



Stewardship Key Issues and Key Questions

Cultural Realities

- The secular culture fosters consumerism, relativism, hedonism, and individualism
- 6.4% of registered parishioners contribute 80% of volunteer hours and 6.8% donate 80% of financial contributions
- The average annual Catholic donation is \$175 compared to \$588 for non-Catholics
- The single greatest factor in Catholic giving is the separation of money from faith

Reflection Question: Given these cultural realities, how can we invite Catholics to encounter the amazing generosity of God so that they respond with a stewardship way of life?

Theological Foundations

- Disciples make the decision to follow Jesus no matter the cost to themselves
- Becoming a disciple of Jesus Christ leads naturally to the practice of stewardship
- Stewardship is a conversion journey of receiving God's love and returning that love
- Disciples practice stewardship recognizing God as the source of all they are and have

Reflection Question: How can we invite Catholics to encounter Jesus and respond to his call to intentional discipleship through lifelong conversion?

Other Issues and Challenges

- A "full stewardship parish" would result in an increase of in our gifts, talents and financial resources being shared in justice and love for others.
- For our parishes to achieve long-term financial stability, they must grow in mission-effectiveness and spiritual vibrancy.
- Communication, formation, and resource development plans need to be formulated to persuasively and systematically promote the vision of the "full stewardship parish" to pastors and parish leaders throughout the Archdiocese.

Reflection Question: How do we develop resources and engage parish leadership to promote and implement the vision of the "full stewardship parish" across the Archdiocese?

Small Group Task: Key Initiatives, Quick Hits, Innovative Ideas

In light of the key issues and questions articulated above, identify how to strengthen the mission of the Church in the area of **Stewardship** through:

- **2-3 Key Initiatives**
- **1-2 Quick Hits**
- **2-3 Innovative Ideas**