

**What We're Already
Doing**

Stewardship

Focus and Goals

To bring people into a relationship with our parish and with the work it does in a way that makes them want to support it.

To bring people into a closer relationship with God through the experiences of giving time, talent and treasure that we help to create by offering occasions where this giving is consciously evoked as a spiritual act and practice

Ideal Outcomes

Parishioners make a contribution to the parish in recognition that the parish needs resources if it is to continue its work (that is, parishioners give to a need)

Parishioners are more generous in their gifts to the parish of their time, talent, and treasure because every gift becomes an occasion for and a celebration of growth in faith (that is, parishioners develop a need to give)

Philosophical and Cultural Underpinnings

The philosophical and cultural root is philanthropy, "private action for public purposes". The intent is to encourage people to feel a commitment to the "common good of the parish", and voluntarily give of their resources -- material goods that they feel they own -- for the benefit of others.

The philosophical and cultural root of stewardship is a commitment to personal and collective behavior that recognizes and honors God's ultimate ownership of and profound generosity in all things. The intent is to encourage people to see all resources as gifts temporarily entrusted to us to be used and shared to promote the welfare of all of God's creation.

Ultimate Objective

To provide financial (and other) support for our parish, so that it may carry out the godly work to which we believe it has been called.

To "build the household of God" so there will be more human and spiritual, as well as material, resources to carry out the work of building the kingdom, in whatever form that work may take.

Catholic Giving
True-False Exam

Indicate whether you think each of the following statements is true or false:

1. _____ While no church is entirely satisfied with the amount that their members contribute, Catholics contribute to their parish at about the same rate as Protestants.
2. _____ Catholics who attend Mass more often contribute more to their parish.
3. _____ Catholics who disagree with official Church teachings on sexual ethics issues such as birth control, divorce, abortion, or the ordination of women contribute less to their parish than do those Catholics who agree with the Church's teachings on each of these topics.
4. _____ Parishes that preach a stewardship message receive larger contributions from their members.
5. _____ Parishioners who plan their giving in advance contribute more to their parish than do those who decide weekly how much to contribute.
6. _____ Parishioners who believe that they have an input into parish decision-making contribute more to their parish.
7. _____ Parishioners who are members of large parishes contribute less to their parish.
8. _____ Because of high parochial school tuition, parishioners who send their children to parochial schools contribute less to the parish.
9. _____ Parishioners with higher incomes contribute more to their parish.
10. _____ Older parishioners contribute more to their parish than do younger parishioners.