

Section 8:

Children's Stewardship

Section Contents:

Stewardship Roadmap

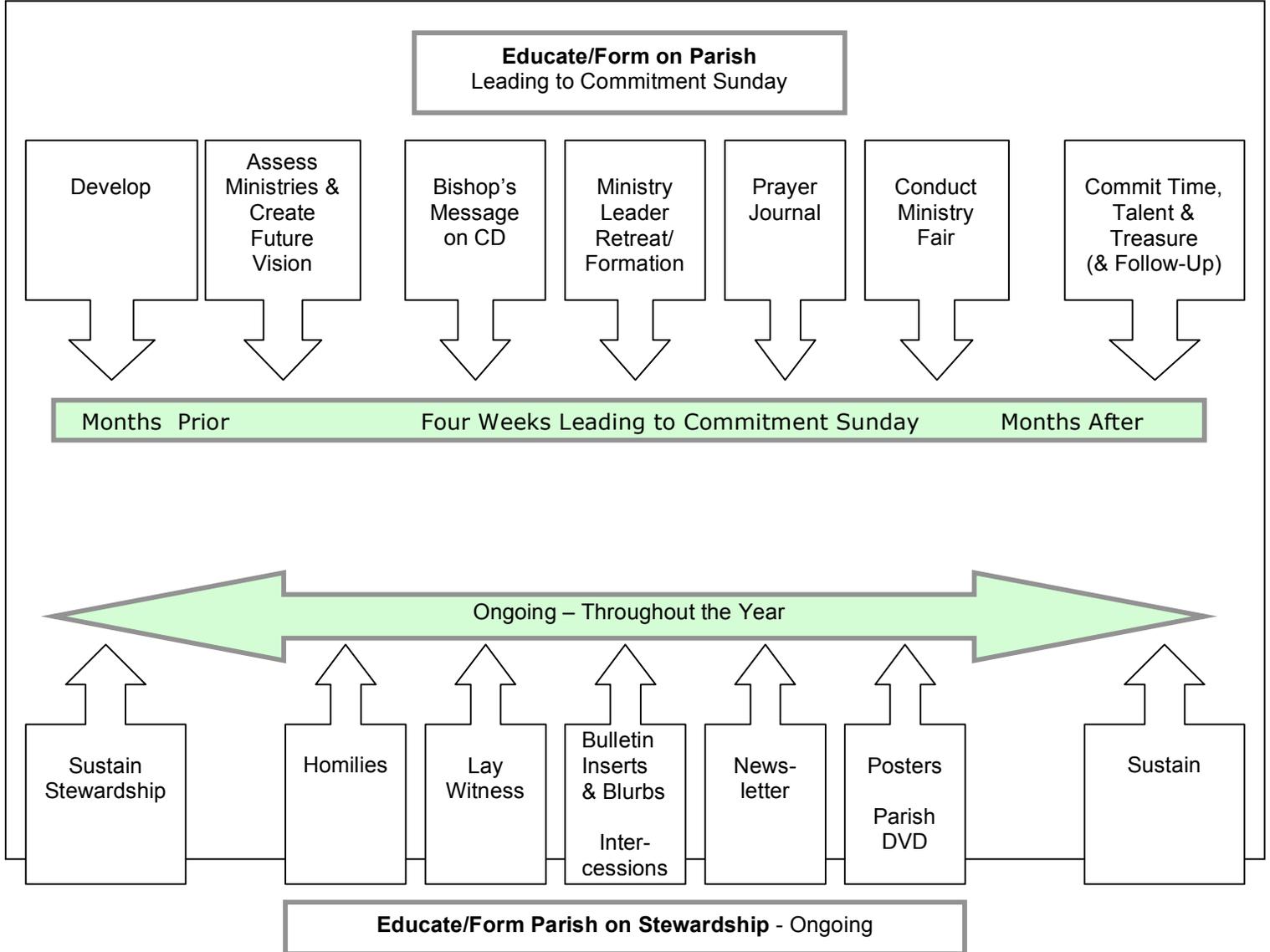
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"...[We] must teach [our] children the truths of the faith and pray with them; share Christian values with them in the face of pressures to conform to the hostile values of a secularized society; and initiate them into the practice of stewardship itself, in all its dimensions, contrary to today's widespread consumerism and individualism."

~Stewardship: A Disciple's Response, U.S. Bishops' Pastoral Letter on Stewardship



Stewardship Roadmap



The Stewardship Manual provides a roadmap to implementing and sustaining a successful Stewardship process in parish. The roadmap is divided into 6 sections:

1. Developing a Stewardship Committee
2. Assessing Ministries and Creating a Future Visio
3. Educating and Forming the Parish on Stewardship
4. Conducting the Ministry Fair
5. Committing Time, Talent, and Treasure
6. Sustaining Stewardship
7. The Manual contains 4 additional sections containing materials for: Discernment of Gifts
8. Children's Stewardship
9. *A Steward's Prayer and Reflection Journal*
Sunday Homilies – Forming Communities in the Spirit of Stewardship



Each section provides an overview, suggested steps for implementation, lessons learned, tools, sample materials, and external resources that can be used to initiate and sustain Stewardship in a parish.



Children's Stewardship Overview

Since Stewardship encompasses all aspects of the Christian life, it follows that Children's Stewardship processes and resources are a part of this manual.

In the Bishops' Pastoral Letter on Stewardship, children are specifically mentioned, and adults are instructed to include them in the formation and practice of Stewardship in the domestic church, which is the home, and by extension, the parish community, the school, and other places where children could gain knowledge and insights into the Stewardship process.

This section will offer examples, templates and resources to help adults make the connections between current ministries or programs in which the children in the parish are currently involved and Stewardship.

Other offerings include resources to engage more formal Stewardship practices such as forming a Children's Stewardship Committee, ideas for sustained Children's Stewardship, and practical educational resources such as lesson plans to use in the classroom or in catechesis.



Getting Started

Making the Connections

Many of the activities and programs that children are involved in at the parish, whether it is in school, PSR, Generations of Faith, or the like, already point to Stewardship. Take some time to think about what the children in the parish or parish school are engaged in and make some connections. The following is a list to get the brainstorming started, but it is by no means exhaustive.

Time

- Prayer services (see *Example 8.1 (page 10)* for a suggested **Lenten Prayer Service**)
- Liturgies celebrated during school or other times of catechesis
- Prayer corners
- Times of special liturgies—May Crowning, Stations of the Cross

Talent

- Helping a new student
- Cleaning the desks, chalk boards, pews in church



Children's Stewardship

- Organizing a charity event
- Actively participating in school or parish events
- Altar Server
- Pen Pal correspondences
- Visiting hospitals, nursing homes and care facilities
- Planting a garden
- Recycling
- Mission work

Treasure

- Children's offertory envelopes
- Food drives
- Giving tree
- Special collections—clothing, school supplies for children in other communities, necessities for people living abroad

Once the connections have been made, begin to share with the children how what is already being done is living a Stewardship way of life. By sharing their gifts of time, talent and treasure in a spirit of gratitude and with a sense of love and justice to build God's kingdom, they are acting as good stewards! Encourage age-appropriate discussion about other ways Stewardship could be embraced and what the "next steps" could be in terms of level of commitment, and ideas for engagement at home or in the parish. *Example 8.2, (page 11) Give Thanks and Share*, can offer suggestions as well.

