

## Pastor's Column

Rev. Michael Ratajczak  
michaelr@stmoside.org  
758-4100 x100

### Christian Stewardship Awareness Month

As we begin this month of "Christian Stewardship Awareness," we allow the words of Peter to echo in our minds, hearts, and souls:

*"You also, as living stones, are built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God through Jesus Christ."*

—1 Peter 2:5

We are the living stones, each of us, coming together to be built up as a spiritual house, as the Church, which continues the mission and ministry of Jesus for this time and this place.

In December 2007, I received a Christmas card from Larry and Betty Dorsa. In their card was a note which said: "Father, we already have a Church, the buildings will come in time." That thought is significant!

We always need to keep focused that the Church, ultimately, is a gathering of people in faith not a building.

We are the living stones of which the Church is built. We already have a consecrated Temple that is built with the members of this Parish, the living stones.

As we move through this month of Christian Stewardship Awareness allow yourself to reflect upon the many ministries available in this Faith Community. Choose a ministry or ministries that will help you to become a living stone which is a part of the foundation of this Church. You will benefit, your family and friends will benefit, and the world will benefit!

Let us together, living stone upon living stone, be the living Temple, the living Church that continues the mission of Jesus for this time and this place.

*F. Mike*