

Stewardship Bulletin Reflections **April 7th – 28th, 2013**

April 7th – 2nd Sunday of Easter

“Peace be with you”. These are the familiar first words of Jesus to his disciples after the resurrection. We do well to embrace these words in today’s secular culture; a culture that is driven by fear and anxiety; a culture that worships busyness and the relentless pursuit of material goods. The stewardship lifestyle is rooted in the peace of mind that can only come from trusting in a good and gracious God who provides for all of our needs. You will find peace and immense joy by gratefully accepting God’s gifts and sharing them generously.

April 14th – 3rd Sunday of Easter

In today’s Gospel, Peter returned to fishing. Could it be that he was ready to go back to his old life - the way of life he knew before Christ called him? Christ enters our lives in a profound way every Sunday. On Mondays we can either go back to our regular lives, or be good stewards of the Lord’s Day message by living a life congruent with what we profess to believe. The choice is ours. Stewardship and discipleship are seven-day-a-week propositions.

April 21st – 4th Sunday of Easter

“My sheep hear my voice” says Jesus in today’s Gospel. Through baptism we are called to discipleship - to *“follow him”*. Stewardship makes discipleship complete. Do you hear our Lord’s voice? Is there so much noise in your life that it is drowning out Christ’s call? On a daily basis, we can be good stewards of the time given to us when we set aside a few moments of quiet prayer to listen for the voice of God in our lives. How else are we to know how He wants us to use our gifts?

April 28th – 5th Sunday of Easter

Stewardship is an expression of our love for God and one another. It really is that simple. Yet, we often complicate the stewardship message with formulas like “time, talent and treasure”. So, keep it simple. Let your gifts flow freely and joyfully out of your gratitude to God. *“Everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”*