Forming a Children's Stewardship Committee

After some connections have been made (see above) begin to talk more formally about the concept of Stewardship and vocabulary. See *Talk the Talk!, Example 8.3 (page 13)*, which can be a good discussion starter and resource aid, offering the language of Stewardship.

Consider then forming a Children's Stewardship Committee in the school or parish. It can be made up of students, young parishioners, teachers, catechists and/or administrators. Members may serve for one to two years and the committee should be between 8 to 12 people. It could be an advisory group or decision making group depending on the situation. Refer to Section 1 of this manual, "*Developing a Stewardship Committee*" for further guidelines, since children's Stewardship can parallel the parish Stewardship process.

The role of this committee may include but is not limited to:

- Help children and young people develop a sense of giftedness and gratitude
- Help children and young people discover their giftedness
- Affirm their acts of Stewardship throughout the school and parish
- Model parish Stewardship efforts
 - Plan and conduct a Ministry Fair for children
 - Organize children "Lay Witness Talks"
 - Ask children to pledge their time, talent and treasure
- Facilitate other opportunities of commitment in time, talent and treasure



Children's Stewardship

See *Walk the Talk!*, Example 8.4 (page 14), for ideas and activities in which this committee may engage in developing Stewardship.

Sustaining Children's Stewardship

Sustaining Children's Stewardship is possible. With some creativity and planning, the efforts put into the initial process can be expanded and enhanced. Consider some of the following ideas:

- Include opportunities for service within and outside the school and parish
 - Be sure there are ways that all children can participate in offering commitments of time, talent and treasure
 - Remind children of their pledges of time, talent and treasure (if such a pledging process was held) and ask them to share their experiences from these commitments
 - Look for ways to make connections between Stewardship and the Sacraments
 - Build Stewardship into school lesson plans in a formal way. Listed below are many examples of lesson plans for children of various ages:
 - Example 8.5 (page 15) *Time: In Prayer*
 - Example 8.6 (page 17) *Talent: Gifted Awareness*
 - Example 8.7 (page 18) *Talent: Individual Giftedness*
 - Example 8.8 (page 19) *Treasure*
 - Example 8.9 (page 20) *Communal Giftedness*
 - Example 8.10 (page 21) *Stewards of Church*
(specific to Grades 4-6)
 - Example 8.11 (page 24) *Stewards of Life: Discipleship*
(specific to Grades 10-12)
 - Report acts of Stewardship on a regular basis in verbal announcements at school or PSR classes. Follow up with **Certificates of Giftedness**, as shown in Example 8.12 (page 33).
 - For Children's Stewardship commitment forms, see Section 5 of this manual, *Stewardship Commitment Process*; refer to Examples 5.6 and 5.7.
 - Refer to **Additional Children Stewardship Resources** below for references to books and websites with children's stewardship ideas and practices.
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Additional Children's Stewardship Resources and Websites

Listed below are just a few of the many resources specific to Children's Stewardship. For additional resources on Stewardship in general, see page 36.

Websites:

www.archstl.org/stewardship/whatis/children.html
www.dow.org/documents/Stewardship_Resources.pdf
<http://www.diometuchen.org/stewardship/youth.html>



Children's Stewardship

Books:

The Catholic Kid's Guide to Stewardship

Twenty Third Publications
1 Montauk Ave #200
New London, CT 06320
Phone: 800-321-0411
Web site: www.twentythirdpublications.com

Children's Stewardship Manual

ICSC
1275 K Street, Suite 980
Washington, DC 20005-4006
Phone: 202-289-1093
E-mail: orders@catholicstewardship.org
Web site: www.catholicstewardship.org

Sharing Our Gifts of the Heart: A Curriculum Guide for Stewardship in CCD classes

Archdiocese of Louisville
Office of Stewardship and Development
PO Box 1073
Louisville, KY 40201
Phone: 502-585-3291
Web site: www.archlou.org

Stewardship Programs for Children and Youth

By Rita McCarthy Swartz

Sheed & Ward Publications
30 Amberwood Parkway
Ashland, OH 44805
Phone: 800-266-5564
E-mail: order@bookmaster.com
Web site: www.sheedandward.com

Taking Care of God's Gifts : An activity book

By Laurie Whitfield and Robert Cammarata

Our Sunday Visitor
200 Noll Plaza
Huntington, IN 46750
Phone: 800-348-2886
E-mail: osvsales@osv.com
Web site: www.osv.com





Lessons Learned (Tips and Tricks)

Lessons learned in the process of Children's Stewardship include:

- **Opportunities** – In order for Stewardship to be embraced by everyone, opportunities to participate must be available to everyone—day school children, PSR children, all ages, etc.
 - **Follow-Up** – So as not to be forgotten, some form of follow-up should be done to help children remember their commitments of time, talent and treasure, if pledging was conducted. This follow-up can take the form of quarterly reminder notes, or asking children to report back on their activity.
 - **Variety** – Offer a wide array of suggestions for sharing time, talent and treasure.
 - **Parent Involvement** – Offer parents the opportunity to read the U. S. Bishops' Pastoral Letter on Stewardship called *Stewardship: A Disciples Response*. Plan a Stewardship mini-conference in which the children present information and the process about Stewardship to the adults/parents in the parish.
 - **Family Activity** – Involve the whole family in an activity with the child or children. See *Example 8.13 (page 34)*, **Creation Booklet**, for one idea of family participation.
 - **Visioning** – Include Stewardship in the long-range planning process of the school or parish children's programs.
 - **Modeling** – Help make sure the children of the parish have the opportunity to see the adults in the parish share commitments of time, talent and treasure.
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Examples and Templates

Included in this section are sample materials for use in the school and/or parish relating to the Children's Stewardship process. Included here are:

- 8.1 Lenten Prayer Service
- 8.2 Give Thanks and Share
- 8.3 Talk the Talk!
- 8.4 Walk the Talk!
- 8.5 Time in Prayer
- 8.6 Talent: Gifted Awareness
- 8.7 Talent: Individual Giftedness
- 8.8 Treasure
- 8.9 Communal Giftedness
- 8.10 Stewards of Church (specific to grades 4-6)
- 8.11 Stewards of Life: Discipleship (specific to grades 10-12)
- 8.12 Certificate of Giftedness
- 8.13 Creation Booklet



Example 8.1

LENTEN PRAYER SERVICE

Objective: All that we are and all that we have, We Are Grateful!

Supplies:

- Music: "We Fall Down" and/or "Amazing Love" (Song Sheets)
- Prayer Table, OR, in Church (Steps of the Altar)
- Purple Cloth, Candles, Flowers, Bible, Many Different Crosses
- 1 Basket with Jewels (Anything that looks like jewels)
- 1 Basket with pre-cut purple ribbon pieces (Or anything else)

Purple Ribbon

Start off by preparing the Prayer Space. Have the Crosses in prominent places throughout the space. As they enter the room, have them take one item from each basket. Take some time to quiet the group. Explain to them that the purple ribbon represents their sinfulness or their faults. Have them think about something in their lives that is a bad habit; something that they would like to get rid of this Lenten Season. Give them examples of things they might be doing that they shouldn't be doing. Or, maybe there is something they need to do better, some part of them that needs some work. In what areas are we lacking in our Time, Talent and Treasure?

