

March 3, 2004

Dear Pastors, Parish Directors and Stewardship Coordinators:

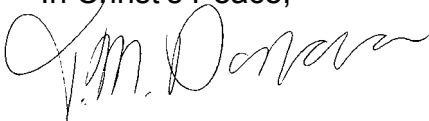
This year for the Spring Service aspect of Stewardship – A Way of Life, we are focusing on affirming those within the parish and the larger community for their work and efforts as Stewards. We are asking our Stewardship Committees to focus on the Gifts of Gratitude for those who share their time and talents in Service to the Lord and the larger Community.

We are including examples of ways parishes have found to show their appreciation for those who give of their time and talents without notice. Included are Ways to Affirm, Nomination Forms, Prayers of Petition, and resource materials. Every parish has many good examples of those we need to lift up, both in our prayer and recognition. They may be the retired person who comes into the office faithfully every Tuesday to answer the phones or stuff the bulletins. It may be the Girl Scout Leader who is always there for the children in her troop. They are the many people we encounter who toil anonymously. As Bishop Morneau said in a homily on: Stewardship: A Way of Life – Making the Vision Walk, “By ‘unnoticed giving’ people most closely resemble God’s eternal goodness.” Let each of us be of Service by giving out a lot of notice and gratitude this year.

In addition to the above, another way to promote service is through the use of a packet of materials on ‘Faithful Citizenship.’ They are being mailed to every Pastor and Parish Director, from whom you may obtain them. Without endorsing any candidate or political party, these materials can be used by our Stewardship Committees to cultivate the Stewardship Garden of the ‘Polis’. We are providing a true service when we sponsor educational opportunities to discuss the Catholic position on moral/political issues confronting the electorate.

Thank you for all that you do each day to make Stewardship a reality for so many.

In Christ’s Peace,



Thomas M. Donovan  
Consultant – Parish Planning-Business & Stewardship  
Telephone ext. 8286  
E-Mail: [tdonovan@gbdioc.org](mailto:tdonovan@gbdioc.org)

Attachments