**Stewardship and the Pope Francis Connection:**

Spirituality of Stewardship Conference

Quotes and Questions for Communications

What zest life acquires when we allow ourselves to be filled with the love of God! (Pope Francis tweeted 2/7/14)

**Do others see that I am filled with the love of God? Do others see my zeal in my service and generous sharing?**

It is easy to ask God for things; we all do it. When will we also learn to give him thanks and adore him? (Pope Francis tweeted 1/25/14)

**Do I live my life out of a grateful heart? How is gratitude expressed in the activities of my life?**

I cannot imagine a Christian who does not know how to smile. May we joyfully witness to our faith. (Pope Francis tweeted 1/30/14)

**As a Christian, do you live a joyful life? What might be holding you back?**

It is not enough to say we are Christians. We must live the faith, not only with our words but with our actions. (Pope Francis tweeted 1/20/14)

**Would others know that I am Christian by the way I pray, serve and share?**

If we live our faith in our daily life, then our work too becomes the chance to spread the joy of being a Christian. (Pope Francis tweeted 1/21/14)

**Can I name ways that I joyfully live my faith every day? How can I improve in the future?**

Our deepest joy comes from Christ; remaining with him, walking with him, being his disciples. (Pope Francis tweeted 3/7/14)

**Where does my deepest joy come from? How do I live out my life as a disciple of Jesus?**

The Eucharist is essential for us: it is Christ who wishes to enter our lives and fill us with grace. (Pope Francis tweeted 2/28/14)

**As a steward of my time in prayer, how engaged am I in Mass? Do I gain strength from receiving Jesus to help in living a steward’s life?**

All of us who are baptized are missionary disciples. We are called to become a living Gospel in the world. (Pope Francis tweeted 2/25/14)

**How am I a living Gospel in the world by the way I share my talents in service in my parish and community?**

The Gospel, radiant with the glory of Christ’s Cross, constantly invites us to rejoice. (Pope Francis: *The Joy of the Gospel* #5)

**Would others know that I am rejoicing by my life of gratitude, prayer, and service and sharing? Would Jesus know?**

Lord Jesus, make us capable as loving as you love. (Pope Francis tweeted 2/20/14)

**How will I love as a Christian steward this week? Will I make an effort to do something new?**

The world makes us look towards ourselves, our possessions, our desires. The Gospel invites us to be open to others, to share with the poor. (Pope Francis tweeted 2/6/14)

**Which way will I look this week: toward myself or toward the Gospel?**

Like Mary, may we nurture the light born within us at Christmas. May we carry it everywhere in our daily lives. (Pope Francis tweeted 1/23/14)

**How do we nurture the light of Christ within us in our prayer life? Do we grow closer to Jesus each day, week, and year?**

Let us contemplate the humility of the Son of God born into poverty. Let us imitate him by sharing with those who are weak. (Pope Francis tweeted 1/9/14)

**How can my humility lead to my generosity this week?**

To follow Jesus means putting him first and stripping ourselves of all the things that oppress our hearts. (Pope Francis tweeted 10/19/13)

**What are things that oppress your heart? What are the things that truly lift your heart as a follower of Jesus?**

If money and material things become the center of our lives, they seize us and make us slaves. (Pope Francis tweeted 10/29/13)

**How do I keep God at the center of my life and remain a good steward of my treasure in sharing?**

The throwaway culture produces many bitter fruits from wasting food to isolating many elderly people. (Pope Francis tweeted 10/25/13)

**How can I be a better steward of the environment and other blessings God has placed in my care this week?**

We cannot be tepid disciples. The Church needs our courage in order to give witness to the truth. (Pope Francis tweeted 3/25/14)

**Am I a tepid disciple of Jesus? How does my grateful life of prayer, service and sharing give witness to the truth about Jesus?**

Dear parents, teach your children to pray. Pray with them. (Pope Francis tweeted 4/1/14)

**Do I pray every day with my children or grandchildren? Do I talk to them about the importance of prayer?**

We are called to live our baptism every day, as new creatures clothed in Christ. (Pope Francis tweeted 1/24/14)

**What does living my baptism mean to me? Can I cite examples in my life where I am living as a new creature clothes in Christ?**

Do we truly pray? Without an abiding relationship with God, it is difficult to live an authentic and consistent Christian life. (Pope Francis tweeted 10/1/13)

**Do I have an abiding relationship with God? Do I live an authentic and consistent Christian life?**

True charity requires courage: let us overcome the fear of getting our hands dirty so as to help others in need. (Pope Francis tweeted 9/21/13)

**Am I fearlessly generous in service? How will I get my hands dirty for others this week?**

Prayer cannot be reduced to an hour on Sundays. It is important to have a daily relationship with the Lord. (Pope Francis tweeted 10/17/13)

**Do I just put in my time at Sunday Mass or am I truly engaged? How do I take my relationship with God into my week?**

Christian love is loving without counting the cost. This is the lesson of the Good Samaritan; this is the lesson of Jesus. (Pope Francis tweeted 3/18/14)

**Is my love costly? Do I model unconditional love in my serving and sharing of my financial resources?**

Developed by Mary Ann Otto, Pastoral Minister, St. Mary/St. Joseph Parishes, Appleton, WI

(920)209-1132 – ottom606@gmail.com