

Stewardship: God's Call and Our Response

Links and Resources

Scripture

(Scripture references are from *New Revised Standard Version Bible, Catholic Edition*, (Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson Publishers, © 1993) and are used by permission. All rights reserved.)

Exodus 19:1–8	Covenant means we belong to God.
Psalms 19:7–10	God's ways are more desirable than gold.
Matthew 5:13–16	The salt of the earth and the light of the world
Matthew 6:19–21	Where your treasure is, there is your heart.
Matthew 10:34–39	The cost of discipleship
Matthew 25:14–30	Parable of the talents
Mark 10:17–31	Choose God above all else.
Ephesians 1:3–10	God lavishes the riches of grace, and gathers all things together.
James 2:15–18	What good is faith without good works?

Conciliar Documents

Dogmatic Constitution on the Church (Lumen gentium)

http://www.vatican.va/archive/hist_councils/ii_vatican_council/documents/vat-ii_const_19641121_lumen-gentium_en.html

- 12: Living and gifted witness of the people of God
- 33: Apostolate of the laity

Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World (Gaudium et spes)

http://www.vatican.va/archive/hist_councils/ii_vatican_council/documents/vat-ii_cons_19651207_gaudium-et-spes_en.html

- 43–44: Bringing faith into the world through service

Papal Documents

On Evangelization in the Modern World (Evangelii Nuntiandi), (December 8, 1975), Paul VI
http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/paul_vi/apost_exhortations/documents/hf_p-vi_exh_19751208_evangelii-nuntiandi_en.html
Continue Christ's mission of evangelization and transformation in everyday life. (sections 10, 13, 15, 18, 24, 29, 55, 70, and 75)

On Human Work (Laborem Exercens), (September 14, 1981), Pope John Paul II
http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/john_paul_ii/encyclicals/documents/hf_jp-ii_enc_14091981_laborem-exercens_en.html
Work as sharing in the activity of the Creator. (25)

The Lay Members of Christ's Faithful People (Christifideles Laici), (December 30, 1988), John Paul II
http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/john_paul_ii/apost_exhortations/documents/hf_jp-ii_exh_30121988_christifideles-laici_en.html
Baptismal call to mission. We are the body of Christ, called to sanctify the world from within. (58 and 59)

Catechism of the Catholic Church

http://www.vatican.va/archive/catechism/ccc_toc.htm

- #27, #30 We are created by and for God.
<http://www.vatican.va/archive/catechism/p1s1c1.htm>

- #863–64 Charity is the soul of every apostolate.
<http://www.vatican.va/archive/catechism/p123a9p3.htm#brief>

- #1816 Disciples choose service and witness.
<http://www.vatican.va/archive/catechism/p3s1c1a7.htm#l>

- #1888–89 Charity inspires a life of self-giving and justice.
<http://www.vatican.va/archive/catechism/p3s1c2a1.htm>

- #2536, #2544 Faith leads us to reject greed and excess, making God our treasure.
<http://www.vatican.va/archive/catechism/p3s2c2a0.htm#l>

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Documents

Called and Gifted for the Third Millennium (November 1995), by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. www.usccb.org/laity/calleden.htm
A vision of the importance of lay ministry rooted in daily life and human needs.

Stewardship: A Disciple's Response (May 1993). <http://www.usccb.org/publishing/stewardship.htm> phone 1-800-235-8722 or write USCCB, 3211 4th Street, N.E., Washington, DC 20017–1194.
A pastoral letter exploring the challenges of discipleship and presenting practical suggestions to help Catholics see stewardship as central to their Christian lives.

Stewardship and Development in Catholic Dioceses and Parishes: Resource Manual.

<http://www.usccb.org/publishing/stewardship.htm>

This manual provides practical suggestions and models for offering one's time, talents, and treasures. Includes guidelines for using the pastoral letter and sections on education, stewardship programs, and steps for success.

Stewardship, A 3-D Way of Life: Not for Adults Only (videotape).

Stewardship is a way of life. Meet Reverend Dale Fushek of Mesa, Arizona, who discusses *LifeTeen*. Meet Jim Mullin from the Archdiocese of St. Paul-Minneapolis. Hear Jamie Morris and others explain a stewardship program for children developed by the Archdiocese of Louisville, Kentucky.

Stewardship, A 3-D Way of Life: The Money-Back Guarantee (videotape).

