
October 15, 2006 • Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Pastor's Column

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“Rivers of Living Water Will Flow from Within You!”

This weekend we begin our annual reflection upon Christian Stewardship. In a very special way, in the next few weeks, we will allow the words of Jesus, our Master and our Friend, to echo in our minds, hearts, and souls:

“Let anyone who thirsts come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as scripture says: ‘Rivers of living water will flow from within you.’” —John 7: 37-38

Jesus is the “*Living Water*” that gives life, that cleanses, that refreshes, that nourishes, and that gives strength.

At the time of our Baptism, we were immersed in this “*Living Water*,” and began our journey with Jesus.

We are mindful that the more we drink of this “*Living Water*,” the more that “rivers of living water will flow from within us.”

As we once again renew our efforts in Christian Stewardship, we are given a special moment to personally examine ourselves and ask: **“Is that “*Living Water*” in which I was immersed at Baptism still living? Or have I allowed it to grow stagnant, or even worse, to dry up completely? Are rivers of living water flowing from within me or am I a dry creek bed, dusty and useless?”**

Now is the time! Now is the moment! Allow the “*Living Water*” to wash over you and to flow from within you. Come alive again—for yourself and for others!

In the next few weeks, in a variety of ways, Christian Stewardship will be the “mantra.”

I encourage you to pay special attention to the homilies in the next few weeks as we focus upon our Baptism, and the effects, it has in our lives, if we allow.

Also, in the next few days, in the mail, you will be receiving the Annual Stewardship Booklet that will help you to reflect upon Christian Stewardship in the quiet of your own home.

This Stewardship booklet provides you with many opportunities by which you can allow the “*Living Water*” that is Jesus to be flowing in your life. You will benefit, your family and friends will benefit, the Parish Family of St. Thomas More will benefit, and the world will benefit!

Hear the call! Accept the responsibility given to you in your Baptism! Allow the Rivers of Living Water to flow from within you!

F. Mike