

Stewardship Bulletin Reflections – December 2011

December 4th – 2nd Sunday of Advent

There are so many joyful things to get ready for each Christmas. This is such a busy time of the year for us all. Are you able to hear God's voice calling amid the 'to do' lists, the noise of the relentless advertisers, and all the spending? Being a good steward in these weeks before Christmas means setting aside time to make straight the path, to put God first. Try 'spending' some extra time in prayer this Advent Season.

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December 11th – 3rd Sunday of Advent

"Give thanks in all circumstances", St. Paul tells us in today's second reading. Gratitude... this is the tipping point to an abundant life, the life Jesus promises. Find something to be grateful for every day. It's not hard considering how blessed we are. Gratitude to God is the virtue that opens the door to a life filled with peace and contentment; a life free of anxious worries and fears, and a life of generous stewardship.

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December 18th – 4th Sunday of Advent

Mary said "yes" to God's call. In doing so she gave the world an incredible gift! All of the baptized are called to share the gift of her son with the world. How are you responding to that call? How are you sharing the gift of Jesus? We can best share the gift of Christ by the example of our lives as disciples and stewards.

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December 25th – Nativity of the Lord

In Bethlehem God comes to us in the most humble way. As an infant in a manger, He knows the way of humility. We do well to be humble today, and every day, remembering that everything we have is a gift from God. How can we boast as if we have earned it? (1 Cor. 4:7) As stewards of our gifts we have three choices in how we respond. First, do we receive the gift with gratitude? Second, do we share the gift out of love for God and one another? And third, do we responsibly and sensibly use the gift for our own needs?

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