

## **Bulletin Stewardship Reflections**

*May 2011*

### ***May 1<sup>st</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter***

The early Christian community described in Acts understood and practiced stewardship. St. Luke reports that the believers did not claim any of their possessions as their own, but held all things in common, sharing all their goods with whoever was in need. Stewardship is not new, it's at our roots.

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### ***May 8<sup>th</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter***

The disciples on the road to Emmaus walked and talked with Jesus all day long, but it was not until He blessed and broke bread with them that they recognized him. What if they had not invited Him to stay with them? In offering their time in hospitality they were given the opportunity to see that Jesus was with them. Our simple acts of generosity towards others are opportunities to reveal the presence of Christ in our midst.

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### ***May 15<sup>th</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter***

Jesus says, *"I came that you may have life and have it abundantly."* Following the Good Shepherd is the only path to life which is truly life indeed. Life that is free of anxiety. Life lived in contentment, not wanting. Life lived, not in the relentless and empty pursuit of more and more stuff, but in possessing sensibly and sharing generously. This is the abundant life of the disciple and Christian steward.

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### ***May 22<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter***

Jesus tells us in today's Gospel, *"Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these"*. Jesus begins His statement with *very truly* Jesus is emphasizing that we can do this! As disciples and Christian stewards these words for today should comfort us and give us as a great deal of God-grounded confidence as we endeavor to succeed in our good works.

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### ***May 29<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter***

Today our Lord promises a gift which we will celebrate in two weeks on Pentecost Sunday - the gift of the Holy Spirit. After Vatican II, our Church called for a renewed outpouring of the Spirit of Pentecost, and a new-evangelization. The Holy Spirit, who dwells within all the baptized, leads us and gives each of us the necessary gifts to make us fit and ready to contribute to the renewal of society and the building up of the Kingdom. Are you ready and willing? What are your gifts?

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