Jewel

Then talk about the jewel. These are our Gifts. Think about how blessed we are. How has God blessed us with Talents? How much stuff do we have? How fortunate are we to have been born in a free country that allows us to pray.

As the songs are playing, have each person come up one by one and give back the jewels and the faults to God. Offer all of yourself back to God. Thank God for all we have and all we are. And ask God to help us in our brokenness.

As the other children are coming forward ask the rest of the children to raise their hands to pray for each other as they come before the Lord. This is a good way to start teaching about praying for each other.

*Copyright 2008 "Got Gifts? You Betcha" Stewardship for Everyone written by Vicky Petro. Copied with Permission.



Example 8.2

Give Thanks and Share!

Our baptism calls us to help build God's kingdom by participating in the mission of Jesus. We do this as Christian stewards when we receive God's gifts gratefully, cultivate them responsibly, share them in love and justice with others, and stand before the Lord in a spirit of accountability.

Making Connections

Use the following list of ministries to help children develop a sense of giftedness and make connections with a stewardship way of life. Perhaps new ministries might be created.

Altar Server	Handiwork
Lector	Landscape
Junior Catechist	Advent Projects
Catechist Assistant	Lenten Projects
Office Helpers	Back to School Supplies
Usher	Collect Canned Goods
Hospitality	Giving Tree
Hall Monitors	Pen Pals
Children's Choir/Band	Greeting Cards
Theatre Productions	Team with Children's Hospital or Senior Care Facilities
Family Activities	Justice and Peace Committee
Environment in Art and Worship	Student Council
Adopt a Grandparent	Church Mice (helping with simple maintenance in the church)
Tutoring	
Environmental Concerns	
CYO	

**The possibilities are as endless as
God's generosity!**



Children's Stewardship

Example 8.2 (cont'd)

Here are ways to show thanks to God and share our gifts with others

Giving Thanks and Sharing Our Gifts

We thank God by using our gifts with love and joy in service to others. Here are some ways we can thank God for everything God has given us.

- Create a "Thank You, God" card which can be brought up during Liturgy
- Offer a class-prepared Thanksgiving Prayer
- Create a litany of Thanksgiving
- Include a "Thank You, God" section in the bulletin that is composed by the children

Help the children develop a sense that we are all responsible for using our gifts for good, by incorporating the following ideas.

- Reference gifts in the children's experience for which they need to exercise care and to share (e.g. pets, toys, seedlings/plants, personal hygiene, their rooms, siblings, etc.).
- Share scripture stories (parables in particular—the talents, the seeds, the fig tree, the lost coin, etc.) that illustrate Jesus' ideas about the need to use our gifts responsibly.
- Always, and in all ways, communicate what is happening in the lives of the community's children as gifts are being used and shared well.

Introduce an envelope program as one way of showing accountability for sharing gifts.

- Use envelopes that include the use and sharing of time, talent, and material possessions.
- Create your own envelopes! Have a group effort for each class or grade level to design their own envelopes.
- Approach your parish envelope company or other vendor to sponsor envelopes for each month, quarter or year at no cost.

-Adapted from "Give Thanks and Share!" resource. Office of Parish Stewardship, Diocese of Rockville Centre, NY.



Example 8.3

Talk the Talk! **The Language of Stewardship**

Some examples for you...why not think of more!

Spirituality—A Way of Life
Our Need to Trust in God
Our Dependence on God
God as Source of all things
Share from our First Fruits
Renewed in Christ
Attitude of Gratitude
Gratitude to a generous God
Connections/Interconnectedness
The Vision (The Reign of God/The Kingdom of God)
Conversion/New Way of Living
Counter-cultural
Commitment
Gifts/Gifted
Charisms/Spiritual Gifts
All is Gift
Special-Unique Gifts
Personal Gifts
Communal (Social) Gifts
Receive God's gifts gratefully
Cultivate our gifts responsibly
Share our gifts lovingly and in justice with others
Return our gifts with increase to the Lord
Take care of our gifts responsibly
Time, Talent, Treasure
Take-A-Step
The Biblical Tithe
Planned, Proportionate, Prayerful, Sacrificial Giving
Accountable/Accountability
Corporate Accountability (the Church, Business, etc.)
Responsibility
Gifted and Called
Call/Called by God

Baptismal Call
Personal Vocation
Response (personal and communal)
Disciple/Follower of Jesus
Steward disciple
Stewardship discipleship
The Cost of Discipleship
Apostle/Apostleship
Ministers/Ministry
"Come, Follow Me"
Joyful Response (in faith)
Need to Give vs. Give to Need
Possessions as privileges vs. possessions as rights
Stewards vs. Owners
Stewards vs. Accumulators
Ours vs. Mine
Mary as steward of Jesus, God's greatest gift

Themes from the Bishops' Pastoral Letter on Stewardship:

Stewardship: A Disciple's Response
Stewards of Human Life
Stewards of Creation
Stewards of Vocation
Stewards of Justice and Peace
Stewards of the Environment
Stewards of Money and Possessions
Collaborators in Creation
Global Stewardship
Stewards of the Church
Community and Stewardship
Creation and Stewardship
Evangelization and Stewardship
Solidarity and Stewardship
Eucharistic Stewardship

-Adapted from "Talk the Talk!" resource. Office of Parish Stewardship, Diocese of Rockville Centre, NY.



Example 8.4

Walk the Talk!

As Stewardship develops at the school or parish, the following ideas can help direct a Children's Stewardship Committee toward determining focus and direction.

We are All Gifted!

- Develop the sense that ALL we have and are is a gift from God.
- Discuss what a gift is; use the children's experience of gifts as something chosen with care, wrapped, special, given out of love. Discuss the need to thank the giver, take care of the gift, etc.
- Help the children name some of the gifts that come from God—Family, friends, animals, pets, school, teachers, books, home, earth, trees, money, toys, clothes, talents, skills, etc.
- Foster the fact that each of us is gifted in different ways. Not everyone has the same gifts. Our particular gifts make us special. Everyone, though, has God-given gifts!

Discover!

Help the children discover their individual gifts

- Do activities with the children to discover what they are good at, what they like to do, what brings them joy—this constitutes some of their gifts!

Identify communal gifts

- What does the class or group of their friends enjoy doing and do well? What could they do together?
- Discuss the workings of a team—each player has a particular position and every position is needed and has equal value to the team. EVERYONE'S gifts are needed to build God's kingdom.

Encourage the children to recognize the gifts of others

- Have the children listen to stories told by another or observe someone else doing a particular task. What gifts did they see or hear?

Affirm!

- Post gifts discovered and acts of stewardship in the parish bulletin, newsletter or other communications. Use pictures and tell the story to create excitement!
- Celebrate our giftedness!
 - Regularly and publicly celebrate the gifts of the children at Mass (in the general intercessions, homilies, and in song) or parish events.
 - Use banners, songs, skits, witness talks, pictures, gift tree or other creative ways of celebrating the gifts of the children with the parish community. It could be contagious!

