

STEWARDSHIP

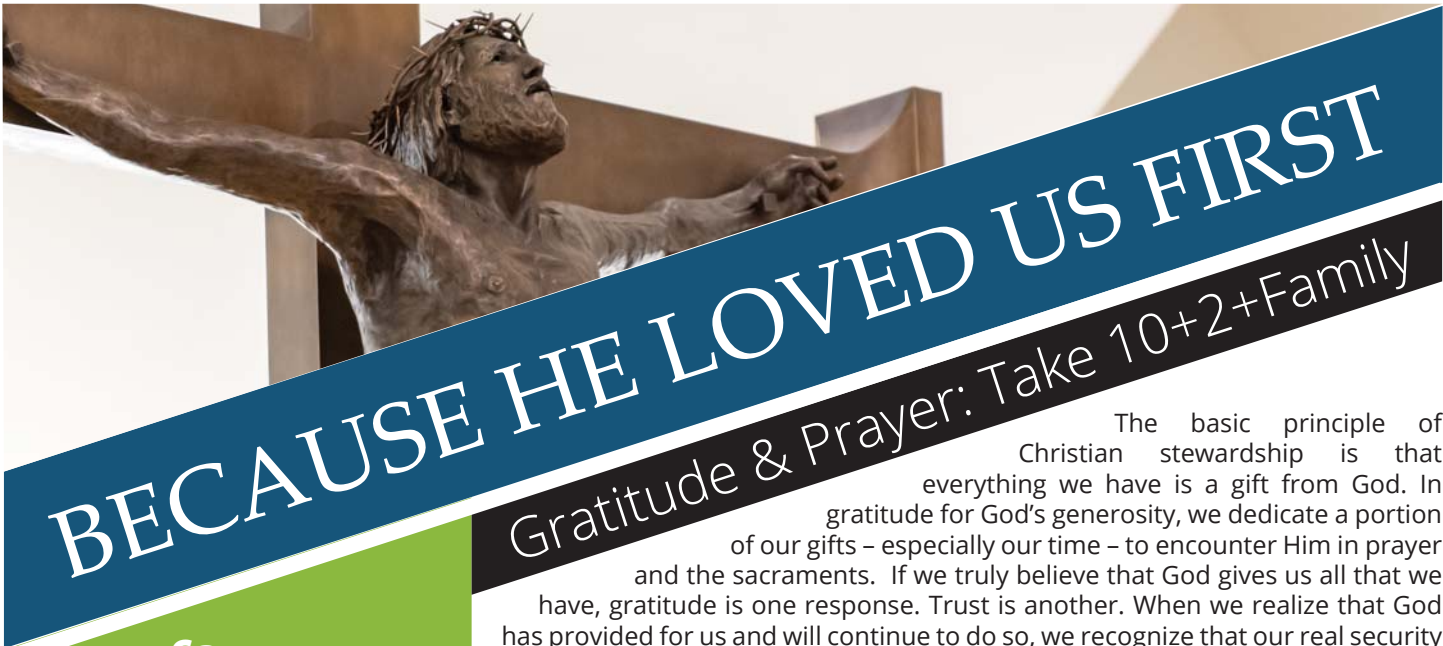
Responding as Disciples in Gratitude

GRATITUDE AND PRAYER



OUR LADY  OF GRACE
CATHOLIC CHURCH
MAKING JESUS CHRIST KNOWN AND LOVED

The Sacrament of Baptism calls Catholics to a lifelong vocation of discipleship - to imitate the love of Jesus and share that love with others. By opening our hearts to receive God's gift of love, we begin to love in a way that transcends our human nature. *This call to love is not just a feeling of love but, rather, it is a decision to love.* Stewardship is this conversion journey of receiving God's love and returning love to Him and His Church.



BECAUSE HE LOVED US FIRST

Gratitude & Prayer: Take 10+2+Family

The basic principle of Christian stewardship is that everything we have is a gift from God. In gratitude for God's generosity, we dedicate a portion of our gifts – especially our time – to encounter Him in prayer and the sacraments. If we truly believe that God gives us all that we have, gratitude is one response. Trust is another. When we realize that God has provided for us and will continue to do so, we recognize that our real security lies in God. God, who has given us all, will take care of our future.

But we, as a community of faith, must remember that we cannot give what we do not have. In order for us to welcome others into the life of the Church, we must first make sure that our spiritual lives are properly in order. In a busy society like ours, time is one of the most precious gifts we have been given.

Take inventory of how you spend the 168 hours of a week. Are you encountering Jesus in your daily life? Are you taking time to talk to Jesus in prayer, to speak with Him as you would a friend? Are you seeking His truth through reading the scriptures? Will you make Him first on your priority list so that you are able to give to others from the graces He has given you? Do you share the gift of yourself with Him?

