Stewardship Bulletin Reflections - January 2010

January 3 – Epiphany

The word *epiphany* is secularly defined as, *'a sudden intuitive perception or insight into the reality* [truth] *or essential meaning of something'*. Stewardship often becomes a way of life in an epiphany – a flash of insight that changes the way in which we view the purpose and meaning of our lives. Christ is the way, the *truth* and the light. The stewardship way of life means swimming against the tide of over-consumerism, rampant materialism, and selfish individualism, but we do so with the truth at our side.

Stewardship Office, The Archdiocese of Winnipeg, www.archwinnipeg.ca

January 10 – Baptism of the Lord

Baptism is the Sacrament of Faith. We are called to continue to grow in our faith in the midst of a community of believers. Stewardship is a way of living out what we say we believe. This means that we are willing to share a generous portion of our lives and our possessions with God, with our faith community, and with the world. Vatican II points out that all the baptized are *"bound to show forth, by the example of their lives and by the witness of their speech"* that **new life** they receive in baptism.

Stewardship Office, The Archdiocese of Winnipeg, www.archwinnipeg.ca

January 17 – 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

At the wedding in Cana Jesus turned what would have been an embarrassing situation for the bride and groom into a glorious event. The servants trusted Jesus and did as He told them. Through our Lord a miracle took place – transforming the ordinary into the extraordinary! Good stewards know that when they trust in God, and step out of their comfort zones, their ordinary gifts can be transformed for extraordinary purposes.

Stewardship Office, The Archdiocese of Winnipeg, www.archwinnipeg.ca

January 24 – 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

There exists in our Parish community a diversity of unique gifts. God has provided us with these gifts in order to advance His Kingdom. Our sisters and brothers in other Christian denominations have also been blessed with unique gifts that are being used for the same purpose. This week, the *Annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity* comes to a close. We pray that throughout the year all Christians would be good stewards of their relationships, seeking to understand each other, being always patient and humble, and listening to one another, so that the Body of Christ may be truly united.

Stewardship Office, The Archdiocese of Winnipeg, www.archwinnipeg.ca

January 31 – 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Here we are… one month already gone in 2010! What did you resolve to change this year? Stewardship calls us to change the way we think about who we are, and what we possess. What changes in your life is God calling you to? Is it maybe to spend more time in prayer; are you feeling a need to share a more generous portion of your financial blessings; or maybe you sense a desire to respond to a particular call to use your gifts in the service of others.

Stewardship Office, The Archdiocese of Winnipeg, www.archwinnipeg.ca