

The following are Excerpts from “Stewardship by the Book” provided by *Our Sunday Visitor, Inc.* (This material is copyrighted and may not be reprinted.)

The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God (New Year’s Day)

The Gospel today says that, having found the infant Jesus, the shepherds returned to their work, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen. We, too, have seen and celebrated the mystery of the Word made flesh. Will we follow their example when we return to work tomorrow?

Epiphany

The three kings in today’s Gospel traveled a great distance at considerable cost to offer their richest gifts to the Infant Jesus. How far will I go and what will I offer to do homage to this newborn King and Savior?



Baptism of Our Lord

Jesus, whom God called “my beloved Son,” is also the “servant” of whom Isaiah speaks in the first reading. We who are baptized in Christ must follow His example and use our time and resources in the service of God and neighbor.

See Luke 3:22

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

In today’s second reading, St. Paul tells the Corinthians (and us) that all of our gifts are from God and that they are given, not for ourselves alone, but for the common good. But the generosity of God knows no limits — the miracle at Cana reminds us that whenever we faithfully do as God asks, He can change our gifts of water into wine!

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

The U.S. bishops’ pastoral on stewardship reinforces today’s reading from 1 Corinthians: “Because its individual members do collectively make up the Body of Christ, that body’s health and well-being are the responsibility of the members — the personal responsibility of each one of us. We all are stewards of the Church.”