Stewardship is an ongoing process. Volunteers from Wichita, Kansas, discuss how they share their time, talents, and treasure. Also, Reverend Dan Borlik from Dallas, Texas, discusses their annual Ministry Mart and Manual of Needs. A paradox of stewardship is explained by Father Borlik as a Money-Back Guarantee."

RENEW International Resources

Small Christian Communities: A Vision of Hope for the 21st Century, revised and updated. Thomas A. Kleissler, Margo A. LeBert, and Mary C. McGuinness. Mahwah, NJ: Paulist Press, 1997, pp. 246–56. Offers suggestions for a basic approach to service and mission.

Orders : <http://www.renewintl.org/Resources/Pages/voh.html> or phone 888-433-3222; e-mail: Resources@renewintl.org.

IMPACT Series

IMPACT Series (available from RENEW International) aims to connect faith to the wide range of human concerns and personal issues. In the process, participants will be led not only to prayerful reflection and fruitful sharing, but also to concrete actions that influence for the better human attitudes and behaviors.

To order: <http://www.renewintl.org/Resources/Pages/faithshare.html> or phone 1-888-433-3222; e-mail: Resources@renewintl.org.

McGuinness, Mary C., and Thomas A. Kleissler. *Beginnings: Human and World Issues*. Plainfield, NJ: RENEW International, 1996. Eight-session small community faith sharing booklet integrating faith and action in response to peoples' needs.

To order: <http://www.renewintl.org/Resources/Pages/beginimp.html>

McGuinness, Mary C., and Thomas A. Kleissler. *The Time of Your Life*. Plainfield, NJ: RENEW International, 1996. Six-session small community faith sharing booklet that looks at how our time is spent and how our main activity impacts our life and that of others.

To order: <http://www.renewintl.org/Resources/Pages/timelifeimp.html>

Pinyan, Charles. *At Home in the Catholic Church*. Plainfield, NJ: RENEW International, 1999. Six-session small community faith sharing booklet that considers the riches of our faith, celebrating its depths and living it more fully. To order: <http://www.renewintl.org/Resources/Pages/athomeimp.html>

ParishLife.com www.ParishLife.com offers several downloadable workshops related to the topic of stewardship. See: "Creating Ministerial Communities," "Living the Gospel: Engaging in Social Justice as Small Christian Communities," "The Reign of God: Transforming Our World."

Books, Articles, and Videotapes

Bonhoeffer, Dietrich. *The Cost of Discipleship*, revised edition. New York: Macmillan, 1963. A difficult but challenging book about the radical call of the disciple. Written by a Lutheran theologian who resisted Hitler during World War II and was executed in a German prison camp.

Brockman, James R. "The Passion and Death of Mary and Felipe." *America* (December 7, 1985): 404–06. Mary and Felipe Barreda were a married couple with six children who worked with the poor in Esteli, Nicaragua. Their faith led them to martyrdom in 1983.

Butler's Lives of the Saints, new full edition. Collegeville, MN: The Liturgical Press, 1997. Twelve volumes of saints' lives arranged by the month of their feast days.

Children's Stewardship Manual. Washington, DC: International Catholic Stewardship Council.
http://www.catholicstewardship.org/sub_publications/pubsicsc.html
Helps dioceses and parishes present stewardship as a way of life to Christ's "little ones." Filled with practical tools and suggestions for young people. Also available in Spanish. See *Manual sobre la Administración de los Bienes de Dios para Niños*.

Ellsberg, Robert. *All Saints*. New York: Crossroad Publishing Company, 1998. A collection of mini-biographies of contemporary models for discipleship from many faiths.

Entertaining Angels: The Dorothy Day Story (Videos with Values): online catalog of videos, DVDs, and interactive software specifically geared to spiritual, inspirational, and family values. Presented by Oblate Media and Communication, the communications ministry of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate.) <http://www.videoswithvalues.org/family/entang.html>
The story of Dorothy Day's conversion and her ministry with the poor and homeless.

Hueckel, Sharon. *Steward Saints for Every Day* (Bilingual Edition: English and Spanish). Washington, DC: International Catholic Stewardship Council.
http://www.catholicstewardship.org/sub_publications/pubsicsc.html
Presents a brief look at the Church's saints in light of Christian stewardship.

