

Stewardship Bulletin Reflections May 2010

May 2nd – 5th Sunday of Easter

In today's Gospel, Jesus gives His disciples – and us – a new commandment: “*Love one another.*” We fulfill this commandment by using and sharing our gifts in the service of others. Our discipleship is made known not just by what we say, but also by the way we live. Stewardship is a way of life.

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May 9th – 6th Sunday of Easter

Jesus gives us the gift of peace. This gift can only be received in an intimate, personal relationship with the risen Christ. Peace offers another gift – confidence. There is a God-grounded confidence in knowing that Jesus calls us to ministry through the gift of our baptism. We are formed for ministry in our faith communities, and then we are sent to confidently share the good news by the example of our lives.

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May 16th – Ascension of the Lord

What a rollercoaster ride of emotion Jesus' disciples have been on. First Jesus leaves them when he dies on the cross; then the joy of the resurrection; today he leaves again ascending into Heaven. Today though, they feel much differently than they did on Good Friday. They, and we, are not alone, Jesus is always with us. As we continue in our walk as disciples, and stewards of God's many gifts, we pray that we may find confidence and courage in the promises of the risen Christ.

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May 23rd – Pentecost Sunday

Today is the Church's birthday. When you go to a birthday party, you usually bring a gift. We come to Mass each Sunday not just to *get* something but to *give*; to give ourselves in praise and thanksgiving; and to give back to God a generous portion of our financial blessings, in gratitude for having received them. Gratitude is what motivates the Christian Steward. Thank you for your generosity.

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May 30th – Trinity Sunday

God the Father: who creates and gives us all of our gifts, spiritual and material blessings. God the Son: God dwelling among us, calling us to be stewards of the personal vocations we each have received. God the Holy Spirit: who guides and empowers us to use and share our gifts in building the Kingdom of God. The Holy Trinity, giving to us, calling us, and empowering us.

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