Take 10: Personal Prayer

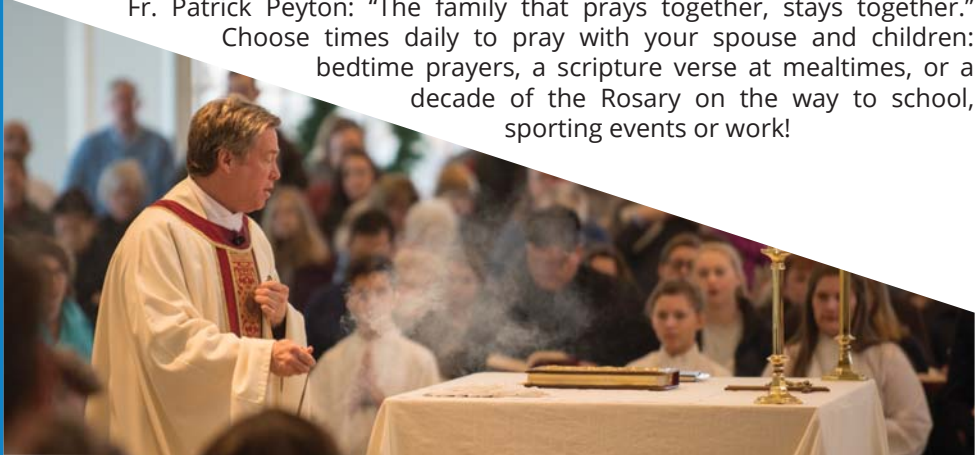
Each person needs to spend time with Jesus one-on-one. A daily heart-to-heart conversation with Him is the key to personal spiritual growth. Share your joys, heartaches, pains, wishes, regrets and desire to be closer to Him. He is waiting for you!

+2: Community Prayer

The Mass is the highest prayer of the Church and should also be the high point of our week! Consider making it your top priority to never miss a Sunday liturgy. In addition, spend an additional hour each week in the presence of our Lord in Eucharistic Adoration. Teach yourself to "Be Still" and hear His call to you.

+Family: Family Prayer

Pray as a family everyday! Take to heart the famous phrase of Fr. Patrick Peyton: "The family that prays together, stays together." Choose times daily to pray with your spouse and children: bedtime prayers, a scripture verse at mealtimes, or a decade of the Rosary on the way to school, sporting events or work!



Being **Catholic**



means

Being a **Disciple** of Jesus



Being a **Disciple** means

Living a life of **Stewardship**



means

Developing over time an intimate **relationship with Jesus**, using your talents to serve others, and sharing your financial resources through tithing to support the Church

The Truth - Family Faith and the Role of the Father

An Overwhelming and Critical Factor

The religious practice of the father overwhelmingly determines church attendance by his children.










Political Correctness Doesn't Seem to Get Kids to Church

"The results.. are about as politically incorrect as it is possible to be, but they simply confirm what [many experts] and traditional Christians know."

"If a father does not go to church, no matter how faithful his wife's devotion, only [2%] will become a regular worshiper."

Even if a father only attends church irregularly, 50% to 67% of his children will attend regularly or occasionally, regardless of his wife's faith practices.

Fathers Have an Overwhelming Impact on Church Attendance

| FATHER | MOTHER | CHILDREN |
|---|--|----------|
|  Attends Regularly +  Attends Regularly =  | 33% Attends Regularly 41% Attends Irregularly | |
|  Non-Practicing +  Attends Regularly =  | 2% Attends Regularly 60% Leave the Church | |
|  Attends Regularly +  Non-Practicing =  | 44% Attends Regularly | |

"Before mothers despair... her presence [at church] ensures that only a quarter of her children will never attend at all... Her major influence is not on regular attendance at all but on keeping her irregular children from lapsing altogether... A mother's role will always remain primary in terms of intimacy, care, and nurture... No father can replace that relationship."

Fathers Play a Critical Role

"When children see that church is a 'women and children' thing, they will respond accordingly - by not going to church, or going much less."

A mother's call to action:

If you want your children to attend church, make sure their father leads the way

Source: <http://www.touchstonemag.com/archives/article.php?id=16-05-024-v>





PRAYER ACTION PLAN

Guidelines

Develop your own Prayer Action Plan using these guidelines.

Make an appointment for yourself everyday for 10 minutes of individual prayer. Schedule this time into your phone or computer calendar, and set a reminder alarm.

Plan ahead as a family as to when you will participate in Sunday liturgy. Are you traveling on the weekend? Do you have sporting events? Make a commitment to be intentional about keeping the Sabbath day holy by focusing on the sanctification of ordinary life.

