

Weekly Bulletin Stewardship Reflections – October 2010

October 3rd – 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Are we worthless slaves; doing only what we ought to have done? Stewardship is not something we *'ought to do'* alongside of many other things suitable for Christians. Christian stewardship is more about being than doing. How we live reflects who we are and what we believe. Stewardship calls us beyond what we ought to do (out of a sense of duty or obligation), to an entire way of life. Stewardship is giving our entire lives to God freely, joyfully and generously.

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October 10th – 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

How easily we sometimes neglect to be grateful. Only one leper in today's Gospel thought to show his gratitude. The others were grateful to be sure, but they were so focused on getting to the temple to fulfill their religious ritual requirements they overlooked the opportunity to express their gratitude to Jesus. As we good stewards gather each Sunday, let us take the time to be grateful for the gift of each other in communion. Good stewardship is expressing our gratitude through our hospitality and love for all who gather around the table of the Lord.

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October 17th – 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

In hearing God's Word today we find a consistent theme... to be persistent. Persistence is a wonderful virtue that we should all cultivate as disciples and stewards. Through our baptism and confirmation we have all been given a responsibility to share the gift of our faith... to evangelize. This is not easy in our society today, but with God's grace we can all do it in our own way. Evangelization requires patience, persistence and above all prayer. Be a good steward and share the gift of faith!

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October 24th – 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

We are warned today in Jesus' parable not to be excessively pious or self-righteous. One of the hallmarks of the authentic Christian and steward is **humility**. Humility does not mean that we think less of ourselves, but that we think of ourselves less. Jesus told us that if we are to be one of His followers we must deny ourselves. To deny ourselves – to reach a point where our self is no longer the most important thing in the world – this is living a Christ-centered life. Good stewardship naturally flows from a life centered in Christ.

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October 31st – 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Stewardship as a way of life begins with a personal relationship with Christ. Our hearts and minds are transformed when we allow Jesus to be a part of our day-to-day living. In today's Gospel Zacchaeus experienced such a transformation in meeting Jesus. Our Lord reached out to Zacchaeus and we are told he was *'happy to welcome Jesus'*. He responded by giving of his possessions freely, generously and joyfully.

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