

## ***The Terrain:***

If we do not manage our appetites for money and for possessions, then they will manage us. We are often anxious about what will bring us security, and we are often sad when faced with the possibility of giving up a possession, or giving up more of our time. Anxiety and sadness lead to bitterness; bitterness leads to complaining. Who wants to be around people like that?

## ***The Path***

## ***Forward:***

“God loves a cheerful giver!” says Saint Paul (2 Cor. 9:7). Our heavenly Father provides for all that we need, making the rain fall on the just and the unjust (Mt. 5:45), meaning that we can be grateful for all of our blessings.



DECEMBER HABIT



# MANAGE HEAVENLY RICHES



PRACTICE CONSISTENT STEWARDSHIP TO YOUR PARISH.



MAKE A MONTHLY DONATION TO SOME OTHER CATHOLIC CHARITABLE OUTREACH BESIDES YOUR PARISH.



KEEP A “NO-COMPLAINTS JAR”: GIVE UP COMPLAINING AND TOSS MONEY INTO A JAR EACH TIME YOU SLIP UP TO GIVE TO THE POOR.

## ***Tip for success:***

There is no percentage formula to calculate appropriate amounts of giving from our resources. Rather, we prayerfully give an amount that we know will be a sacrifice, and is appropriate to our station in life, and to our unique circumstances. Praying the "Suscipe" prayer is a great way to prepare our hearts to give:



## ***Suscipe ("Receive, Lord") Prayer of Saint Ignatius of Loyola:***

*"Take, O Lord, and receive my entire liberty, my memory, my understanding and my whole will. All that I am and all that I possess You have given me: I surrender it all to You to be disposed of according to Your will. Give me only Your love and Your grace; with these I will be rich enough, and will desire nothing more."*

## ***Fruits of victory:***

Freedom and joy! Why? God made us like Himself, and he is generous, which means we are happiest when we are generous in imitation of Him.

## ***Extra stuff:***

All Catholics are obliged to provide for the needs of the Church, according to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*. Money is only one form that this may take.



## ***Holy Habits Pledge:***

"I pledge, together with my brothers and sisters in Christ, to make the Holy Habits Challenge, and to run so as to win the crown of righteousness."



**HOLY HABITS  
CHALLENGE**