-Adapted from "Walk the Talk!" resource. Office of Parish Stewardship, Diocese of Rockville Centre, NY



Children's Stewardship

Example 8.5

As the parish and school embark on Children's Stewardship be assured that some aspects of this process are incorporated into the current programs and curriculums. The following lesson plans are intended as examples which can be adjusted and modified to fit the needs of the parish or school.

TIME: IN PRAYER

Objective: To become aware of God's presence in our lives. What does our time in prayer say about our relationship with God?

Supplies: Prayer Awareness Sheet
Pen or Pencil
Time

The best way to really know if we are actually spending time in prayer is to try and keep track of it. When we have to think about our day, or write down actual movements, we can really see what our spiritual life looks like.

When we become aware of our precious time we spend with God, we can see if we are on the right track. If we are not, we can certainly take steps to better our relationship with God.

It is only after personal reflection that we can know ourselves better. We as catechists are called to help our children know, love and serve God. This is a very simple way to begin that process.

Activity Sheet

On the following page you will find the **Prayer Awareness Sheet**. Each student will get one of these sheets to take home. During the following week, ask them to write down every time they pray. This can be formal prayer or times that they were aware of God's presence. It might have been when they took a walk in the park and thought about how beautiful God's creations are. It might have been when they were doing the dishes and thought how thankful they are for their family. These are some examples on how to get them started.

Write down daily each time you pray or are aware of God's presence.



Example 8.5 (cont'd)

Prayer Awareness Sheet

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday



Example 8.6

TALENT: GIFTED AWARENESS

Objective: To help children become aware of their own giftedness.

God loves us so much that He gave everyone of us at least one Spiritual Gift. Helping children become aware of their giftedness is very exciting. The following exercise will help the children begin to understand their own unique gift.

Activity: Guided Meditation

- Have the children sit back, relax and close their eyes.
- Ask them to imagine a time when they were doing some project or activity and felt really excited and alive.
- Tell them that this activity could be helping someone, building something, painting, singing, playing music, cooking, planting a garden, giving something away, etc.
- Now ask them to remember if they were doing the activity for another person. If they were, ask, "What did the other person look like? How did the other person feel or react when they saw or heard what you had done or made?"
- If you did the project on your own, how did you feel when you reflected on what you had accomplished? Did you thank God? Were you grateful for the ability to help or create?
- Ask: "What do you think your gift is? Is it music? Is it building something? Is it welcoming people into your house and making them feel really special? Is it making a beautiful garden?"
- When you use your Spiritual Gifts you always feel excited and alive. You thank God for your special gift. Other people benefit when you use your gifts as well. Everyone is grateful to God.
- This is the first step in realizing you are gifted. You are called by God to use your gifts to build up the Body of Christ. When we use our gifts, the community is strengthened.
- If we do not use our gifts, the community suffers because it is missing a very important part — YOU!!

*Idea taken from "Spiritual Gifts Experience" written by Vicky Petro and Lee Palencar Copyright 2005. Used with Permission.



Children's Stewardship

Example 8.7

TALENT: INDIVIDUAL GIFTEDNESS

Objective: What does Holiness look like?

Supplies:

- Paper
- Crayons/Markers
- Pre-Cut Outline of a Person

We are all called to be Saints. If we are truly following God's plan for our life we should be developing Christ-like qualities. Have the children think about their gifts. What are they good at? How are they blessed? Who are the people in their lives that are important? What possessions are they grateful for? How much time do they spend in prayer, thanking God?

Question: How do you, as SAINT, use your Time, Talent & Treasure?

Now have them write down all of the giftedness about themselves. On their paper, have them draw an outline of a person. This is the student as a Saint. What symbol can they draw that would represent themselves? For example:

- A lion—strong, determined
- Armor—sturdy and protecting
- An Ear—good Listener,
- A Smile Face—happy and encouraging

Now have them write on their person how they use their Talents or Gifts.

Then talk about Prayer. How do they pray? How much time do they spend talking to God? What does their prayer space look like? Have them draw their Time in Prayer.

Then move on to their Treasures. What do they own that they share? What do they have that they don't really need? What could they give away to someone in need? Do they give a portion of their money to the poor? Do they give a portion of their money to their Church (Parish)? Have them do the same drawing on their person of giving of their Treasure.

*Idea taken from "Spiritual Gifts Experience" written by Vicky Petro and Lee Palencar Copyright 2005. Used with Permission.



Example 8.8

TREASURE

Objective: To be thankful for all we have and to share with those less fortunate.

Supplies: Cardboard or Heavy Material or small wooden chests can be purchased at a local craft store
Art Supplies (markers, crayons, glue, glitter etc.)
Scissors

In this lesson you are going to have the children make **Treasure Chests**. They will take them home and fill them with their most prized possessions. These possessions can be favorite toys, games, phones, money, clothes, pictures, etc. When they bring them back, you will ask them to talk about one item in their Treasure Chest, their favorite one. Then you will pose the following questions.

1. **Why is this treasure your favorite?**
2. **Do you take good care of this treasure?**
3. **Will you share your favorite treasure with someone else? Who? Why?**
4. **What if someone else needed your favorite treasure? Would you give it to them?**
5. **Would you give it away with no strings attached?**
6. **Would it make a difference if you knew them or not?**

After this exercise you can have great discussions about how all things come from God. We are to be good stewards of God's gifts and take care of them.

When someone needs the gifts we have, we are to share them with others. This is how we live a stewardship life.



Example 8.9

COMMUNAL GIFTEDNESS

Eucharist: Come to the Banquet

Objective: We are all called and gifted!

Supplies:

Table	Placemats (made ahead of time)	Table Cloth
Flowers	Candle or Candles	Bible
Prayer Cards	Music	Song sheets
Basket for Petitions	Basket for Goods	Basket for Money
Chairs	Food	Drink
Plates	Silverware	Cups

This Prayer Service/Activity is building on one that has been used for years. It teaches us that the Eucharistic Liturgy is a Celebration, a Feast, and a Banquet. Introducing Stewardship into this Prayer Service is easy.

First prepare the children at a previous class by discovering their Talents. Everyone is gifted in some way. Everyone will bring something to the Table. The above list gives you the major parts. As you learn your children's Talents you might be adding to the list. The creative people will enjoy making placemats, flower arrangements, etc. Children that are gifted in cooking will prepare the meal. Music people will gravitate toward that and good readers will want to proclaim the Gospel. Organizers will love to plan and Service-oriented children will love to set things up, arrange and clean. Everyone will be happy doing their part. They will learn about being part of the Body of Christ.

Before the meal is served, say the prayers. Ask for prayer petitions and put them in the basket. Ask for money and goods and put them in the baskets.

Also, you will be talking ahead about the importance of their Time—Prayer, and their Treasure—Money and Goods. This is where the Offertory comes in. Explain: Because we are so blessed, we need to give back to our Church. God is pleased when we respond to the needs of others.

After the meal thank God for EVERYTHING!



Children’s Stewardship

Example 8.10

Stewards of Church Lesson Plan Outline

Grade Level or Course: 4-6

Outcome: The students will identify, define, and apply the role of a “steward of church”.

Objectives:

- To help students to live their call as members of the Church.
- To help students to share in the mission of the Church.

Comments: A steward of church is defined as one who cooperates with God in his/her own salvation and that of others.

