

March 7 – 3rd Sunday of Lent

God heard the cry of His people in Egypt and responded generously by bringing them out of captivity. But in the desert the Israelites began complaining to Moses. They were not grateful for the gift of their freedom – *a grateful heart silences a complaining voice!* We good stewards pray that we will always be grateful for the gifts and opportunities that we are given. When we are at times not grateful, when we are overcome with an unhealthy lust for material things, power, or prestige, we are called to repent, and we are grateful for the Lord's mercy.

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March 14th – 4th Sunday of Lent

The Christian disciple is a steward who is prayerful, persistent, patient, and strives to joyfully and generously live out the personal vocation to which God calls him or her. These characteristics are most valuable in our own prodigal stories. At times we may stumble and wander away from God. When we do, we find hope in today's Gospel. Through our patience, perseverance, and above all prayer, we can return to the Father trusting in His forgiveness.

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March 21st – 5th Sunday of Lent

How will you be remembered? As one who adhered to a strict observance of the law? Or, as one who was not too quick to judge, and lovingly give others a second chance. Throughout our lives, we will experience many relationships, and they are *all* gifts from God. How will you be a good steward of those relationships? In Jesus' encounter with the woman caught in adultery we are given an example of how we are to care for the people we encounter in our lives.

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March 28th – Passion Sunday

It is always difficult to hear the Passion narrative. Yet we see in Jesus' passion something that is at the heart of discipleship and stewardship – **trust**. Jesus' anxiety in the garden turns into trust, "*yet, not my will but yours be done.*" Good stewards set aside pride and fear and trust in God's plan for their lives. Pray for wisdom, so that you may know how God wants you to use and share the gift of your life. There is an intense joy and peace of mind that can only be found in doing the will of God.

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