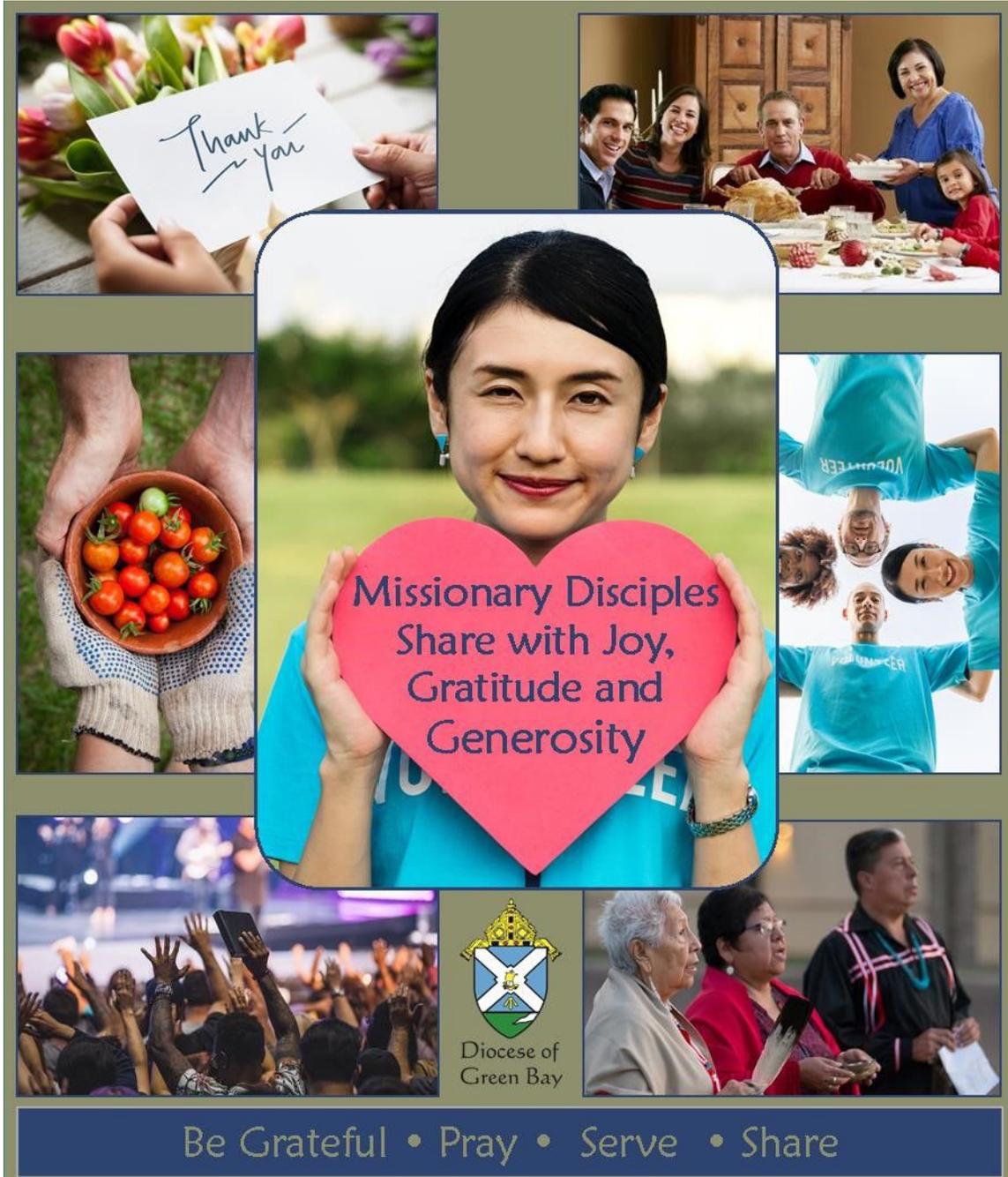


Stewardship Weekend

November 10 & 11, 2018



Be Grateful • Pray • Serve • Share



Diocese of
Green Bay

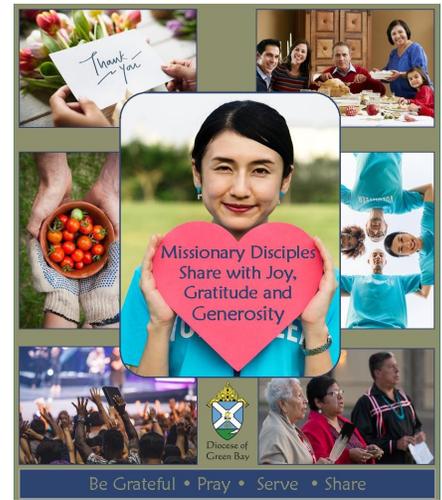


Diocese of
Green Bay

Parish Planning & Pastoral Services

Celebrating Stewardship Sunday November 10/11, 2018

Parish Resource Packet



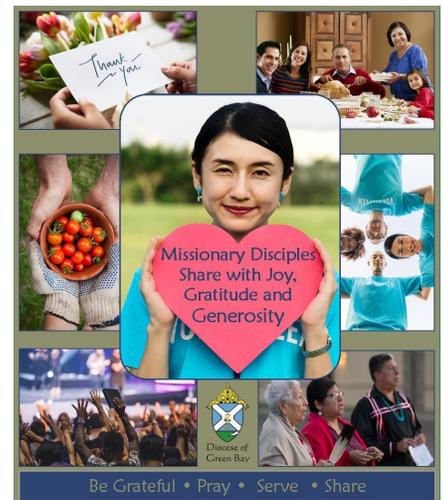
A LIFE LIVED IN IMITATION OF JESUS

- Welcome to the celebration of Stewardship Weekend in the Diocese of Green Bay. Our 2018 theme is *Missionary Disciples Share with Joy, Gratitude and Generosity. It is just that simple. When we know Jesus, our lives become a living witness in every aspect of our lives. How we work, play, serve and give.*
- All resources are available at www.gbdioc.org/stewardship-weekend.
- Items with the □ are part of the resource packet which can be downloaded as the complete packet or as individual pieces.
- Items asterisked ** are downloadable as separate entities.

□ Table of Contents	1
Background Information	
□ Theme Background Resource.....	2
** Bishop Ricken’s 2012 Letter of Proclamation/Rationale for Stewardship Sunday	
** <i>Be Not Afraid - How to Follow Christ</i> , (Newly Revised) Session 1 of Six Week Small Group Process	
** <i>Stewardship Moments with Bishop Ricken</i> , four - one minute video clips	
Liturgical Resources	
□ Background Resources and Ideas for Liturgy	3
□ Music Suggestions (Songs of Praise and Discipleship).....	4
□ Homily Helps.....	5
□ Prayers of the Faithful	6
□ Lay Witness Talks	7
** Diocesan Stewardship Prayer	
Ideas for Engaging Staff, Councils, Committees, Parishioners, Children, Youth and Families	
□ Engaging Staffs, Councils, Committees, Parishioners, Children, Youth and Families	8
□ Pastor/Pastoral Leader Letter.....	9
** Logo – <i>Missionary Disciples Share with Joy, Gratitude and Generosity</i> .	
** Definition of Stewardship	
Ideas for Engaging Children, Youth and Families	
□ Engaging Schools, Religious Education and Families	10-11

Celebrating Stewardship Sunday November 10/11, 2018

Theme Background



Theme—Missionary Disciples Share with Joy, Gratitude and Generosity

Our Diocese has been focused on a beautiful framework of missionary discipleship. We are called to Discover Jesus, Follow Jesus, Worship Jesus and Share Jesus. These sound so simple, but we know that they are going to take us a life time to really understand, live out and continue to nurture and express what they truly mean. Each one of us is important to our Creator - we are loved beyond measure and God only wants the very best for us.

