

APPRECIATION & RECOGNITION IDEAS

There are lots and lots of ways to celebrate the gifts of Time & Talent. This list is shared to encourage your creativity as you find the best ways to celebrate stewardship in your parish.

- ♥ send letters or notes
- ♥ create certificates
- ♥ invite a parishioner to seminars or workshops outside of the parish and pay the registration fee
- ♥ Invite a member to participate with you in a community event
- ♥ ask a parishioner to serve as a mentor or trainer of others
- ♥ send a note of thanks to the member's family
- ♥ develop a volunteer of the month program
- ♥ nominate for a community recognition program
- ♥ send a birthday card or other seasonal greeting
- ♥ publish accomplishments in newsletters or bulletin
- ♥ create a guardian angel recognition program using angel pins
- ♥ have children recognize their teachers-involve the recipients of service in service-celebrations
- ♥ commission people during Mass
- ♥ recognize students as they graduate from high school and support them in their future plans-college, service, work
- ♥ write a letter of welcoming to all kindergartens or first graders on the occasion of their first day of school
- ♥ organize periodic talks highlighting the work of volunteers in your parish
- ♥ pray for particular ministries during the *General Intercessions*
- ♥ devote an entire weekend of Masses to a *Celebration of Service*
- ♥ create a "You Are Picture Perfect" display with pictures of people in service-choir pictures, kitchen pictures, etc.-let people see themselves in ministry
- ♥ have the Stewardship Committee write a letter of thanks to each person currently giving of their Time and Talent
- ♥ create "You Made a Difference in My Life" buttons and have people give their buttons to someone else who made a difference in their lives within 24 hours of the receipt of the button
- ♥ have a roast for everyone rotating off a committee
- ♥ send get well cards
- ♥ salute an individual each week in the bulletin

- ♥ give a pack of life savers with a note "you saved my life when..."
- ♥ send "you made me a shining star" notes to people who worked with you, especially people who worked in the background on a big project.
- ♥ feature parishioners in news articles in the church bulletin or parish magazine as well as in local and metropolitan papers.
- ♥ prepare and distribute trinkets, mugs, pens, and key chains, etc,
- ♥ create a tee-shirt
- ♥ pay for a trip to a ball game for all the children and youth giving of their Time, Talent and Treasure - have their parents or the young adults in your parish serve as chaperones
- ♥ have a party or picnic
- ♥ take a group photo and reproduce for all members of the committee or group
- ♥ mount a picture of an important symbol in the church and give the picture to parishioners in recognition of their Time & Talent
- ♥ calligraphy a meaningful scripture passage and frame
- ♥ document a member's service in a letter of recommendation
- ♥ send impromptu cards '
- ♥ purchase newspaper space for a recognition ad
- ♥ create a recognition edition of the parish newsletter or bulletin
- ♥ attend a sports event, game, movie, or play together
- ♥ have a reception
- ♥ praise the person to their friends and family, publicly and privately
- ♥ have a "Committee Chairs Day" recognizing the leadership of committees, projects and/or programs
- ♥ send a package of tea saying "since you've joined our group, things are really brewing"
- ♥ send a Thanksgiving card to the member 's family thanking them for sharing their family member
- ♥ develop an honor roll or alumni association for past leaders
- ♥ publish a list of all members serving in the parish and large community
- ♥ write notes of thanks-frequently
- ♥ create rotating recognition programs - January for Religious Education catechists and the education ministry -February for liturgical and music ministers - March for members of the Pastoral Council, etc.
- ♥ publicize community service recognition received by a parishioner
- ♥ write to all those receiving their First Communion letting them know how important they are to you as they take this next step to full initiation in the Church.
- ♥ glue a chocolate kiss or hug to a card saying "take a bow, you deserve a kiss/hug!"