

September 10, 2007

Dear Saint Rita Parishioner:

***“As Christian stewards, we receive God’s gifts gratefully, cultivate them responsibly, share them lovingly in justice with others, and return them with increase to the Lord.”***

As we have outlined in our parish vision, Stewardship is a key pillar for our parish. This coming weekend, we will kick-off the first Annual Stewardship Commitment process, which is modeled after ones used successfully in other parishes in and outside the Diocese of Rochester. The process provides you with an opportunity to reflect on the three areas of Stewardship (**Time, Talent and Treasure**) and how they are lived out in your life. This will be done in conjunction with homilies and witness talks at our Masses over the next three weeks and a Ministry Fair which will be held the weekend of Sept 22/23 after all Masses in the parish center. At the end of the process, each parish family will be asked to complete and return a commitment card reflecting the choices they have made.

Among the important questions in your reflection on the three areas of stewardship and their role in your life are:

- Time: How much time do you set aside each week in prayer, faith formation, and quality time with your loved ones?
- Talent: How are you using your talents to serve in parish ministries and community outreach?
- Treasure: What percentage of your annual income do you presently give to support your Parish, the Diocesan Catholic Ministries Appeal (CMA), and other charities?

Spiritual growth and renewal are a continuing part of the life of any Christian. They are also vital for the life of our parish. An important aspect of this spiritual growth is embodied in the principle of stewardship. Through stewardship, we thank God for all our blessings by returning to God a portion of the time, talent and treasure given to us.

During the next several weeks, I suggest that you and members of your household spend time in prayerful reflection about stewardship and your relationship with the Lord, and ways in which your commitment may be enhanced.

Sincerely,

Rev. Charles J. Latus  
Pastor

*P.S. Please take the time to read the enclosed brochure as a part of your reflection.*