Our spiritual growth deepens as we come to understand each of the stages of faith. When we have had an encounter with Jesus, one that shakes us to the core and transforms our lives - we know we are fundamentally different. We can no longer live as we did before. That means in all things God comes first.

We come to understand that our lives belong to God. What we own, what we treasure, what we create and what we dream - are a gift from God and to God.

So it is with our stewardship. God has given us gifts, talents, strengths and charisms to be used for building up the church - the people of God. When we understand that all we have is a gift - we are able to open our hands and share what we have with others.

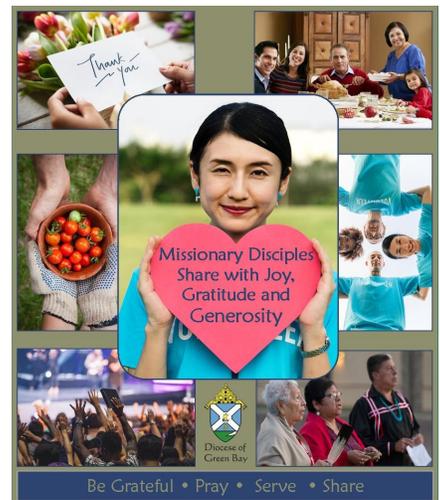
Our hope is to bless others with our material, spiritual and physical gifts and talents and transform our families, churches and communities.

Our hope this year is that you take time to think about your own faith story and encounter with Christ; and then share that with others through your witness and by the way you live as a generous, faithful steward of all you have been given. It's a simple message, but one that has the potential to radically change us, our parishes and the mission field beyond our doors.

Blessings on you this stewardship weekend!

Celebrating Stewardship Sunday November 10/11, 2018

Background Resources and Ideas for Liturgy



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BACKGROUND RESOURCES

- ☐- Stewardship Theme Background Resource—Missionary Disciples Share with Joy, Gratitude and Generosity
- ** *The 2012 Letter of Proclamation from Bishop Ricken* which states the rationale for the Diocesan wide celebration of Stewardship Sunday.
- ** *Stewardship Basics: Be Not Afraid, (updated 2016)* Session 1 of Six Week Small Group Study on Stewardship
- ** Use “*Stewardship Moments with Bishop Ricken*” four - one minute video clips of Bishop Ricken talking about the various components of stewardship.

Select Appropriate Ideas for Your Parish

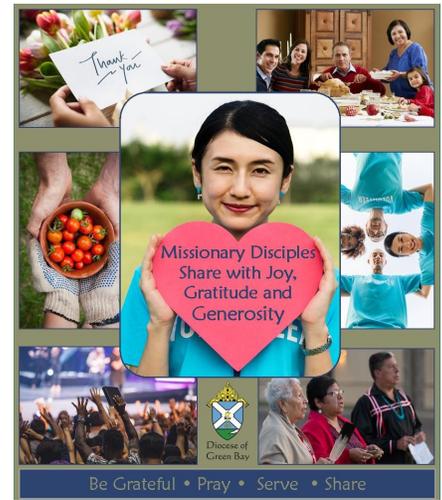
As you peruse ideas for celebrating Stewardship Sunday. Note that the simplest ideas are marked by a †.

IDEAS FOR LITURGY

- Create Greeters, Ushers, and/or Liturgical Minister’s nametags with the *Share with Joy* design.
- Project the *Missionary Disciples Share with Joy, Gratitude and Generosity*. design on a screen in the worship space (if applicable). Contact Parish Life Office for graphic at pastserv@gbdioc.org.
- Create a simple PowerPoint slide show with quotations from children, youth and adults that answer the question: **What does it look like to share with Joy, Gratitude and Generosity?** ut music with it, if possible. Show prior to Mass or after the Prayer of Thanksgiving (if applicable).
- † • Use *Stewardship Moments with Bishop Ricken* prior to Mass.
- † • Select songs from the Music Suggestion List with *Missionary Disciples Share with Joy, Gratitude and Generosity* emphasis.
- Focus your Homily (helps) on *Missionary Discples Share with Joy, Gratitude and Generosity* theme.
- Consider additional Prayers of the Faithful.
- Include Lay Witness Talks.
- † • Pray the *Diocesan Stewardship Prayer*.

