

Stewardship Bulletin Reflections February 3rd – 24th, 2013

February 3rd – 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Through our baptism we each share in the prophetic mission of Jesus and this calls us to speak truth by the example of our lives. The stewardship lifestyle is swimming against the current of the ‘what’s in it for me’, accumulate more and more stuff, way of living that our secular society touts as the best way to live. Those who have the courage to live the stewardship way may feel unpopular at times, even among those closest to them. “*No prophet is accepted in his own hometown*” says our Lord in today’s Gospel. Committing to the stewardship lifestyle does indeed require the virtues of patience and perseverance.

February 10th – 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

In today’s readings Isaiah, Paul and Peter all express their feelings of unworthiness, and sinfulness. Through the grace of God their humility becomes what one might call a *healthy-humility*, in that, they are not paralyzed by their weaknesses. Indeed, they find a God-grounded confidence and with courage respond joyfully and fully to God’s call in their lives. Humility is one of the virtues of the Christian disciple and steward. Healthy-humility means that “*We do not think less of ourselves; it simply means that we think of ourselves less.*” (C.S. Lewis)

February 17th – 1st Sunday of Lent

We too face temptation every day from the devil. Our secular society says we can only be satisfied and happy when we have power, prestige and possessions. Is there anything you are chasing that hinders your ability to be the best disciple and steward you can be? The ability to resist temptation is found in the virtues of prayer, patience and perseverance. There is a fourth ‘**P**’ that is helpful in the journey of being the best disciple and steward you can be...*Progress*. It is good to be mindful of, and grateful for, the progress you are making, whatever that may be, however small, in your growth as a disciple of Jesus.

February 24th – 2nd Sunday of Lent

God speaks to Peter, John and James on the mountain during Jesus’ transfiguration saying, “*Listen to Him*”. We good stewards do well to listen to Christ’s call in our lives. The best way to discern God’s will for us is through daily prayer, and reflecting on the Word of God. Taking time to seek God’s plan for us each and every day in prayer and in His Word is good stewardship. How else can we be sure how to use and share our gifts for the glory of God?