

# *Creating a Parish Stewardship Team*

## **Who Best Serves on a Stewardship Team?**

- ✓ People who exemplify stewardship in their daily lives
- ✓ Those individuals in the parish who, because of their belief in stewardship, possess the energy, perseverance, and enthusiasm to motivate others to grow in their discipleship & stewardship
- ✓ Individuals who remain committed to the “big picture” of stewardship... that it is a lifestyle that reflects who we are and what we believe
- ✓ **Not** people who view stewardship as a quick fix to increasing giving and volunteering
- ✓ Select team members who are respected and looked to as leaders in the community
- ✓ Look for organizational skills, and those who demonstrate a spirit of working in a collaborative manner to develop a vision of what the parish could look like after several years of stewardship education and formation

## **How Might a Stewardship Team be Recruited?**

- ✓ Invite the Parish Pastoral Council to pray for names to nominate to serve on the Stewardship Team
- ✓ Offer those people who have been nominated a description of the roles and responsibilities of the Stewardship Team
- ✓ Invite those people nominated to pray about it for one week
- ✓ Gather them together for further discernment and to answer any questions they may have
- ✓ Ask them to make a decision

## **What Are Some of the Roles and Responsibilities of a Parish Stewardship Team?**

- ✓ Engage in initial and ongoing training for themselves as leaders in stewardship
- ✓ Develop a vision of what the parish could look like as a result of greater stewardship
- ✓ Provide ongoing education for parishioners in the spirituality of stewardship
- ✓ Promote the principles of stewardship through the bulletin, parish workshops and/or retreats, etc.
- ✓ Offer support and ideas to the Pastor for stewardship homilies when the Sunday readings present the opportunity
- ✓ Coordinate Ministry Fairs in the Parish to celebrate all the good works taking place in the community, included would be preparing a Ministry Catalogue
- ✓ Provide opportunities for parishioners to engage in gift discernment workshops
- ✓ Design annual events that invite parishioners to joyfully and generously share their gifts within the parish and beyond
- ✓ Ensure that there is timely follow-up to those who respond to the invitation to share their gifts (i.e. Thank you cards, ministry leaders contacting people who respond by phone and getting them involved)
- ✓ Evaluate the annual stewardship efforts, reporting, comment cards etc.
- ✓ Develop Processes to educate and engage the youth of the parish

**Please Note:** The Archdiocesan Stewardship Office is here to help Parish Stewardship Teams with training, support and resources. A Parish Stewardship Team does not have to re-invent the wheel to have a fruitful stewardship ministry in the parish.