
November 8, 2009 • Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Pastor's Column

Rev. Michael Ratajczak
michaelr@stmoside.org
760-758-4100 x100

November—A Month of Remembrance, Gratitude, Thanksgiving, and Stewardship

It is November!

We begin our annual trek through remembrance, gratitude, and thanksgiving. These movements of the heart naturally lead us to a response—stewardship.

We remember all that God has done and continues to do for us. We are grateful for the gift of life, love, family, friends, and faith. Our response is thanks, not just in word, but most importantly, in the actions of our every day lives. As we set our priorities and agendas according to the Gospel, as we respond in faith, we become Christian Stewards.

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.

—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.

Although we are so close to beginning the building of our permanent worship space—our Church—we still need to keep focused that the Church, ultimately, is a gathering of people in faith not a building. The building is not an end in itself. It is a means to an end.

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