

Stewardship

2018



2018 can be heart changing and mind expanding for each of us. In today's culture we only consider short-term results far too often. Our long-range outlook can seem clouded by the worry or fear about an unclear personal or family's future. It may be time to stop what you are doing, step back, look at yourself and switch to a more long-term plan. Ask yourself today:

- What will matter at the end?
- What memory of me will I gift to you?
- What do I want to have now that will last for my lifetime?
- What do I do and say each day that makes tomorrow better for others?

Stewardship should be a daily practice. True Stewardship is not just about giving money, or serving on a committee. Stewardship is the humble understanding that all we are and all we possess are gifts that have been given to us. How we use our gifts is our lifelong task and responsibility. Stewards realize God's generosity can not be matched and that true stewardship comes from within. It is a way of life that includes caring for ourselves physically, emotionally and spiritually. In addition, Stewardship calls us to care for our families, friends and those in our community. Stewardship is a given challenge that can require change of mind and heart or a conversion. If change is needed, it can be difficult process. It is not a one-time event. Let 2018 be the year of transition.

Take your first steps on a new Stewardship path. Take the time to examine your gifts. Create new avenues for sharing your gifts with others. Becoming a true steward requires prayer, meditation, trust and time. It calls us to reassess our priorities and make adjustments in the importance we place on things. It affects every aspect of our family life, work life and spiritual life. This year trust in the grace of God. Know that the benefits of a stewardship lifestyle are endless. Recognize that the greatest benefit of being a steward is knowing that value has been added to the lives of others through actions and words. Small gestures take on great meaning and give great reward when applied with love in the spirit of the Holy Family. Stewardship is more than just managing all that we have. Being a steward is not just something else to do. Along with many other things good people do, it is a total way of life and requires continual thought and effort. A good steward receives God's gifts gratefully, cultivates them responsibly, shares them fairly and lovingly in honor to the Lord. Join me on the journey...I hope to see you on the path.

Wishing you a year of peace and simple well-being.

Michelle

11-29-2017