PRAYER	TEACHING METHODS	STUDENT ACTIVITIES	APPLICATION	RESOURCES
*Ritual Prayer Ritual of Commissioning	*Scripture reflection *Guided discussion of being members ("stewards") of the Church	*Stone Soup story *Magazine cover	*Mission office activities *Commitment promise *"Giving" activities throughout the year	Scripture Catechism of the Catholic Church Stewardship: A Disciples Response (U.S. Bishop’s Pastoral Letter on Stewardship) To Be a Christian Steward (Summary of the U.S. Bishops’ Letter on Stewardship)



Children's Stewardship

Example 8.10 (cont'd)

SUPPLIES NEEDED:

- *Story: "Stone Soup"
- *a Bible or Lectionary
- *Book of Blessings
- *basket for commitment promises
- *Easter candle or Christ candle
- *Baptistry with water or large bowl with holy water
- *Songbooks, etc.

Stewards of God's gifts are not passive beneficiaries. We cooperate with God in our own redemption and in the redemption of others.

We are also obliged to be stewards of the Church – collaborators and cooperators in continuing the redemptive work of Jesus Christ, which is the Church's essential mission. This mission – proclaiming and teaching, serving and sanctifying – is our task. It is the personal responsibility of each one of us as stewards of the church.

All members of the Church have their own roles to play in carrying out its mission.

- * parents, who nurture their children in the light of faith;
- * parishioners, who work in concrete ways to make their parishes true communities of faith and vibrant sources of service to the larger community;
- * all Catholics, who give generous support-time, money, prayers, and personal service according to their circumstances – to parish and diocesan programs and to the universal Church.

"Stewardship, properly understood, is nothing less than a complete lifestyle, as total accountability and responsibility before God. Stewardship is what we do after we say we believe, that is, after we give our love, loyalty and trust to God, from whom every aspect of our life comes as gift"

*[A Pilgrim people: Westerhoff, John. 1984.
Used with permission.]*

Today, boys and girls, I want you to think about two things; what it means to follow Jesus by serving others and what it means to be a "steward of the church".

1. SCRIPTURE:

2 Cor. 9:6-8 – God's generosity

1 Pt. 4:10 – Sharing gifts

Let us begin with a reading from Scripture. (Read the above Scripture quotations.) Think about that for a minute:... God will always provide in abundance as you give – God gives more – God cannot be outdone. But what has been given to us is to be used to serve one another as good stewards. What does this mean to you? (Discussion drawn into application.) The students should tell how each one's gifts are used to serve the community, the Church. Themes which should be brought into the discussion are time, talent, treasure, priesthood of the baptized and involvement in Church and community.

2. GUIDED DISCUSSION: STONE SOUP

There is another way to illustrate this important message. The teacher should tell (or read) the story "Stone Soup" (Brian Cavanaugh, *Fresh Packet of Sower's Seeds – Third Planting*,



Children's Stewardship

Example 8.10 (cont'd)

Mahwah: Paulist Press, 1994 or William R. White, *Stories for the Journey*, Minneapolis: Augsburg, 1988.); or show the video. The following questions can be used to lead the discussion.

- * What was happening in the village when the stranger came?
- * How were the people acting?
- * At first, were the people willing to share with the stranger?
- * What changed?
- * If just one of the foods was used, would the soup be as good? Why?
- * How does the story show the side used of what one has?
- * How was the community affected by the gifts of one another?

3. ACTIVITY: DESIGN A MAGAZINE COVER

Imagine that you are the art director of a magazine. You are about to design the cover of the next issue, and you want that cover to tell the theme of the issue and its meaning. The theme is stewardship on the cover. Proceed.

(After students have completed their designs give each an opportunity to explain the cover to the rest of the class.)

4. COMPOSITION:

Remember when Jesus washed the Apostles' feet at the Last Supper. They had been traveling, their feet were hot and dusty and needed to be washed. Jesus decided to do the washing. Through this loving action, he showed his friends, and us, how we can serve

others best. We need to look around for things that need to be done and do them.

Our last activity today will be to think of something that each one can do to live out stewardship. In your own words, write a short prayer to the Holy Spirit. Ask the Spirit to help you discover your gifts and put them to work in the service of others. Write down your commitment to present at the ritual prayer.

5. RITUAL PRAYER: RITUAL OF COMMISSIONING

Using the commitment promises as a center piece, this commissioning service is based on the "***Order for the Blessing of Those Who Exercise Pastoral Service***" (within a celebration of the Word) as found in the ***Book of Blessings***.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

If the ritual cannot take place in the church, the Easter (or Christ) candle and water should be in a central place in the room (all during class would be effective). The Easter candle is lit before starting the ritual. The ritual begins with an appropriate song known by all. ("***Lead Us On***", "***Whatever You Do***", etc.) The ritual should follow the format of the "***Order for the Blessing of Those Who Exercise Pastoral Service***" within a celebration of the Word) as found in the ***Book of Blessings***. Before the Prayer of the Faithful, each student comes forward, reads their commitment promise aloud, and places it in the basket. After the Prayer of Blessing, each student is asked to bless themselves and others with holy water and offer each other a sign of peace.



Children's Stewardship

Example 8.11

Stewards of Life: Discipleship Lesson Plan Outline

Grade Level or Course: 10-12

Outcome: The students will identify, define, and apply the role of "discipleship".

Objectives:

- Students will recognize models of "discipleship".
- The students will define what it means to be a disciple of Christ.
- Students will understand the ultimate reward for following Jesus.

Comments: A disciple is defined as "a follower of Jesus".

PRAYER	TEACHING METHODS	STUDENT ACTIVITIES	APPLICATION	RESOURCES
*Prayer experience	*Liturgical music reflection/discussion *Scripture reflection/discussion *Group brainstorming/discussion	*Small group discussions on the Beatitudes – How they apply to our lives today OR *Reflection on song used in liturgy and how that song applies to us as disciples OR *Write your own "Canticle" – How do you "magnify the Lord" personally? OR *A small group discussion on the Holy Family as model	*Class discussion *Writing *Reflection questions *Family Activity (as explained in the course outline)	*Scripture * <i>Stewardship: A Disciples Response</i> (the U.S. Bishops' 1993 Pastoral Letter on Stewardship)



Children's Stewardship

Example 8.11 (cont'd)

SUPPLIES NEEDED:

- *Tape player or sheet music
- *Bibles
- *Candle
- *Basket
- *"God Has Chosen Me" reflection sheet (page 28)
- *"Stewards of Life: Discipleship" Family Page (page 29)
- *Listing of scripture passages for prayer Experience (page 30)
- *Beatitudes worksheet (page 32) – Optional Activity
- *Have students write their own "Canticle" :(How do I magnify the Lord Personally?) Optional Activity (Refer to Luke 1:46-55)

1. What does it mean to be a Christian disciple? Open class by listening to or singing "God Has Chosen Me". (Page 31 may be used for this activity)

2. Give students seven minutes to answer a reflection question of their choice.

(Possible student responses are shown in parenthesis.)

As a youth in today's society, whose "cry is unheard" and how am I responding to that cry? (the unborn, the young, the poor, the aged.)

How am I responding to the call to "bring to birth a new kingdom on earth"? (Using the ten commandments as a code by which to live my life; witnessing to God's love; loving those who are hard to love; honoring God in all things.)