Celebrating Stewardship Sunday November 10/11, 2018

Music Suggestions: Songs of Praise & Discipleship



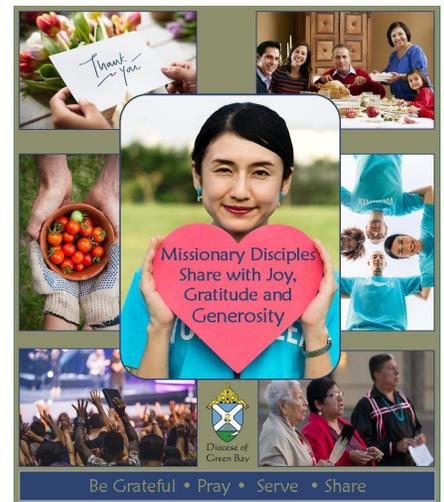
All the Earth, Proclaim God's Glory	All That is Hidden
Alleluia! Sing to Jesus	Anthem
As We Gather At Your Table	Center of My Life
Blest Be the Lord	Christ Be Our Light
Celtic Alleluia, Sending Forth	Glory and Praise to Our God
For All the Saints	Go Make a Difference
For You Are My God	Great Is the Lord
Glorious in Majesty	Holy God, We Praise Thy Name
Go Make of All Disciples	I Am the Vine
God Has Chosen Me	In Christ Alone
Here I Am Lord	I Will Choose Christ
How Great Thou Art	I Will Sing, I Will Sing
I Want to Praise Your Name	Lord, You Give the Great Commission
In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful	Now Let Your Servant Go
Now Thank We All Our God	Not to Us, Lord
Praise to You, O Christ, Our Savior	Praise and Thanksgiving
Psalm 66: Let All the Earth	Praise to the Lord, the Almighty
Seek Ye First	Serving You
Servant Song	Shout for Joy
Table of Plenty	The Eyes and Hands of Christ
Take My Hands	The Spirit Sends Us Forth
The Servant Song	They'll Know We Are Christians
The Summons	Though the Mountains May Fall
We Gather Together	We Are Called
We Will Serve the Lord	We Are Sent Into the World
Whatever You Do	We Are the Light of the World

Celebrating Stewardship Sunday November 10/11, 2018

Homily Helps

Stewardship Weekend Homily Ideas
November 10/11, 2018
Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Kings 17:10-16
PS 146: 7-10
Hebrews 9:24-28
Mark 12:38-44



Note: if your parish is doing an annual recommitment/renewal this weekend, please tailor your comments to fit the components (gratitude, joy and generosity) you will be highlighting.

The first reading is perfect for Stewardship Sunday. It is a story of faith, trust, generosity, joy and gratitude! The story is of Elijah—approaching a woman in Zarephath. He asked her for water and then food. She brought him water, but explained that she did not have enough food and that she and her son would die from starvation soon. Elijah asked her for her last bit of flour, baked into a cake along with the words, “Do not be Afraid.” She faithfully does this and finds there is enough flour and doils for her to make something for herself and her son as well. In fact, she has enough for a year. Rather incredible. It is a beautiful reminder for each of us that if we open our hands and let go just a little—we too will find great blessing in letting go and giving. We fear there might not be enough though—that we might have to go without or that there may never be enough if we give something away. But that is not how God works. When we give freely, with joy and faith...we are rewarded. Not with a shallow prosperity gospel, but a true sense of commitment, community and stewardship. When we put others first, there is a sense of joy in our hearts. We have really done something for another that will help, uplift, affirm or heal. That is the reward. Those blessing that come back to us may not be monetary—but they are blessings that sustain and deepen faith.

