



Stewardship System Resources

June 2021

Hello,

June often begins a slowing-down time in many churches. School is out for the summer and many families are busy with summer activities outside of parish. Maybe this year is different, as many communities are starting now to redefine programs as things are opening back up. Either way, this is an important time in the life of your church community because it can be an opportunity to step back and evaluate what is going well and what needs some work.

The visioning and mission creation component of a capital campaign project can provide framework to do this “stepping back”. With our years of experience in church ministry and development, we are here to assist you.

[Let us know](#) how we can help you in your stewardship ministry,

Sincerely,
Denis Greene
President
Church Development

Monthly Stewardship Committee Agenda June 2021

Instructions: use this agenda template to run your monthly stewardship committee meeting. Transfer the content to a Word document. You may modify or adjust the agenda as needed. Add your church logo and print a copy of the agenda for each committee member. The chair of your committee should lead the meeting.

Stewardship Committee Agenda

[Enter your church's logo here]

[Enter the Date Here]

1. Open in prayer
 - a. Read Matthew 13:44-46. *"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it."*
 - b. Discussion Questions: June typically begins a slowing-down time in many churches. These are important times in the life of your church community.
 - i. Likewise, there are many treasures to be found in working in stewardship ministry in your church. Perhaps a short conversation among committee members on these topics would be helpful.
 - ii. How has working on the Stewardship Committee been a good thing for me?
 - iii. What have I found to be easy and fun? Tough and not so much fun?
 - iv. What special gifts do I bring to this ministry?
3. Review Action Items from last meeting
4. Read this month's Stewardship System Insight provided by Church Development
5. View Stewardship System training video.
6. Review your [Stewardship System Checklist](#)
 - a. Determine action for any stewardship culture building activities for the month
 - b. Determine action for next special appeal letter.
 - c. Monthly Stewardship System Checklist
 - i. Place stewardship inserts in bulletin
 - ii. Recruit layperson to give stewardship testimony
 - iii. Place article in newsletter
 - iv. Set date for next month's Committee Meeting
7. Update on status of annual stewardship campaign efforts.
8. New items of business
9. Close in prayer

Stewardship System Insight June 2021

Why Conduct A Feasibility Study Prior to a Capital Campaign?

1. Informs and educates the church congregation—the key to any campaign. The feasibility study begins this process. By informing members and friends that a feasibility study will be done and involving them in the process, you are providing a means for the congregation to begin the process of building a commitment.
2. Involves leaders in the church through personal contact. Church leaders' support is key to a successful campaign. The campaign chairperson as well as membership of the campaign teams are identified in this process. You recognize their standing in the church with the invitation for a personal interview. The study also gives you the opportunity to identify any opposition to the campaign or other negative feelings among the leaders.
3. Involves all members of the congregation by asking their opinion. The written survey distributed to all members asks specific questions related to their feelings about the church, the pastor, and the campaign. It initiates the idea of getting people involved in the campaign.
4. Determines if your church is ready or not ready for a capital campaign. The information gathered from the surveys and interviews will give you invaluable information regarding church members' level of readiness for a capital campaign. If there are significant differences of opinion about the plan for moving forward, or if there are serious conflicts in the church, these issues will surface during the feasibility study. These are red flags that may suggest that the congregation slow down/regroup to find solutions to the issues and conflicts and develop better consensus. Then the leadership can revisit the capital campaign plan.
4. Evaluates the potential of the church community to reach a specific goal. Several questions in both the interviews and the written surveys are geared to assessing the financial potential of a capital campaign, reasonably predicting the dollar amount of a campaign. In rare cases, it may predict that the time is not right for doing a campaign without additional visioning and planning.
5. Provides demographic information about the area served by the church. This information can be obtained from a demographics reporting service, such as Claritas, Inc. (www.claritas.com.) The information gives a breakdown of economic status, education and profession of residents living within a certain radius of the church. Questions on the survey are also geared to identifying demographics of current members and their involvement in the church.
6. Identifies potential members for the various teams. An important question on the survey asks members if they are willing to serve on one of the campaign teams. This provides a source for identifying team chairpersons and members.
7. Identifies planned giving prospects. If you include a question to determine if the respondent would consider a bequest to the church in his or her will, you will encourage members to start thinking about these issues, and you identify those who have already made such plans. At Crossroads Church in Kansas City, Missouri, 25 percent of its members acknowledged during the

feasibility study that they would consider listing the church in their wills. It is a great asset for the church to know the willingness of its members to discuss a gift of this nature.

Monthly Leadership Training Video:

The #1 Cause of Failure in Stewardship

Instructions: show this video during your monthly stewardship committee meeting. These video clips will provide meaningful training for your team.

All Church Development training videos are now available online in a video library format on our YouTube Channel. [Click here to view the video library](#). Note: you will need internet access to view this video. You may also need projection equipment and sound system for acceptable viewing quality.

