



Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time November 16, 2014

Pastor's Column

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

Gratitude: A Lifetime of Christian Stewardship— Fulfilling God's Purpose

We continue our journey through the month of November 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.

This weekend, at all our Eucharistic Celebrations, Caleb and Sheila McKinley will share their "witness talk" about their journey with the Lord Jesus. They focus, especially, upon what attracted them to our Faith Community of St. Thomas More and motivates their active participation in our Parish.

As we take time to reflect upon the meaning of gratitude, Caleb and Sheila share their gratitude with us. They have come to say "Thank You" to us! In turn, we say "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.

Caleb and Sheila and family, thank you for being with us this weekend in this very special way!

I share with everyone a prayer that I would encourage you to pray around the table sometime this week:

*Thank you, God, for all these things that reveal your love.
Thank you for the heavens that cover us, for the earth beneath our feet,
for the sun in the day and the stars of the night,
for the snow and the rains and the rivers and the lakes,
for the mountains and valleys and trees and flowers.*

*Thank you, God for those people who demonstrate your love.
Thank you for those great men and women who followed you throughout history,
for the priests and prophets and apostles and ministers,
for doctors and teachers and mothers and fathers
and painters and musicians and writers
and farmers and laborers and clerks,
for those men and women who accepted your love and dedicated their lives
to loving their fellow men and women.*

*Thank you, God, for choosing me to be one of your people,
for calling me and equipping me to communicate
your love to my world about me.
Thank you, God.*

—Brandt/Corita, Psalm/Now (Concordia Publication House)

F. Mike