The domestic church is where faith is primarily taught. Children learn to pray primarily at home from their parents. Plan together as a family how you will pray together each day.



Goals

Begin charting your course for a deeper spiritual life. Use these suggestions as inspiration. Set realistic goals for yourself and your family that will allow you to encounter Jesus and grow in relationship with Him.

Place Jesus first in your life, and do not let other priorities crowd out your time with Him.

Make Sunday Mass a priority.


Participate actively during Sunday Mass and Holy Days of Obligation by: arriving early for Mass; reading the scriptures before Mass; serving as a liturgical minister; spending meaningful time in prayer individually, communally and/or with your family each day by; reading the Bible or daily readings; praying at meals, even in restaurants; praying the Rosary or Chaplet of Divine Mercy once per week; Lectio Divina (reading and reflecting on scriptures).

Set aside time to grow in my relationship with Jesus by: returning to the Sacrament of Reconciliation or participating in this Sacrament once per month; attending daily Mass once per week; committing to a Holy Hour of Adoration; studying the Catholic faith with others; reading Catholic books/materials; attending retreats and parish missions; cultivating the fruits of the Spirit - love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control (c.f. Gal. 5:22).

Refrain from gossiping and complaining

Pray for vocations to the priesthood, religious and married life.

Invite a friend or neighbor to Mass and/or a parish event.



“And I tell you, ask and you will receive; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you”

Luke 11:9



Featured this weekend are prayer-focused ministries to help you grow in relationship with Jesus.

Eucharistic Adoration

Imagine if you felt more balanced, peaceful and refreshed in the midst of all the world's demands. That cross in your life? Imagine that it is no longer weighing you down like it used to. Are you looking for something that will transform you from the inside out? All you need is 60 minutes every week for a heart-to-heart with Jesus Christ! Let us show you how incredible the Eucharistic Adoration ministry is! **Contact** Ben and Kristan Vrba at olgadorationchapel@gmail.com or 612-564-8026.

Pray and Play

Thursdays, 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM, Nursery

We would like to welcome all caretakers of little ones to Pray and Play. Meet in the Nursery and let your children play while you chat and meet others in the parish. Each hours ends by spending 10 minutes in prayer to leave you all with a moment of grace before heading home to your families! If you are searching for an opportunity to spend time in the MHT Adoration Chapel, we will help! Your little ones can play in the Nursery while you spend your time in quiet prayer. **Contact** Honor Miller at honormorgan@hotmail.com.

Faith Share and Prayer Group

2nd Thursdays monthly, 7:00 PM, North Crying Room

The Faith Share and Prayer Group invites you to enhance your spiritual life by participating in a guided discussion and prayer time one hour a month - reading a scriptural or spiritual text, reflecting on its connection to your life, sharing thoughts, and bringing inspirations and needs to prayer. It involves a small-time investment with a significant impact. It's a way to feel supported in your faith life. Try it out! **Contact** Lynn Tursich at 952-925-0737.

Lectio Divina

Tuesdays, 8:00 - 9:00 AM

Jesus wants us to know Him personally. What better way to get to know Jesus than to read and meditate on His Word together in fellowship. Lectio Divina is a method of prayer dating back to a time when few owned bibles or knew how to read. We meet for an hour weekly to reflect on the Gospel passage for the upcoming weekend Mass as well as pray for the parish and your personal intentions. **Contact** Mary Luxem at luxem1@q.com.

33 Days to Morning Glory

Take a video journey with Father Michael Gaitley, MIC, through a six-week guided retreat. Father Gaitley explains the basics of Marian Consecration, how key saints lived it out, and how you can live it as well. With joy and simplicity, Father Gaitley gets to the heart of Marian Consecration through his book and his 30-minute talks. We meet once a week for six, 90-minute sessions plus approximately 10 minutes of reading per day. Groups are usually scheduled around Marian feast days. **Contact** Maureen Wong at maureenw0089@gmail.com or 952-927-0089.

Next Week...
We will learn how to respond as a disciple by serving others in gratitude!

Stewardship Renewal Packets

You should receive your Stewardship Renewal packet the week of September 24. Please prayerfully review this material and return your Commitment form during the special offering on Commitment Weekend, **Saturday, October 27** and **Sunday, October 28**. Forms may also be returned by mail or in the offertory basket.

Spitiruality of Stewardship Formation

Wednesdays, September 26; October 3, 24; November 7 6:00 - 7:15 PM, MS Room 502
Come journey with us as we "break open" the authentic definition of stewardship and learn to recognize and respond to the call of discipleship. The primary emphasis of this four-week video series is faith formation preceding service.

