

# The Grateful Steward

October 2009

## Saint of the Month – Blessed Marie Rose Durocher (1811-1849)

Marie Rose Durocher was just 18 when her mother died. It was then that she and her father went to live with her brother, a parish priest, near Montreal. In response to the Lord's call in her heart, and through the encouragement of her spiritual director and the Bishop, she founded her order of teaching sisters, the Community of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary. Blessed Marie Rose was a person with whom catechists can relate. Like Marie Rose, catechists generously respond to God's call to teach because they desire to be good stewards of the gift of their faith. In 1874, at the invitation of Archbishop Tache, four sisters from Blessed Marie Rose's congregation came to the Archdiocese of Saint Boniface to work in education. The Sisters assumed responsibility for St. Mary's Academy from the Grey Nuns. In 1902, the Holy Names Sisters bought 15 acres of land in Crescentwood and construction of a new Academy at the Wellington Crescent location began. On September 6, 1903 the new Academy opened. May God, who kindled in Blessed Marie Rose Durocher a great desire to collaborate in the Church's mission of education, grant us that same active love and awaken in us the willingness to respond to the needs of the Church today.



### Receive, Cultivate, Share, Return *The Cycle of Christian Stewardship*

**Receive** – the first thing we must do as stewards is to acknowledge that everything we have, we have received as a gift from God. *Didn't God give you everything you have? Well, then how can you boast, as if what you have were not a gift?* 1 Corinthians 4:7. Our individual vocations are also a gift that we must gratefully respond to. *'Christians are called to be good stewards of the personal vocations they receive. Stewardship'* – A Disciple's Response, USCCB

**Cultivate** – upon discerning our call, and what our gifts are, we must be willing to develop, nurture and care for these gifts.

**Share** – the Church's teaching is clear on this point, our gifts are not meant solely for our own benefit – they are given to us to share. *These differences belong to God's plan, who wills that each receive what they need from others, and that those endowed with particular "talents" share the benefits with those who need them.* (CCC # 1937)

**Return** – return your gifts to the Lord, *with abundance*, by simply living the first three elements of the Cycle of Christian Stewardship. Returning creates room to receive again, and again, and again. And so the cycle continues.

### Fundraising & Stewardship

Fundraisers tug at your heart hoping to receive a one time gift.

Stewardship is a conversion of the heart that lasts a lifetime.

Fundraising often employs a give-to-get strategy; for example, prize draws, bingos, coupons etc.

Stewardship involves giving in gratitude, there are no strings attached, no expectation of a benefit.

Fundraising encourages donors to **"give to a need."**

Stewardship is all about **"needing to give!"**

#### **It's important to note:**

The intent here is not to diminish or be critical of fundraising; we will always need good, ethical fundraisers. The intent is to merely point out some of the differences in motivation for giving.

The Archdiocese of Winnipeg, Office of Stewardship

For more information on available Stewardship Resources Contact:

Dan Potvin, Director of Stewardship & Development, at 204.452.2227 ext. 228 or Email [danpotvin@archwinnipeg.ca](mailto:danpotvin@archwinnipeg.ca)