

OUR PARISH – OUR PEOPLE



*Stewardship Program for
The Diocese of Raleigh*

Overview

- Implementation
- Timeline
- Collateral Materials

Implementation

The focus of the program is asking your parishioners to prayerfully consider giving four hours of their time to the parish and community. The four hours that you ask the parishioners to consider are:

1. Spend an hour attending mass on the weekend to participate in the spiritual faith community
2. Over the course of the week between weekend masses ask the parishioners to spend an hour in prayer during the week
3. Ask the parishioners to volunteer one hour a week in the parish or community (lectors, Eucharist minister, usher, parish council etc. or in the community as a coach of your child's team or at your child's school)
4. Finally ask them to put an hourly wage in the offertory collection

Implementation

Preparation

- Work with the Stewardship and Advancement Office to start your program
- Implement effort to update parishioner mailing lists
- Prepare mailing lists and tracking mechanisms to document responses
- Create and Order materials/personalize letters

Implementation

Pastor/Parish Leader Visits to Top Parishioners

An aspect of the Stewardship program that we highly recommend is pastor/parish leader visits to the top 30 to 50 parish families supporting the parish through offertory.

The purpose of the visit is to thank them for all they do for the parish and provides an opportunity for the pastor/parish leader to share the state of the parish and/or a vision for the future. Even though an increase in offertory is not mentioned or discussed we have seen that many of the families who are visited increase their weekly and annual giving.

The Development Department is able to support any parish during the visits or to assist a parish in identifying the families to visit and train parish leaders to conduct the visits.

Timeline

1st Stewardship Awareness Weekend

- Mailing #1
 - Case letter
 - Parish annual report
- Lay witness testimony on stewardship
- Petition for the Prayer of the Faithful
- Bulletin and pulpit announcements
- Poster

Timeline

2nd Stewardship Awareness Weekend

- Mailing #2 to all active parishioners
 - Initial request letter
 - Brochure
 - Reply envelope
- Homily on Stewardship
- Petition for the Prayer of the Faithful
- Bulletin and pulpit announcements
- Poster
- Begin tracking responses

Timeline

1st & 2nd Stewardship Commitment Weekend

- Pastor's invitation to participate
- Petition for the Prayer of the Faithful
- Bulletin and pulpit announcements
- Poster
- In-pew invitation to complete commitment card
- Track responses

Timeline

Follow-Up

- Mailing #3
 - Follow-up request letter
 - Brochure
 - **OR** Acknowledgement letter

Timeline

Follow-Up

- Analysis of results
- Quarterly reminder letters
- Regular bulletin reports

Collateral Materials

- Manual
- Poster
- Brochure
- Lay Witness Overview & Speaking Points
- Homily Tie-In
- Bulletin/Pulpit Announcements
- Prayer of the Faithful
- Letters

Contact Information



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