Contact:
Janna Davies
jannadavies@olgparish.org
Parish Office (x9006)

PARISH NEWS

Mass Intentions

Monday, September 10

1 Cor 5:1-8/Ps 5-7, 12/Lk 6:6-11

6:15 AM Nancy Schneider

9:00 AM † Martin Campion

Tuesday, September 11

1 Cor 6:1-11/Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b/Lk 6:12-19

6:15 AM For the Parish

9:00 AM † Margaret Witt

Wednesday, September 12

1 Cor 7:25-31/Ps 45:11-12, 14-17/Lk 6:20-26

6:15 AM † Janice Skold

9:00 AM † Abner Johnston

Thursday, September 13 - St. John Chrysostom

1 Cor 8:1b-7, 11-13/Ps 139:1b-3, 13-14b, 23-24/Lk 6:27-38

6:15 AM † Marilyn Devereaux

9:00 AM † Mariano Dudas

Friday, September 14 - Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Nm 21:4b-9/Ps 78:1-2, 34-38/Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17

6:15 AM For the Parish

9:00 AM † Jack Heffernan

Saturday, September 15 - Our Lady of Sorrows

1 Cor 10:14-22/Ps 116:12-13, 17-18/Jn 19:25-27

8:30 AM † Ann Whelan

5:00 PM † Tim Marrinan

Sunday, September 16 - 24th Sunday Ordinary Time

Is 50:5-9a/Ps 116:1-6, 8-9/Jas 2:14-18/Mk 8:27-35

7:30 AM † Quinn Kirsch

9:30 AM For the Parish

11:30 AM † Mariano Dudas

6:00 PM † Abner Johnston

We Remember

September 10 - 16

Helen Baker, 1970

Anthony Benincasa, 2010

Beverly Bowler, 2016

Agnes Burt, 1974

Marguerite Cook, 2006

Robert Cron, 2006

Thomas Devine, 2014

Jane E Ditzler, 1970

Helen Gibbons, 1983

Cornelius P Holland, 1948

Jean Louise Johnson, 1998

Mary Ann Juntti, 2006

Timothy Kehr, 2013

Jennie Knebel, 2006

Evelyn Kunz, 1987

Yvonne LaGranduer, 2006

Mary Kathryn Loftus, 2002

Eugene McDevitt, 2006

Harold Merrigan, 1983

Patricia May Mitchell, 1989

JoAnn O'Neil, 2008

Edward Perso, 1993

Crystal Peterson, 1982

Margaret C. Reid, 1999

Catherine Ripley, 1970

Bill Screeden, 2011

Marie McGrath Sellers,
1995

Marjorie Sheehan, 2016

Joseph Sullivan, 1993

Elinor Scott-Sutter, 2014

Jeffrey A. Swierczyk, 1988

Jean Thompson, 2014

Edward J. Tierney, 1993

Lewis Turek, 1959

Grace A. Walsh, 1995

Francis (Frank) Walsh,
1982

Parish Calendar

Monday, September 10

6:30 PM Stephen Ministry, Dining Room

7:00 PM Young Adult Bible Study, Youth Room

Tuesday, September 11

7:30 AM Men's Choir Rehearsal, Dining Room

8:00 AM Quilters, Forrey Room

8:00 AM Lectio Divina, North Crying Room

10:00 AM Marian Consecration, Parish Library

6:00 PM Parish Pastoral Council, Forrey Room

6:00 PM Dignity of Life Committee,

Admin Upper Conference Room

6:30 PM Stewardship Prayer Formation, Offsite

7:00 PM Marian Consecration, Nursery

7:00 PM Schola Cantorum Choir Rehearsal, Church

Wednesday, September 12

4:00 PM Loaves and Fishes, Offsite

4:30 PM Mini-Mission Home

6:00 PM Faith Formation Catechist Training, Dining Room

7:00 PM RCIA, School Library

Thursday, September 13

6:00 PM San Max Movie Night, Dining Room

6:30 PM Liturgy Commission, Forrey Room

7:00 PM Faith Share & Prayer Group, North Crying Room

Friday, September 14

9:30 AM Widows of Grace, Dining Room

11:00 AM Serra Club, Dining Room

Saturday, September 15 - No Scheduled Events

Sunday, September 16

9:15 AM Nursery Care (9:30 & 11:30 AM Masses), Nursery

9:30 AM Children's Liturgy of the Word, Dining Room

10:30 AM Resounding Grace Rehearsal, Church

4:30 PM Gracenotes Rehearsal, Church

Eternal Life

We remember Ben Walters, extending our prayerful condolences to his family and friends.

Join Our Parish

Saturday, September 15, after 5:00 PM Mass

Sunday, September 16, after 7:30 & 9:30 AM Mass

Stop in the Commons to meet members of our Welcome Team, who will assist you with the parish registration process. Each newly registered household will receive a welcome packet with information about our next orientation.

