

Pastor's Column

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“Gratitude—A Lifetime of Christian Stewardship: Time, Talent, and Treasure Joyfully Given—Part III”

We continue our journey through the month of October as we reflect upon Christian Stewardship, and reflect upon the meaning of the words, “Thank You.”

Christian Stewardship is a way of living, living as Disciples of the Lord Jesus. Thus Christian Stewardship is, simply put, Discipleship.

Last weekend, at all our Eucharistic Celebrations, John and Debbie Fredette gave their “witness talk” about their journey with the Lord Jesus. They focused, especially, upon how the Faith Community of St. Thomas More was present to them during the recent death of their son, Owen.

As we take time, this month, to reflect upon the meaning of gratitude, John and Debbie shared their gratitude with us. They came to say “Thank You” to us! In turn, we said “Thank You” to them for their witness to us.

Our “Thank You,” one to another, reminds us of our interconnectedness, the web of relationship and community that gives meaning to life.

The “Firestorm 2007” this past week also is a poignant reminder of how fragile life is, and how interconnected all of life is. We never know what a new day holds for us, and what may be asked of us.

Christian Stewardship, lived on a daily basis, is the visible sign and acknowledgement of our dependence upon God and one another. The events of this past week speak loudly to us of how much we need each other and how interconnected we are.

Christian Stewardship is not just about giving of time, talent, and treasure. It is also about receiving the gifts of time, talent, and treasure when the need arises in our lives.

This weekend at all the Masses, Chris Smith, the Director of Stewardship and Development, will share homily time with me as she informs our Parishioners about the number of people involved in the various ministries of our Parish, as we continue the mission and ministry of Jesus.

This information will, again, remind all of us of our dependence upon God and one another. We are a part of the web of relationships, of the interconnectedness that gives meaning to life and helps us to be at peace.

As we make our way through this month of Christian Stewardship, may all of us take more seriously, and say, more committedly, the words: “Thank You!”

Fr. Mike