cedros, El Salvador became our sister community. We began our sister relationship by sponsoring 12 high school students through generous donations from Presentation families.

The goal of the scholarship program is to join in partnership to educate the youth of San Rafael Cedros so they are able to make a difference in their home communities. For these youth, education is not a given as it is for our children, it is a dream. The parents who are fortunate enough to work, many of them widowed, support their families on \$3 a day or less. It then becomes an impossibility to afford to cover the cost of school uniforms, transportation, and tuition.

This calendar year we are sponsoring 23 high school students and four university students. Parishioners donated over \$11,000 to cover the scholar-

ships. In November, 13 of the students will graduate from high school. Nine of them have a new dream... to attend the university. The cost to send a student to high school is \$300 a year. The cost for the university is \$1050 per year. Next year our hope is to cover scholarships for 12 university students and 14 high school students which will cost \$17,000. No donation is too small or too large. To find out how you can become involved in changing the lives of those in El Salvador, contact Jo Engert at 251-1135.





**Our Lady of the
Presentation Church**
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**Please notify the Parish
Office of address changes.**

Vision Statement

Our Lady of the Presentation is a vibrant, Eucharist-centered community offering all Catholics participation in sacraments, social action and Christian education.

Mission Statement

To share our gifts by providing opportunities for spiritual growth in worship, service, education and community activities, is our mission.

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Annual Report Inside!

Our Lady of the Presentation 11th Annual



**Trunk
or Treat**

Sponsored by the 8th Grade Class

Friday, October 23

5:00 to 9:00 pm in the North Parking Lot

Food served at 5 pm • Trunk-or-Treat begins at 6 pm

**Cost: \$10 for walk-in/drive-in or
\$13 for reserved parking**

Reserve parking spots at the school office before Oct. 19

**Sausage Meal: \$4 or Hot Dog Meal: \$3
(chips/drink included)**

Join us for a ghoulish good time!

All Saints Remembrance Mass

An All Saints Remembrance Mass will be celebrated Sunday, November 1 at the 8:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m. and Noon Masses to commemorate loved ones who have died this past year. All parishioners are invited to attend. A representative from each family who has lost a loved one is asked to meet in Mulligan Room South 15 minutes prior to Mass for a candle procession. If you have questions, call the Pastoral Care office at 251-1102.

AED/CPR Certification Classes

Certification for Automated External Defibrillator (AED) or Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR), will be offered Monday October 12 and October 26, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. in the Mulligan Rooms. Registration and a light dinner begins at 6:15 p.m. The training is open to all parishioners who wish to be certified or re-certified, especially those who were certified at Presentation two years ago. Each class is limited to 24 people. To register, contact Kay Williams, 251-1134.