

MESSAGE FROM REV. BUD PELLETIER

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we continue to grow in the awareness of Stewardship in our diocese, I am frequently asked ‘What do you mean by Stewardship? Some want to put together a ‘Stewardship Ministry’ in order to increase monetary collections or to increase volunteers.

Stewardship is the concrete way we live out our baptismal call to be disciples of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. We call ourselves disciples and we are stewards in the way we live and act as disciples. A Steward first recognizes that everything is freely given to us by God. First is the very gift of life, of our time here on Earth. A life of Stewardship recognizes that time is a precious gift from God, to be shared back with God, with our families, with our friends, with the stranger and the outcast.

A Steward also recognizes the gifts of Talent from our loving God. Each irreplaceable and unrepeatable human life is a gift from God and a vital part of God’s design and plan. A Steward knows that every person is a gift who will guide us toward holiness.

Of course a Steward also recognizes financial and material gifts as always coming from God. The goal is not to separate out 10% and consider the matter closed but to see everything, the full 100% as having a role in our personal and public journey with Christ.

A Steward recognizes God’s gifts, strives to grow those gifts, and gratefully shares those gifts with increase to the Lord through others. Our Savior accepted the life, talent and resources that He was given by the Father and then offered all that he had back to the Father, even to death on the Cross, as a free gift.

The **Parish Tool Box** is intended to offer our parishes and schools various tools that can assist them as they strive to further develop Stewardship as a way of life. Many of the tools included in this first edition of the Parish Toolbox were researched and developed in direct response to requests from parishes. The Parish Toolbox is intended to be organic in nature and will continue to grow and be offered to parishes during the coming months and years. The Parish Tool Box was created as a resource and works in concert with capacity building workshops and planning sessions scheduled throughout the year.

As always, we welcome requests for additional materials and are happy to also offer our personal support to parishes in their Stewardship spiritual formation. May God bless and guide all our efforts.

Fr. Bud Pelletier
Vicar of Stewardship

OFFICE OF STEWARDSHIP CALENDAR

2009 Parish Stewardship Retreat

April 25, 2009, St. Paul Catholic Church

Grants Training Workshop(s)

November 5, 2008, DPC, Rm. 159C

March 12, 2009, DPC, Rm. 157

Capital Campaign Training Workshop

TBD

Stewardship & Development Workshop

TBD

Charity & Development Appeal

2009 CDA Weekends

CDA Education Weekend – January 31st & February 1st

CDA Commitment Weekend – February 7th & 8th

CDA Follow-Up Weekend – February 14th & 15th

CDA Follow-Up Weekend – February 21st & 22nd

(February 1st – Super Bowl Sunday)

Miter Society Appreciation Dinner

January 14, 2009 – 2008 Miter Society Appreciation Dinner

Shepherd Circle Appreciation Dinner

December 3, 2008 – 2008 Shepherd Circle Appreciation Dinner at DPC

2008 CDA Kick-Off Dates

December 11, 2008 – CDA Kick-Off for Staff of the DPC at DPC

January 13, 2009 – CDA Kick-Off/CDA Leadership Training in Flagstaff

January 16, 2009 – CDA Kick-Off/CDA Leadership Training at DPC

January 21, 2009 – CDA Kick-Off/CDA Leadership Training at DPC

January 22, 2009 – CDA Leadership Training Session at DPC

OFFICE OF STEWARDSHIP MISSION

Office of Stewardship

The Office of Stewardship is responsible for stewardship formation, stewardship planning, development of diocesan wide support for parishes, ministries, etc. in areas of overall program, business and fund development as well as management of the Charity and Development Appeal.

Office of Stewardship Mission

- To broaden and deepen the understanding and practice of Christian stewardship throughout the Diocese of Phoenix;
 - To create an environment where Catholics will embrace stewardship by sharing time, knowledge, skills, and financial resources through making a personal commitment to become true Disciples of Christ in their daily lives.
 - To model stewardship by supporting the efforts of parishes, priests, ministries and Catholic based organizations in their efforts to serve the community.
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Charity & Development Appeal (CDA)

The CDA is one way in which we can choose to open our hearts to the Lord, make a simple gift from our resources, and in this way not only choose to help others, but to show our gratitude for God's gifts to us. The CDA gathers our gifts and shares them across the entire Diocese.

The Charity and Development Appeal (CDA) is the one diocesan-wide campaign that asks every Catholic family to support the more than 70 charitable, educational and spiritual ministries which counsel, feed, clothe, house, educate, and comfort those in need throughout the four counties in our diocese which includes Mohave, Maricopa, Coconino and Yavapai. It also provides training for seminarians, deacons, catechetical, liturgical and youth ministers in this area, which covers 43,967 square miles.

The CDA serves the needs of our people beyond the boundaries of any one parish. As a result, more people are served across the community as well as within the parishes.