

Parish Bulletin

Stewardship Reflections

July 2012

July 1 – 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

St. Paul gives us a beautiful lesson in stewardship today. *“I do not mean that there should be relief for others and pressure on you, but it is a question of balance between your present abundance and their need.”* In our culture of excessive materialism and consumerism it appears that we can never get enough of what we don't really need. To counter this we always do well to recognize God as the source of all our gifts including the overwhelming abundance that we enjoy as Canadians. We pray that we may possess sensibly so that we have the freedom to share generously with those who have less.

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

July 8 – 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

In today's Gospel the people in Jesus' own hometown were very upset by his teaching. The stewardship message is challenging and at times can make us feel a little uncomfortable. Our own friends and family may even question our commitment to this way of life. Yet, stewardship is exactly what is needed in a society that worships complexity, busyness, and the excessive accumulation of material goods. When questioned will you have the courage to take the risk of being a prophetic disciple who lives a steward's lifestyle?

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

July 15 – 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

When Jesus sent out the twelve apostles he acknowledged that some people would resist the Gospel message. It is natural to feel some resistance to a message that is as counter-cultural as the stewardship way of life. We need to be patient, yet persistent, in first embracing stewardship in our own lives, and then encouraging others to do the same. Above all we need to pray about it.

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

July 22 – 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

In today's Gospel, Jesus planned to slip away from the crowds for a few moments of peace and a little rest with his disciples. However, when he saw the people gathered he put his own needs aside to meet the needs of others. Sometimes as good stewards we are called to do the same.

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July 29 – 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

“You open your hand to feed us, Lord,” says the Psalmist, *“you satisfy all our needs.”* Both Elisha's servant in the first reading and the disciples in the Gospel witnessed the miracle of feeding so many with so little. In these two stories God demonstrates, very powerfully, that miracles can happen when we are willing to put all of our trust in the Lord, by generously sharing what we have.

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