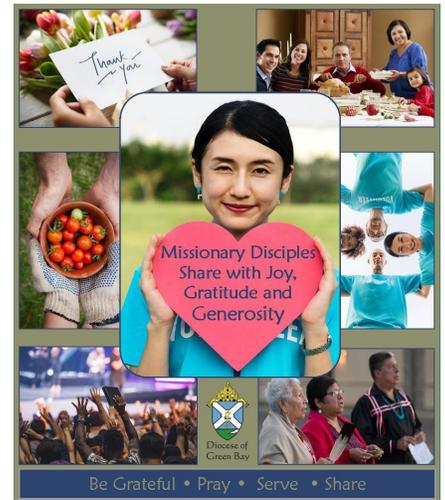
The Psalm is a a beautiful reminder of just how God works. He brings justice for the poor, feeds the hungry, and sets captives free. He gives sight to the blind, protects strangers, sustains widows and orphans and loves the just. God is a God who is consistent, attentive, generous and fair.

The second reading reminds us just what Jesus died on the cross for us.—That he might go before God for us—to sacrifice his life for us so we may have eternal life with God. He wasn't that for us so much that he gave his life. That generous, loving gift is a reminder of what we are to do as well. To give of ourselves for others. To pray, to serve and to give so others might know Jesus—the way, the truth and the life.

Finally the Gospel is the account of the Widow's Mite. Jesus was watching the comings and goings at the temple and the behavior of the Scribes and Pharisees, the wealthy and the poor. He was moved by the small act of a woman who gave from her poverty—not from wealth. This is what he challenged the people and now us to emulate. To give joyfully, generously and with grace—when we see a need, when we are called and prompted to do so—no matter what the cost to ourselves. Those acts of faith and stewardship are a reflection of the job description of a missionary disciple!

Celebrating Stewardship Sunday November 10/11, 2018

Prayers of the Faithful



Samples

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

For all of us and for our brothers and sisters around the diocese as we celebrate Stewardship Weekend, that we may share all we have with joy, generosity and gratitude, not counting the cost.

We Pray.

For each of us that we could see the needs around us and feed the hungry, seek justice for the oppressed, protect strangers and care for the most vulnerable in our midst.

We Pray.

For each of us, that we would examine our ways of giving and serving, finding new challenges to give from our poverty and deepen our commitment to our parish community and beyond.

We Pray.

For each of us, that our intentional and joyful living, prayer, compassionate service and generous sharing will be a witness of the love of Jesus to all we encounter.

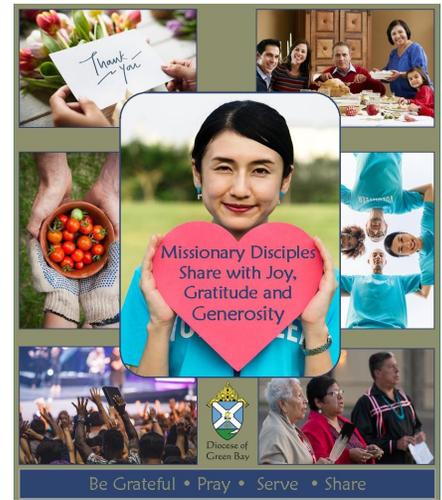
We Pray.

For our parish, that the gifts we joyfully and generously share will help to serve our members, the local community and beyond, so we can help spread the Good News and help to bring others to Jesus.

We Pray.

Celebrating Stewardship Sunday November 10/11, 2018

Lay Witness Talks



Presented after the Prayer of Thanksgiving

Length: Two Minutes

A parishioner speaking to parishioners is one of the most effective ways to share the stewardship message. A person's or couples' faith story can be an incredible testimony to connect in unique ways with parish members.

