

The Steward Messenger

From the Archdiocese of Winnipeg Stewardship Office

Stewardship – Faith on Fire, Hearts & Minds Transformed

FRUITS



THE ARCHDIOCESE OF WINNIPEG
Building A Church of Communion

ROOTS

Scripture · Sacraments · Church Teaching
Joyfully & Generously Responding to Our Baptismal Call

Cultivating
Prayer
Humility
Trust
Patience
Responsibility

Cultivating
Gratitude
Generosity
Simplicity
Mercy
Perseverance

Winter
2013

The Greatest of Virtues

“Gratitude is not only the greatest of virtues it is the parent of all the others” Cicero.

There is something very powerful, and rewarding, in having and attitude of gratitude. Cultivating this virtue in your life frees you from endless wanting, and leads to another virtue, simplicity, which in itself has many rewards. So how does a person possess this virtue? I have to use the ‘D’ word here...possessing a virtue takes **discipline**. I am not capable of having a grateful disposition unless I practice being grateful every day. Much like an athlete trains their body to develop muscle memory for a particular sport, I must train my mind to think about all the blessings I should be grateful for. In the face of the constant 24/7 media barrage by advertisers intended to keep us wanting, this indeed takes discipline. With practice the virtue of gratitude can be one you possess. Once gratitude becomes a part of your daily disposition you will find something else hidden within gratitude, something we all search for... **JOY!** Virtue is only developed through consistent habit. By developing the habit of counting your blessings, while everyone else is adding up their problems, gratitude then becomes a part of who you are. Think about what you are thinking about every day and you will discover the immense joy hiding in an attitude of gratitude.

Steward Saint, March 4

St. Casimir (1458-1484)

The son of the King of Poland, St. Casimir was sent by his father to Hungary to be king, at the young age of 13. He soon gave up the throne as he had no desire for power but instead returned to his life of prayer and study. *“He always preferred to be counted among the meek and poor of spirit, among those who are promised the kingdom of heaven, than among the famous and powerful men of this world”* wrote his biographer. He did, however, use his privileged position as prince to assist the poor. *“Nothing was more pleasant, more desirable for him, than to share his belongings, even to dedicate and give his entire self to Christ’s poor, to stranger, to the sick, to those in captivity, and to all who suffered. To widows, orphans and the afflicted, he was not only a guardian and patron but a father, son and brother.”*

May the prayers of St. Casimir, patron saint of Poland, inspire us to be good stewards, too, ready to put our gifts at the service of those less fortunate.

Steward Saints for Every Day
Sharon Hueckel



What are you chasing?

*“The problem with a ‘rat race’ is that even if you win,
you’re still a rat!”*

Lilly Tomlin

In our culture there are many pressures in day-to-day living. We are wise to guard against giving in, and becoming consumed rather than being the consumer. The relentless pursuit of more power, prestige and possessions only leads to a feeling of perpetual dissatisfaction. The virtue of Simplicity is a very effective weapon in the battle to find balance amid the rampant consumerism and materialism we face every day. When you cultivate the virtue of Simplicity you discover that less actually means more; like more time to do what is really important. Less spending means less debt, and therefore more money for your own needs and more give to those who have so much less. So why are so many people chasing busyness and complexity these days when what is really needed is a simpler way of living? The truth is you can never get enough of what you don't really need anyway. The stewardship lifestyle is swimming against the current of our culture and it takes discipline. The good news is... we can swim with a God-grounded confidence knowing we swim with the truth at our side.

Dan Potvin, Director of Stewardship
The Archdiocese of Winnipeg

Parkland Deanery Lenten Mission 2013 Top 10 Virtues of an Abundant Life

*Discipleship + Stewardship + The Virtues
= Life in the Fullest!*

**March 16, 2013,
10:00am to 3:00pm**

Sacred Heart Church, Roblin

Mission Facilitator: Dan Potvin,
Director of Stewardship for the
Archdiocese of Winnipeg

We are what we repeatedly do; therefore it stands to reason that if you want something you have never had you will in all likelihood need to do something you've never done. Virtue is something we own and it is developed only through consistent habit. Take some time during Lent to explore the Top Ten Virtues of the disciple and steward. Possessing these virtues in your life unlocks the fullness of life!

Registration is required to plan for lunch. For more information or to register please contact the

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