Who do I recognize as having a "voice with no power or choice" and how am I

responding? (The poor, victims, of domestic violence, abused children)

Who do I believe to be "searching for light" and how am I responding to God's call to be a light for all nations? (The students may have personal experiences with friends or family that they would like to share.)

"...disciples make a conscious, firm decision, carried out in action, to be followers of Jesus Christ, no matter the cost to themselves."

(Stewardship: A Disciple Response p.1)

3. Lead a group discussion on how the students are answering God's call, using the reflection questions as the basis for the discussion.

4. Read John 1:35-51 (Jesus calls His disciples). Lead students in brief discussion using the following questions as a guide:

Andrew led Simon to follow Jesus. Can you think of anyone in your life who has led you to follow Jesus? How did this person introduce Jesus to you?

How can you personally be like Philip and draw others to follow Jesus?

Nathaniel doubted if anything good could come from Nazareth but followed Jesus after Jesus called him by name. Have you ever had any doubts about the goodness of Jesus or doubts about following Him at all cost?



Children's Stewardship

Example 8.11 (cont'd)

5. Read Luke 9:23-24 (We must deny ourselves and take up our cross to follow Jesus)

"What crosses do I take up daily to follow Jesus?"

6. Ask the students to summarize the preceding discussion, using the following as a guide only.

Ask students to write for five minutes on the following question:

As Catholic Christians, we have each been called as a disciple to follow Jesus.
(Refer back to the opening song "God Has Chosen Me".)

It is up to each of us to bring others to Christ. (refer back to John 1:35-51)

Following Christ (which is what it means to be a disciple) means we must deny ourselves and accept the pain and suffering along with the joy.

Being a disciple means "committing one's very self to the Lord." It is "an entire way of life"; a "change of mind and heart"

(Stewardship: A Disciples Response p.2).

7. Recognizing Models of Discipleship (Also, see alternate activities on Page 32.)

Have students break into three groups (each group will need a Bible). Assign each group one member of the Holy Family.

Have students look up the following passages and identify the qualities that make Jesus, Mary or Joseph models for discipleship. (The students will look up only those passages that pertain to the family member they were assigned.)

Group 1: Mary – Luke 1:46-55 (Magnificat); Luke 1:26-38 (Visitation of the Angel Gabriel)

"After Jesus, it is the Blessed Virgin Mary who by her example most perfectly teaches the meaning of discipleship and stewardship in their fullest sense."

(Stewardship: A Disciples Response p.43)

Group 2: Joseph – Matt 1:18-23; Matt 2:19-23

Group 3: Jesus – Jn 13:12-15 (Washing of the feet) (Give the students the background information on why Jesus was washing the disciple's feet); Luke 22:41-42 (Agony in the Garden); Luke 2:41-49 (Jesus as a boy in the temple); Matt 4:1-11 (temptation in the desert)

Allow about 15 minutes for small groups to discuss. Then come back together as a large group and ask the small groups to share their findings.

8. Family Activity:

Encourage the students to work with their family to name a present-day disciple and compare their qualities of discipleship with those of the Holy Family. **(Page 29 may be used for this activity.)**



Children's Stewardship

Example 8.11 (cont'd)

9. Stewards of God's Gifts

As Catholic Christians, we are called to be good stewards of the gifts and talents received from God. Read the Parable of the Talents; Mt. 25:14-30. Summarize the reading as follows:

By the grace of God, we receive gifts and talents.

It is up to us to use those talents and gifts and return them to God with increase (stewardship). More responsibility will be given to those who multiply the gifts given them.

Those who return their gifts with increase to God will share in His joy.

“One who receives God’s gifts gratefully, cherishes and tends them in a responsible and accountable manner, shares them in justice and love with others, and returns with increase to the Lord.”

(Stewardship: A Disciples Response p. 7,8,45)

10. What is our ultimate reward for following Jesus?

The following scripture tells us of our reward for following Christ:
Matt 5:12; John 17:1-3; 20-24

11. Close this session with a short prayer service as follows:

Play or sing “We Are Called” or some other appropriate song on discipleship/call to service.

Light a candle in the prayer corner. Alongside the candle have a basket filled with slips of paper rolled up like a scroll tied with yarn or ribbon. On each slip of paper, have a scripture verse pertaining to discipleship/service. (Use page 33.)

Ask each student to come forward and pick out a scripture from the basket. Encourage the students to reflect on their scripture during the week and put it into action.

After they have chosen their scripture reading, have them form a circle, turn off the music and recite the following prayer:

Leader: Heavenly Father: You call each of us to follow your Son, Jesus Christ. Give us the grace to know your will and the courage to trust you enough to know that you will be beside us as we seek to do what you ask of us. Give us the desire to draw others into your service and the wisdom to witness to others of your boundless love. We give grateful thanks for your promise of eternal life.

All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen!



Children's Stewardship

"God Has Chosen Me"
Words & Music by Bernadette Farrell
(To be used with "Stewardship of Life: Discipleship, Grades 10-12)

God has chosen me, God has chosen me
To bring good news to the poor.
God has chosen me, God has chosen me
To bring new sight to those searching for light.
God has chosen me, chosen me.

Refrain

And to tell the world that God's kingdom is near,
To remove oppression and break down fear.
Yes, God's time is near, God's time is near,
God's time is near, God's time is near.

God has chosen me, God has chosen me
To set alight a new fire.
God has chosen me, God has chosen me
To bring to birth a new kingdom on earth.
God has chosen me, chosen me.

God is calling me, God is calling me
In all whose cry is unheard.
God is calling me, God is calling me
To raise up the voice with no power or choice,
God is calling me, calling me.

(Repeat refrain)

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Reflection Questions:

1. As a youth in today's society, whose "cry is unheard" and how am I responding to that cry?
2. How am I responding to the call to "bring to birth a new kingdom on earth"?
3. Who do I recognize as having a "voice with no power or choice" and how am I responding?
4. Who do I believe to be "searching for light" and how am I responding to God's call to be a light for all nations?



Children's Stewardship

Stewards of Life: Discipleship Family Page

The Holy Family models for us as Catholic Christians what it means to be disciples. Each member of the Holy Family was called in their own way for God's own purpose, just as we are each called, by name, for God's glory.

Joseph did what God asked him to do. He took Mary as his wife and raised Jesus as his own. Even though he was afraid, he trusted in God's divine wisdom and allowed himself to be used to glorify God. Can we trust as much?

Read Matthew 1:18-23 and Matthew 2:19-23 to learn more about Joseph's total trust in the Lord.

Mary allowed God to use her as the vessel by which our savior would be brought into this world. She was but a meek, innocent child herself when an angel of the Lord appeared to her for the first time, asking her to be the mother of God. What would you do if an angel of the Lord appeared to you today and asked as much of you?

Read Luke 1:46-55 and Luke 1:26-38 to be inspired by Mary's total devotion to the Lord.

Jesus knew his fate even before he came down from heaven, but yet he trusted the Father's love and fulfilled the prophets' words. Like us, Jesus felt pain and sorrow, anger and frustration. But he also experienced the great joy of his resurrection! When we place our total trust in the Lord, we too will experience this great joy and will be raised just as Jesus was raised! Can we resist the temptation to sin as Jesus resisted Satan in the desert, trusting that God will give us all that we need?