This year, the question for your lay witness speaker(s) to address is: What does it mean to you to be Missionary Disciples who share with joy gratitude and generosity? Your speakers should approach the topic from one of the components of stewardship: gratitude, faith-filled prayer, compassionate service, or generous sharing. The stewardship committee might want to select the focus.

Sample Outline for Your Consideration

Introduce yourself:

1. Perhaps define stewardship: *Stewardship, for all who profess to believe in Jesus Christ, is an expression of discipleship, where giftedness is acknowledged with gratitude, nurtured through faith-filled prayer, and expressed through compassionate service and generous sharing in the Church, the local community and the world.*
2. State which component you will be speaking about (gratitude, prayer, service, or sharing).
3. Discuss what the tipping point might have been for embracing stewardship as a way of living discipleship.
4. How have the lives of stewards they've known been an example to you?
5. Is there anything from this weekend's readings that spoke to you?
1 Kings 17:1-12, Psalm 146:7-10, Hebrews 9:24-28, Mark 12:28-44
6. Invite others to increase their grateful response to Jesus by becoming more grateful and generous stewards of their time in prayer, their talents in service and their treasure in sharing.

Make it Personal:

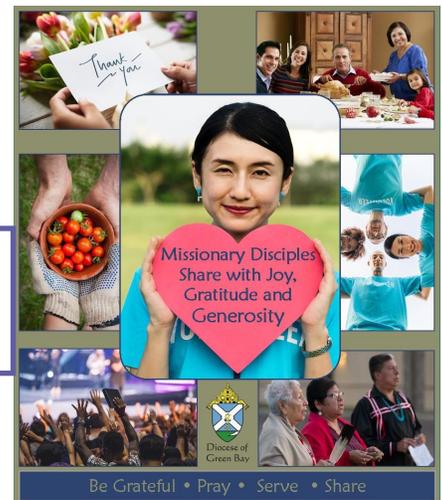
Consider using stories, favorite quotations, a favorite saint, etc. Include all areas of life.

Considerations for Selecting Lay Witness Speakers:

- If possible, select different speakers for each Mass selecting someone who fits the demographic of that Mass (young families, retired, etc.).
- Choose someone visible to the community (greeter, choir member, lector, etc.).
- Person does not have to be a well-known public speaker but should feel comfortable reading their talk.
- Be sure to have your lay witness speaker(s) give a "written copy" of their presentation to the Pastor/Pastoral Leader or staff person a week before.
- Allow your speakers to practice in church.
- The celebrant should publically express his gratitude for lay witness speaker(s).

Celebrating Stewardship Sunday November 10/11, 2018

Engaging Staffs, Councils, Committees, Parishioners, Children, Youth, and Families



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ENGAGE STAFF, COUNCILS AND COMMITTEES

- Make Stewardship Sunday an agenda item each month
- ** Pray together using prayers focused on joy, generosity and gratitude.
- ** Place the *joy, gratitude and generosity* design on agendas and communications.

ENGAGE YOUR PARISHIONERS

- ** Use the *joy, gratitude and generosity* design on your communications.
- Offer (Stewardship) *Little Burgundy Books* <http://littlebooks.us/> to households..
- Use letter of invitation.

ENGAGE CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES

- Consider asking families to post pictures of their own acts of generosity, gratitude and joy on your social media platforms or to create a tweet about joy, generosity and gratitude that can be shared

IDEAS FOR CELEBRATION AND FELLOWSHIP

- Encourage your parish bakers to make their best item for fellowship following Masses.
- Offer each family a helium balloon to tie to their mail box in celebration of Stewardship Weekend <http://www.promotionchoice.com> or search for other vendors.

