

Stewardship Day Brainstorming Session

Building Community

What things can your parish do to help people work together, open up dialogue and create a sense of belonging?

- A Ministry Fair allows for communication with new parishioners so they may find their niche within their Church community. It also allows for current parishioners to showcase their talents.
- Faith Formation allows opportunities for people to grow in their faith and cultivates trust.
- Sharing of financial wealth for the betterment of the community creates a strong sense of social consciousness.
- Pair new parishioners with greeters or welcoming committees that can help to acclimate them to their new home.

Personal Responsibility

What characteristics, actions and/or behaviors define personal responsibility as it relates to parish stewardship?

- The Pastor should communicate his vision for the parish and all volunteers and staff should follow the pastor's lead.
- Create a welcoming environment for new parishioners and perspectives while maintaining relationships with current members.
- The Pastor, parish staff, and volunteers should make every effort to ask all parishioners to be involved. People volunteer most often because they were asked.
- Maintaining an emotional as well as spiritual connection with all parishioners is necessary to receive full commitment from each individual.

Encouraging Participation

What best practices, programs or ideas promote growth and facilitate involvement in parish activities?

- Follow up on ministry fair sign ups and ensure that no one feels like his/her effort was unappreciated or unnoticed.
- Provide adult as well as child-based entertainment at ministry fairs.
- Showcase ministry opportunities as available to all time constraints from 30 minutes to 2 hours to several days.
- Scripture study is an easy and effective way of building a sense of community among adults.
- Sponsor members of your clergy to attend a financial planning or marketing seminar.
- Use lay person testimonials to illustrate the power of giving to others.

Mission Statement

What elements of Stewardship do you find in a parish mission statement?

- Acceptance
- Compassion
- Service
- Humility
- Recognition of blessings
- Responsibility of discipleship
- Communication



"To be a welcoming community of disciples devoting our time, Talent and Treasure to the needs of one another in love, service and humility"