Read John 13:12-15; Luke 22:41-42; Luke 2:41-49; Matthew 4:1-11.

1. Who can we, as a family, identify as a "present day" disciple and what qualities does this disciple have that mirrors the qualities of the Holy Family? (This "present day" disciple could be someone like our Holy Father, or it could be a friend, co-worker, family member).
2. What qualities do we, as a Catholic Christian family, share with the Holy Family?
3. What can we do as a Catholic Christian family to more fully become disciples of Christ?



Children's Stewardship

Scripture Passages (To be used with "Stewardship of Life: Discipleship": Grades 10-12, Prayer Experience)

Sirach 35:4, 7-10

Appear not before the Lord, empty-handed, for all that you offer is in fulfillment of the precepts. In generous spirit pay homage to the Lord, be not sparing of freewill gifts. With each contribution show a cheerful countenance, and pay your tithes in a spirit of joy. Give to the Most High as he has given to you, generously, according to your means. For the Lord is one who always repays and he will give back to you sevenfold.

Matthew 6:19-21

Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and decay destroy, and thieves break in and steal. But store up treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor decay destroys, nor thieves break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there also will be your heart.

Matthew 16:24-28

. . . whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me . . . What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? For the Son of Man will come with his angels in his Father's glory, and then he will repay everyone according to his conduct.

Mark 4:24-25

The measure with which you measure will be measured out to you, and still more will be given to you. To the one who has, more will be given, from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away.

Luke 12:48

Much will be required of the person entrusted with much, and still more will be demanded of the person entrusted with more.

1 Corinthians 3:7-9

Neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who causes the growth. The one who plants and the one who waters are equal, and each will receive wages in proportion to his labor . . . for we are God's co-workers.

1 Corinthians 10:31

. . . whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God.

1 Corinthians 12:4-7

There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same spirit; there are different forms of service but the same Lord; there are different workings but the same God who produces all of them in everyone. To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit.



Children's Stewardship

Scripture Passages
(To be used with "Stewardship of Life: Discipleship":
Grades 10-12, Prayer Experience)
[continued]

2 Corinthians 9:6-8

Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each must do as already determined, without sadness or compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. Moreover, God is able to make every grace abundant for you, so that in all things, always having all you need, you may have an abundance for every good work.

Galatians 6:2,9-10

Bear one another's burdens, and so you will fulfill the law of Christ. . . Let us not grow tired of doing good, for in due time we shall reap our harvest, if we do not give up. So while we have the opportunity, let us do good to all . . .

1 Peter 4:8-10

. . . Let your love for one another be intense, because love covers a multitude of sins. Be hospitable to one another without complaining. As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of god's varied grace.

1 John 3:17-18

If someone who has worldly means sees a brother in need and refuses him compassion, how can the love of God remain in him? Children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth.



Children's Stewardship

Alternate Student Activities (To be used, if desired, with "Stewards of Discipleship") Grades 10-12

Small Group Discussions on the Beatitudes **(Each group will need a Bible.)**

Divide the class into groups of 3 or 4 each. Ask the students to look up the Beatitudes in their Bibles (Matthew 5:3-11). The catechist may want to "set the scene" for the students.

Assign each group one of the Beatitudes and ask them to paraphrase it, using their own words. Then, instruct the groups to discuss and conclude how they are living their assigned Beatitude as a youth in today's society.

Give the groups approximately 10 minutes to come to their conclusions. Return together as an entire group and review and discuss the students' conclusions.

Summarize using any of the following comments:

- The Beatitudes provide for us a "prescription" for Christian discipleship.
- They encourage us to empty ourselves in order to be filled up with the love and light of the Lord.
- They encourage us to show mercy and compassion to those who may be difficult to love.
- They ask us to be "peacemakers" and to strive for unity and reconciliation in all things.
- They ask us to put away our pride and to be grateful for the gifts of this life.
- They even ask us to endure persecution for the sake of the kingdom of God and assure us that we will be richly rewarded.



Example 8.12

***Certificate of
Giftedness***

*This Award is
Presented to*

*In recognition of the many gifts
given to you by God!
"Since we have gifts that differ,
Let us exercise them." Rom 12:6*

Date: _____ Signed: _____



Example 8.13

The resources below come from a book entitled, *Young Stewards In Formation*, Diocese of Wichita, 1996. They are provided here for you and can be modified to fit your needs.

Creation Booklet

This may be handled in different ways. Each child could be issued a prepared booklet containing a title/cover sheet, a table of contents, and six blank sheets numbered from 1-

6. A note explaining that the project is to be completed as a family activity should accompany the booklet. Encourage the use of different art media in the completing of this activity.

<p>A Creation Booklet</p> <p>Author – God</p> <p>Illustrator</p> <hr/> <p>Published by</p> <hr/>	<p>Contents</p> <p>_____ Day and Night</p> <p>_____ Sky and Clouds</p> <p>_____ Earth, Plants and Water</p> <p>_____ Sun, Moon, Stars</p> <p>_____ Birds, Fish</p> <p>_____ Animals/Man and Woman</p> <p>_____ Day of Rest</p>
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Example 8.13 (cont'd)

**I Am A Steward of Creation
Pledge Card**

Dear God,

Help me to share my time, talents and treasure to help take care of the world you have made for me. These are the ways that I would like to help at home, church and school.

1. Home _____
2. Church _____
3. School _____

Signed: _____



Children's Stewardship



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES AND WEB SITES ON STEWARDSHIP

http://dioceseofcleveland.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=129&Itemid=255

Link to the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland Stewardship Office. OR go to <http://www.dioceseofcleveland.org/> and click on the Stewardship Office link.

<http://www.catholicstewardship.org/en/index.html>

Link to the International Catholic Stewardship Council.

<http://www.cruzblanca.org/hermanoleon/>

Link to a Catholic free clip art web site.

www.diometuchen.org/stewardshipoffice/prayer_treasures.htm

Link to Diocese of Metuchen --resources for weekly scripture selections based on stewardship themes.

<http://www.stewardshipli.org/>

Link to Diocese of Rockville stewardship page, with many free downloadable resources.

www.nccbuscc.org

Link for a variety of resources on stewardship and other topics from the US Bishops Conference.

<http://www.archstl.org/stewardship/whatis/inserts.html>

Link to the Archdiocese of St. Louis, and in particular, their bulletin inserts regarding weekly stewardship themes.

http://www.cdowk.org/stewardship_development/about_stewardship.shtml

Link to the Diocese of Wichita stewardship page with free downloadable resources.

<http://kingdomassignment.com/welcome/#>

Link to learning more about this incredible journey of parishioners sharing gifts. St. Barnabas Parish in Northfield has had a remarkable experience with this approach.

<http://livingfaithatwork.org>

Link to a Catholic perspective and suggestions for fostering faith at work.