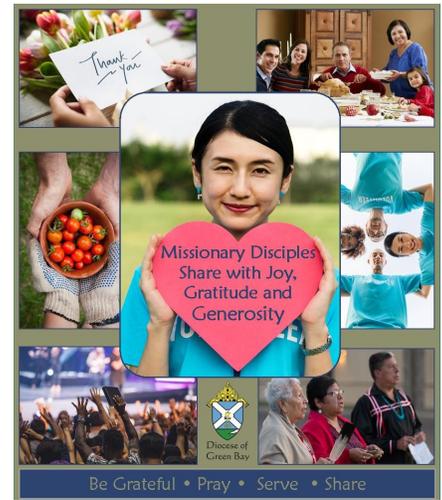
ANNUAL RENEWAL

- If your parish is using Stewardship Weekend as a time to ask parishioners to recommit to any or all of the components of stewardship (prayer, service, sharing) please contact Parish Life Office at pastserv@gbdioc.org for more resources.

For assistance in any area of stewardship, please contact Parish Life Office at 1-877-500-3580, ext. 8295 or pastserv@gbdioc.org.

**Celebrating Stewardship Sunday
November 10/11, 2018**

Pastor/Parish Leader Sample Letter of Invitation



Dear Friends in Christ,

Pope Francis encourages each of us to live lives that are filled with joy and passion—to let our faith lead who we are and what we do so that others might see Jesus in us. It is the privilege of missionary discipleship! **“Let us remember this: one cannot proclaim the Gospel of Jesus without the tangible witness of one’s life.”**

On the weekend of November 10 and 11, 2018, we will be joining with other parishes from around the diocese and will be focusing on the Stewardship Sunday and the theme: **Missionary Disciples Share with Joy, Gratitude and Generosity**. It will be a wonderful opportunity for each of us to reflect upon who Jesus is in our lives and our response to His incredible love for us. We have a beautiful opportunity to show just how our lives reflect our relationship with Jesus and each other.

I ask that each of you join in the celebration of Stewardship Weekend. Our parish staff, pastoral council and stewardship committee members have recommended that we **celebrate Missionary Disciples Share with Joy, Gratitude and Generosity** in the following manner:

- _____
- _____
- _____

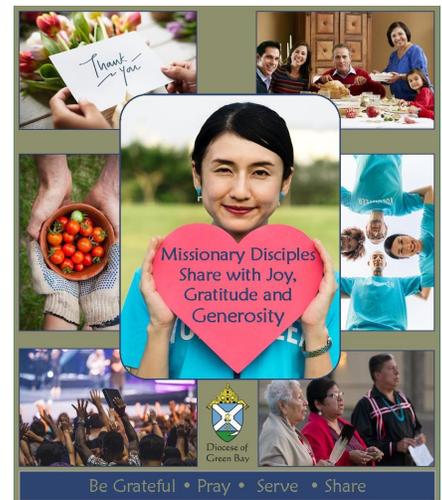
Please join us for all the activities as we celebrate God’s unending love for us. If you would like to help with any the wonderful activities, please call _____.

Thank you for all that you are and all the ways you *live with gratitude, joy and generosity in your own life and in the life of the parish community*.

Many Blessings,

Celebrating Stewardship Sunday November 10/11, 2018

Engaging Schools, Religious Education and Families



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Catechist Preparation:

Make stewardship weekend an agenda item at a staff/team meeting using some of the prior items for resources:

- ***Missionary Disciples Share with Joy, Gratitude and Generosity*** Stewardship Theme Background Resource.
- Prepare to tell the children, youth or families God has given you? Help those you teach tell their own story too.

Preparing Children and Youth

- Be sure to have an age-appropriate understanding of stewardship and the theme for this year's celebration of Stewardship Weekend.
- Display the ***Missionary Disciples Share with Joy, Gratitude and Generosity*** image. Discuss with Children/ Youth who Jesus is for them and why they would consider honoring Him with the way they live their lives.
- Begin each class/session by reciting "***Missionary Disciples Share with Joy, Gratitude and Generosity***" out loud and sharing how they followed Jesus or lived like Jesus and let their light shine through gratitude, prayer, service, and sharing since your last meeting.
- Create a parish bulletin board or rotating PowerPoint with pictures of your parishioners living and acting ***Missionary Disciples Share with Joy, Gratitude and Generosity***

