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# **Stewardship - Making it Happen**

**Stewardship Development Initiative**

**Education Module # 4**

**February 24, 2007**

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# This Morning

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- Part One

- Intro & Context

- Defining Stewardship
    - Changing Canadian Landscape
    - Cultural Challenges

- Part Two: Parish Stewardship

- Preliminary & Ongoing Steps

- Christian Education
    - Leadership
    - Discerning Prayerfully - Thinking Strategically

# **This Morning - Part Three**

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- **A Parish Financial Stewardship Campaign**
- **A framework for making it happen**
  - **Components**
    - **Vision**
    - **Communication & Education**
    - **Direct Request & Proportional Giving**
    - **Pledge**
    - **Personal Contact**
    - **Details**
  - **Sharing some materials**

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# Part One - Context

# What is Stewardship

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- **The Greek**

- *oikia* - household
- *oikonomeo* - manage, regulate, administer, plan
- *Oikonomos* - house-steward, manager, administrators

- **What we have - all if it - is God's.**

- **Stewardship is the faithful & effective management of what is entrusted to us.**

- the earth, relationships, children, resources
- skills, time, energy & money
- What else?

# Parish Financial Stewardship

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**Parish financial stewardship is the work of ensuring that we put in place & manage the financial resources/gifts required to do the ministry to which God calls us.**

# Stewardship in Context

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- **The Church**
  - Largest number of registered charities
  - Relies on individual donations (80% of revenue)
- **People give to church and to many other charities**
- **Church must be faithful in stewardship**
  - And effective
  - Canadians have come to expect it!!!
- **Getting help is OK**
  - Visioning, planning, techniques, teaching, details

# The Needs of a Parish Household

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- To be informed
- To be educated
- To be taken seriously
  - consulted & heard
  - active in participation & ministry
- To be a steward of God's Blessings
  - to experience the joy giving
  - to receive the grace the comes with service
  - to explore the spirituality & stewardship of gifts
    - money, time, energy, and skill

# **The Needs of the Parish: The Body of Christ**

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- To be trusted**
- To be responsible**
- To be accountable**
- To be transparent**
- To nurture faith in Christ**
- To serve the world God loves**
- To be faithful and effective in stewardship**
- To receive money to make ministry happen**

# **The Cultural Challenges**

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**Living in the Tension & Making the Shifts**

**From Fundraising to Stewardship**

**From Scarcity to Abundance**

**From Entitlement to Gratitude**

**From Giving what is Left Over to offering our First Fruits**

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# Questions & Comments

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## **Part Two - Parish Stewardship**

### **Preliminary and Ongoing Steps**

# Christian Education

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## Biblical foundations rooted in ongoing education

- preaching
- teaching
- small groups
- guest speakers
- Essential part of making cultural shifts in parish
- Stewardship becomes simply part of parish life
  - It is expected
    - Enjoyed
    - Debated
    - Honored as central to discipleship & ministry

# Leadership

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- **A trusted team of leaders**
  - **5-9 members**
  - **Respected individuals**
  - **Clergy and Lay partnership**
- **Think about**
  - **training**
  - **discernment**
  - **team building**
  - **diverse skills**
    - **writers, technicians, & speakers,**
    - **brain-stormers, analysts, organizers**

# Discerning Prayerfully Thinking Strategically

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- **Discerning Prayerfully:**

- **Creating space for the Holy Spirit to move in our hearts, our minds, our souls, and our strengths so that the church, the body of Christ, can be faithful and effective in the ministry entrusted to us by God.**

- **Thinking Strategically**

- **Pointing forward: creating the possibilities for a future that ensures the church remains a dynamic presence in the world.**

# Discerning Prayerfully Thinking Strategically

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- Calls for a process with
  - vision & planning
  - Bible study & education
  - consultation & consolidation
  - communication/communication/communication
- It will at times be
  - messy and confusing
  - fun and exciting
  - difficult, even painful
  - analytical and well organized
  - full of Grace, meaning, and purpose

# Discerning Prayerfully Thinking Strategically

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## Results in a Framework - A Vision - for Ministry

– that (as a quick aside) should strive to:

- be consistent with gospel & Christian experience
- be simple and flexible
  - suitable for training & support
  - easily communicated and remembered
- respect and enhance the clergy/lay partnership
- enable evaluation
  - assessing current ministry
  - envisioning new initiatives
  - explain, predict, and intervene