Useful Web sites for personal prayer/study:

www.activeparishioner.com/

www.centeringspace.org/

www.creativecommunications.com



Children's Stewardship

This link leads to publications for use in parishes, particularly products to enhance the liturgical worship and personal devotional life for Catholic parishes. Their catalogs include hundreds of Christian print and electronic media products.

www.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/online.htm

dioceseofcleveland.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=blogcategory&id=25&Itemid=107
www.henrinouwen.org/home/free_eletters/

www.nccbuscc.org/nab/index.htm

www.jesuit.ie/prayer/index.htm

www.praythenews.com

www.sacredspace.ie/

www.universalis.com

www.vatican.va

Related DVDs available to borrow from the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland Stewardship Office (call 216-696-6525 and ask for the Stewardship Office)

NOOMA, *“Rich”*, an engaging 10 minute DVD about the need to share our gifts with the larger world.

RSI Catholic Services Group, *“Reflections on the Pastoral Letter”*, an enlightening DVD featuring the late Archbishop Thomas J. Murphy who shares his experiences of chairing the Bishops’ committee that wrote the USCCB Pastoral Letter – Stewardship – A Disciple’s Response.

Books, articles and other links related to Stewardship

Binz, Stephen J. Stewardship of the Earth, New Haven, CT: Twenty-Third Publications, 2007.

Buckingham, Marcus and Donald O. Clifton, Now, Discover Your Strengths, New York: Free Press, 2001.

Buckingham, Marcus, First, Break All the Rules (see www.gallup.com).

Catholic Diocese of Cleveland, Evangelization Office, 1404 E. Ninth Street, Cleveland, OH, 44114 or call 216-696-6525. All Are Welcome – A Manual for Parish Hospitality.

Champlin, Joseph, M, A Way of Life, Collegeville, Minnesota: Liturgical Press, 2004 or go to <http://www.litpress.org/Detail.aspx?ISBN=0814630065>.

Clements, Justin C., Stewardship – A Parish Handbook, Liguori, Missouri: Liguori Publications, 2000 or go to www.liguori.org.

Conway, Daniel, Stewardship in America – A Countercultural Way of Life, Indianapolis, Indiana: Saint Catherine of Siena Press, 2006 or go to www.saintcatherineofsienapress.com.



Children's Stewardship

Conway, Daniel, What Do I Own and What Owns Me?, Mystic, CT: Twenty-Third Publications, 2005 or go to www.twentythirdpublications.com.

Diocese of Wichita, 424 N. Broadway, Wichita, KS 67202; Four Pillars of Stewardship, invites parishioners to experience, witness and live the stewardship way of life in response to their baptismal call to discipleship or go to http://www.cdowk.org/stewardship_development/stewardship_pillars.shtml.

Diocese of Saginaw, 5800 Weiss St., Saginaw, MI 48603; <http://www.saginaw.org/LittleBurgundyBookonStewardship> – scriptural reflections on stewardship.

Heart to Heart Communications, 40 University Avenue, Akron, OH 44308, 330-434-3278 or go to www.H2HC.org (good resource for information on applying faith to work issues).

Hendricks, Kathy, Everything About Parish Ministry I Wish I Had Known, Mystic, CT: Twenty-Third Publications, 2002 or go to www.twentythirdpublications.com.

Hueckel, Sharon, Stewardship by the Book (Bulletin bits based on the Sunday readings), Huntington, IN: Our Sunday Visitor, 2004 or go to www.osv.com.

International Catholic Stewardship Council, 1275 K Street, N.W., Suite 980, Washington, DC 20005-4006, call 1-202-289-1093 or go to www.catholicstewardship.org.

Leider, Richard J. and Shapiro, David, Whistle While You Work: Heeding Your Life's Calling, San Francisco: Berrett-Koehler Publishers, Inc.

Lenahan, Phil, 7 Steps to Becoming Financially Free, Huntington, Indiana: Our Sunday Visitor, 2007 or go to www.osv.com.

Mahan, Daniel J., More Than Silver or Gold – Homilies of a Stewardship Priest, Indianapolis, Indiana: Saint Catherine of Siena Press, 2005 or go to www.morethansilverorgold.com.

McSwain, Stephen B. The Giving Myths, Macon, Georgia: Smyth & Helwys Publishing, 2007.

Morris, Danny, and Olsen, Charles, M., Discerning God's will Together: A Spiritual Practice for the Church Nashville: Upper Room Books, 1997.

Nouwen, Henri J.M., The Spirituality of Fundraising, New York: Estate of Henri J.M. Nouwen Society, 2004 or go to <http://www.henrinouwen.org/home/booklet/> for a free booklet.

Our Sunday Visitor publishes many different resources on Catholic Stewardship. Go to <http://www.osv.com/MiscNav/AdvancedSearch/SearchResults/tabid/97/Default.aspx?Search=Stewardship&Scope=B>.

Paprocki, You Give them Something to Eat, Notre Dame, Indiana: Ave Maria Press, 1998.

Petro, Vicky and Palencar, Lee, Spiritual Gifts Experience is a Gifts Discernment workshop and workbook that is foundational to living and grooming exceptional stewardship. Call Vicky Petro for details and to schedule a presentation for your parish or group. at 440-506-0811.



Children's Stewardship

U.S. Catholic Bishops, Office of Publishing and Promotion Services.

Call 1-800-235-8722 or go to www.nccbuscc.org Numerous resources including: Stewardship – A Disciple's Response (A Pastoral Letter on Stewardship); Called and Gifted for the Third Millennium, reflections of the U.S. Catholic Bishops on the Thirtieth Anniversary of the Decree on the Apostolate of the Laity, and Global Climate Change, a religious and moral perspective on the need for environmental protection.

USCCB Publishing offers the following books on Stewardship (go to www.usccbpublishing.org):

Faithful Stewards of God's Creation

Global Climate Change

Stewardship: A Disciple's Response (also available in Spanish)

Warren, Rick, The Purpose Driven Life, Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan, 2002 or go to www.zondervan.com.

Wells, Elizabeth and Trout, Lisa, All is Gift: Catholic Stewardship – Primary Level, and All is Gift: Catholic Stewardship – Intermediate Level, Tucson, AZ: E.T. Nedder Publishing Company, 2007.

Wilkes, Paul, Excellent Catholic Parishes, Mahwah, New Jersey: Paulist Press, 2001 or go to www.paulistpress.com

Winesman, Albert L., Clifton, Donald, O., and Liesveld, Curt, Living your Strengths, New York: Gallup Press, 2003-2004.

Zech, Charles E., Best Practices in Parish Stewardship, Huntington, Indiana: Our Sunday Visitor, 2008.

Zech, Charles E., Why Catholics Don't Give...And What Can Be Done About It, Huntington, Indiana: Our Sunday Visitor, 2006.

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Stewardship Logo of the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland

Our logo is designed to encompass elements of the Catholic Christian's Stewardship journey. The three colored spheres signify the most common themes of Stewardship practice – time, talent, and treasure. The loop encircling the top of the cross represents the Church, where we are enabled and encouraged to live out our gifts in the hope of building God's Kingdom on earth. This hope is rooted in the cross, the most basic tenet of our faith. In the death and resurrection of Jesus we are offered salvation and our place in the Kingdom. Living a life of Stewardship is living fully in the knowledge that God will supply all our needs through the gift we are to each other. The beautiful font, colors, and general design combine contemporary and traditional styles which reinforce the awareness that Stewardship is an age-old but ongoing process within our Catholic lives.



GOD'S GIFTS *for* GOD'S PEOPLE
| *time, talent and treasure* |