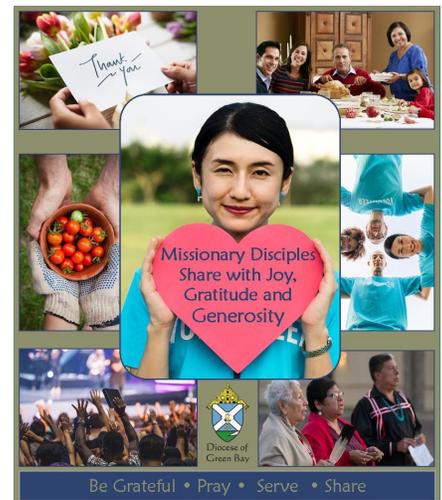
Note: The following are suggestions that can be adapted in any way or any grade level.

Kindergarten –Grade 5

- ***Missionary Disciples Share with Joy, Gratitude and Generosity*** : Activity Calendar: Using input from the children, have each grade level create a monthly calendar of activities for their class. Each month, choose a way they will follow Jesus through an activity of gratitude, prayer, service or sharing.
- Read bible stories about Jesus. Ask the children to tell you how they hear Jesus expressing gratitude, praying, serving or sharing. How can they be like Jesus in the world today?
- Ask children to bring books or poems from home on gratitude, praying, serving or sharing. Read and have children share how it fits into the theme of ***Missionary Disciples Share with Joy, Gratitude and Generosity***
- Have older children create skits about the theme and perform for younger children.
- Talk about past and present saints and how they boldly followed Jesus and did what he did and what he asked.

Celebrating Stewardship Sunday November 10/11, 2018

Engaging Schools, Religious Education and Families (cont.)



Grades 6-8

- All grades could create and perform a skit or shadow skit that would illustrate the theme. Have a performance time with fellowship for the parents/guardians.
- **Grade 6: *Missionary Disciples Share with Joy, Gratitude and Generosity*** Prayer Service: Youth create and lead a prayer service for others. Be creative using music and technology if possible.
- **Grade 7: *Missionary Disciples Share with Joy, Gratitude and Generosity*** Service Project: Youth create and invite younger children to participate in a local service project.
- **Grade 8: *Missionary Disciples Share with Joy, Gratitude and Generosity*** Sharing Project: Ask youth to create and lead others in an opportunity to share with those in need; i.e. a hike for hunger, diapers, “undies,” or food, etc. Explore opportunities and create announcements and promotions that highlight Stewardship Weekend.

High School-Youth

- Ask groups of teens to create an oversized storybook or a PowerPoint to read to others based on the theme ***Missionary Disciples Share with Joy, Gratitude and Generosity***. They need to create the story and do the illustrations.
- ***Missionary Disciples Share with Joy, Gratitude and Generosity*** Resumes: Ask youth to work in small groups to write a resume that describes someone who boldly lives gratitude, prayer, service and/or sharing in honor of Jesus.
- Ask youth to be creative in putting together a list of ten ways youth can gratefully “step up” their time in prayer, the use of their talents in service and the generous sharing of their treasure. Put the list on your website, in your newsletter and/or your bulletin.

Families

- Gather families for a ***Missionary Disciples Share with Joy, Gratitude and Generosity*** Service Day. They select the service that suits the age of their family. You meet prior to everyone going out for fellowship and prayer and again when you return to share stories and a meal.
- Families create a collage of memories from the past year imaging their life of Christian stewardship.
- Families share one meal a week where they discuss how they experienced someone living in their lives. ***Missionary Disciples Share with Joy, Gratitude and Generosity***
- Families make a plan to “step up” their gratitude, prayer, service or sharing in some way ***Missionary Disciples Share with Joy, Gratitude and Generosity***

For assistance in any area of stewardship, please contact Parish Life Office at (920) 272-8295 or 1-877-500-3580, ext. 8295 or pastserv@gbdioc.org