Weekly Bulletin Inserts – June 2021

CATHOLIC BULLETIN INSERTS

June 6, 2021

The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

“Take; this is my body.” Mark 14:22

Jesus’ gift of his body and blood has encouraged countless acts of generosity, large and small, by his followers. On this feast of Corpus Christi, how would we like to show our generosity?

June 13, 2021

Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

“God’s kingdom is like a mustard seed, which is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs.” Mark 4:31-32

The power of stewardship can be hard to measure. Our efforts may appear small, a drop in the bucket, but can have enormous consequences.

June 20, 2021

Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

“The wind ceased and there was great calm. Then he asked them, “Why are you terrified? Do you not yet have faith?” Mark 4:39-40

Amidst the storms of life, we often tend to respond in fear. Jesus invites us to place all our trust in him and his merciful love. Even in the greatest sorrows and challenges of life, God is working everything for our good.

June 27, 2021

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The woman had heard about Jesus and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, for she said, “If I just touch his clothes, I will be made well.” Mark 5:27-28

Jesus has empowered his followers with a wonderful ability to make people well. By acts of kindness, generosity, thoughtfulness, inclusion and acceptance, we can make a small (or large) impact on people’s lives.

REVISED COMMON LECTIONARY (PROTESTANT) BULLETIN INSERTS

June 6, 2021

Second Sunday after Pentecost

"Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother." Mark 3:35

One of the early Christian communities' major struggles was determining who was in and who was out. Things haven't changed very much! We are still challenged to open our doors, broaden our tent, and recognize our brothers and sisters.

June 13, 2021

Third Sunday after Pentecost

"God's kingdom is like a mustard seed, which is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs." Mark 4:31-32

The power of stewardship can be hard to measure. Our efforts may appear small, a drop in the bucket, but can have enormous consequences.

June 20, 2021

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Jesus said to them, "Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?" Mark 4:40

When your boat is sinking below you, it can be very hard to have faith! Best we strive every day to live faithful lives, so when a time of challenge comes, we can rise to it.

June 27, 2021

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

The woman had heard about Jesus and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, for she said, "If I just touch his clothes, I will be made well." Mark 5:27-28

Jesus has empowered his followers with a wonderful ability to make people well. By acts of kindness, generosity, thoughtfulness, inclusion and acceptance, we can make a small (or large) impact on people's lives.

Monthly Stewardship Testimony June 2021

Instructions: Have a lay person deliver a stewardship testimony this month. For your convenience, we have provided guidelines for the person giving the testimony to follow. You may want to have this person touch base with the pastor or the person in charge of service programming to go over the testimony prior to delivery. Use this script or share a similar stewardship-related vignette during services on the first Sunday of the month.

Stewardship Campaign Testimony Guidelines

Thank you for agreeing to share your stewardship testimony at a service this month. This is a great opportunity to show how God has used giving to help you grow spiritually and help build His Kingdom. We greatly appreciate your willingness to assist our stewardship training efforts so others will also grow in the grace of giving.

These guidelines are provided to help you prepare your remarks. If you have questions, please contact your pastor or priest. God's blessings to you as you share.

1. **Suggested length:** your testimony should be two to three minutes long.
 - 1.1. Please time yourself prior to sharing so that you are certain your comments will fit the time frame.
2. **What to talk about:** Make sure to start your talk by including a definition of "What is stewardship?"
 - 2.1. Personal stories are always best.
 - 2.2. Recount the ways in which you've been blessed.
 - 2.3. Please share from the heart about why you give of your time, talent, and treasure.
3. **Where you will stand:** please come to the front of the church and the pastor will provide you with a microphone.
4. **During what part of the service will I speak?** You will share just before the sermon.
5. **What other tips can you give me to help deliver a successful testimony?**
 - 5.1. Speak clearly and at an easy pace.
 - 5.2. Look at your audience
 - 5.3. Share from the heart
 - 5.4. Animate your voice
 - 5.5. Tell stories
 - 5.6. Practice beforehand
6. **Sample Testimony:**
 - 6.1. My giving journey began when I was in college. I was working at Little Caesar's Pizza earning a check for the first time. I attended a Christian Rock Concert where they were promoting sponsoring a child in a third world country. When I looked at my take home pay, I realized that the monthly sponsorship cost was equal to about 10% of my earnings. For \$20 a month, a child would receive food, clothes, education, and Christian training. I felt very strongly that God was calling me to do it, so I sent off for a packet and received a picture of Pierre Juanil, a little Haitian

boy. From that day on I was hooked on giving. It was so great to see the impact even a small donation could make, and since that day, I have always given 10% or more of my monthly income to groups that do God's work. The bible says that if you sow generously, you will reap generously, and I can say that I've found this to be true. God has blessed me for giving obediently, and the real reward has been that I've grown in my faith and grown closer to Him. I hope this year's stewardship campaign will be a moment where your life intersects with God's plan and you experience the joy of giving.

Congratulations! You have completed all the tasks for this month's Stewardship System. Have your committee follow-up any action items as needed. We will send next month's information two weeks before the first day of the month.

If you have questions, or if we can be of assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us [via our website](#) or through our Stewardship System hotline at: 816-333-8111.