Madden, Sr. Mary Roger, S.P. *Gladly Will I Spend and Be Spent: A Brief History of the National Catholic Stewardship Council 1962-1997*. Washington, DC: International Catholic Stewardship Council.
http://www.catholicstewardship.org/sub_publications/pubsicsc.html
A fascinating look at the birth of stewardship in the Catholic Church, the text is both informative and inspirational. Anyone who serves the Church in stewardship and development will find in these pages a sense of excitement and hope for the future. Limited Edition.

Miller, William D. *Dorothy Day: A Biography*. New York: Harper & Row, 1982. A classic biography including information on the life of Dorothy Day and the Catholic Worker movement.

Pierre Toussaint (Saints in the Making). Boston: Pauline Books and Media, 2001.
<http://www.pauline.org/store/moreinfo/stsinthemaking.html>
A video about a hairdresser who was an example of humble faith, service, almsgiving, and prayer.)

Pray Always and Never Lose Heart—Luke 18:1—A Treasury of Private Prayers for the Christian Steward. Washington, DC: International Catholic Stewardship Council.
http://www.catholicstewardship.org/sub_publications/pubsicsc.html (Also available in Spanish, see *Ora Siempre y No Te Desanimas - San Lucas 18:1 - Un Tesoro de Oraciones Privadas para el Administrador Cristiano de los Bienes de Dios*)
This 200-page book is a rich collection of stewardship prayers and general prayers, new and old, for every occasion. The prayer book also contains a revised version of Pope Pius XII's deeply spiritual encyclical *Mystici Corporis*. An excellent resource for every parish stewardship committee member and for anyone wishing to deepen their prayer life..)

Sister Thea: Her Own Story. *Videos with Values*, 1991.
<http://www.videoswithvalues.org/education/thea.html>
Sister Thea used her unique gifts as a black musician to spread the Word, even after she was diagnosed with cancer.

Stewardship: Disciples Respond—A Practical Guide for Pastoral Leaders. Washington, DC: International Catholic Stewardship Council. http://www.catholicstewardship.org/sub_publications/pubsicsc.html (Also available in Spanish, *La Corresponsabilidad: Los Discípulos Responden - Una Guía Práctica para Orientadores Pastorales*)

This 80 page spiral-bound resource manual is a “hands-on” companion to the National Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Pastoral Letter on Stewardship “Stewardship: A Disciple’s Response.” A valuable tool that complements any stewardship program..

The Life of the Christian Steward: A Reflection on the Logic of Commitment. Washington, DC: International Catholic Stewardship Council.

http://www.catholicstewardship.org/sub_publications/pubsicsc.html (Also available in Spanish, see *El Significado Espiritual de la Administración de Nuestro Tiempo, Talento y Tesoro Como Bienes de Dios.*)

Published originally under the title *The Spiritual Meaning of Stewardship of Time, Talent and Treasure: The Logic of Commitment*, this booklet describes the eight-step program towards the spirituality of stewardship.

The Stewardship Rosary. Washington, DC: International Catholic Stewardship Council.

http://www.catholicstewardship.org/sub_publications/pubsicsc.html

This booklet provides a fresh approach to the rosary from the perspective of stewardship as a way of life. It focuses on the relationship we must build with Christ through his Mother in order to recognize everything we have as a gift.

Web Site Links

(Note: RENEW International is not responsible for the content of any site listed below.)

<http://www.catholic-pages.com/dir/documents.asp>

A user-friendly collection of links to the full texts of official Catholic documents.

<http://www.catholicstewardship.org/home.html>

International Catholic Stewardship Council, whose mission is to empower Catholics to live their faith as Christian stewards.

<http://www.catholicworker.org/dorothyday/photos.cfm>

A collection of facts about Dorothy Day’s life, along with black-and-white photos taken throughout her life. From the Catholic Worker Web site.

<http://www.fspa.org/whoweare/fspanews/theabowm.shtml>

A photograph and brief biography of Sister Thea Bowman, from the Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration Web site.

<http://www.siena.org>

Offers the “Catholic Spiritual Gifts Inventory” and numerous links on many areas of parish life. Also: a newsletter, workshops, tapes, and printed materials on the recognition and development of ministry gifts.

<http://www.stewardshipli.org/>

An award-winning diocesan stewardship Web site offering a wide variety of information on stewardship as a Christian way of life.

<http://www.udayton.edu/mary>

Maintained by The Marian Library/International Marian Research Institute at the University of Dayton in Ohio. An international center of research and study on the role of Mary in Christian life.