**But much more simply**

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**Discerning Prayerfully - Thinking Strategically**

**“What is God Calling us to do?”**

# Quick Summary - Ongoing Steps

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- Christian Education
- Leadership
- Discerning Prayerfully - Thinking Strategically

Questions and Comments

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## **Part Three**

# **A Parish Financial Stewardship Campaign**

**A time limited initiative**

**4-8 weeks**

**Annually or Biannually**

# The Vision

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**The Result of the process of Discerning  
Prayerfully and Thinking Strategically**

- **A Call To Action**
- **Explains Parish Ministry**
  - **current activities and programs**
  - **new initiatives**
- **Must be clearly informed by, and relate to the Gospel, our spirituality & call to ministry**

# The Vision

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- For the purposes of a campaign can take the form of
  - A narrative budget
  - The story of ministry
    - (Fundraising - The Case for Support)
- Describes ministry and is the justification for seeking financial support

# Communicate and Educate

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- **Education on Christian ministry & stewardship**
  - informs, takes seriously each household
- **Explains scope & cost of parish programs**
  - Parish accountability & transparency
  - Enables trust and shared responsibility

# Communicate and Educate

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- **Is ongoing and multi-faceted over a set period of time:**
  - **Reaching every household**
  - **Written Material**
    - **Story of ministry, narrative budgets**
      - **binders, brochures, & bulletin inserts**
      - **Q&A, letters**
  - **Slide shows, videos, & websites (high-tech)**
  - **Display boards and photo-albums (low-tech)**
  - **Sunday Announcements (Witness Talks)**
  - **Stewardship Dinners**
  
  - **And Much More (handouts)**

# The Direct Request

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- **Each household is asked ...**
  - **to make an intentional & specific offering**
  - **to make an increase**
    - **a specified amount or ...**
    - **a percentage increase of former offerings**
      - **e.g. all are asked increases offering by 3%**
- **Or an invitation to give and think proportionally**

# Proportional Giving

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- Intentionally offering a percentage of income
- Enables talk of the Biblical tithe (10%)
- Respects each household's stewardship journey
  - movement along the spectrum
  - changes in circumstances
- Fosters a spirituality & culture of First Fruits
- Let spend some time on this ... but first ...

# The Pledge

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- **Each household is asked to make a pledge**
  - **pledge card**
  - **automatic withdrawal**
  - **pledge worksheet**
  - **proportional giving chart**
  
- **Why?**
  - **Enable parish household in making commitment**
  - **Helps the parish in planning**

## My Offering Worksheet

In preparing to complete your pledge form, you are invited to prayerfully fill out this worksheet. You may wish to refer to the Proportional Giving Table

My/Our present offering to SJL  
is \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per [ ] week [ ] month.

My/Our present offering is \_\_\_\_\_% of my income.

The biblical tithe (10%) of my/our income would be \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per [ ] week [ ] month.

A \_\_\_% increase of my/our income to the ministry of SJL would be \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per [ ] week [ ] month.

### 2007-2008 Pledge

Present Offering \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Increase 2007 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**2007 Offering/Pledge** \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
  
**2008**  
Increase (2008) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**2008 Offering/Pledge** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

After completing the pledge form, tear this worksheet off for future reference.

## St John's by the Lake

### Proportional Giving Table

We are asking you to consider an intentional and proportional offering to STL in 2007 and 2008. The table below is intended as a guideline to proportional giving.

Income			Weekly percentage giving (in dollars)										
Annual	Monthly	Weekly	10%	9%	8%	7%	6%	5%	4%	3%	2%	1%	0.5%
\$5,200	\$433	\$100	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	1
\$10,400	\$867	\$200	20	18	16	14	12	10	8	6	4	2	1
\$15,600	\$1,300	\$300	30	27	24	21	18	15	12	9	6	3	2
\$20,800	\$1,733	\$400	40	36	32	28	24	20	16	12	8	4	2
\$26,000	\$2,167	\$500	50	45	40	35	30	25	20	15	10	5	3
\$31,200	\$2,600	\$600	60	54	48	42	36	30	24	18	12	6	3
\$36,400	\$3,033	\$700	70	63	56	49	42	35	28	21	14	7	4
\$41,600	\$3,467	\$800	80	72	64	56	48	40	32	24	16	8	4
\$46,800	\$3,900	\$900	90	81	72	63	54	45	36	27	18	9	5
\$52,000	\$4,333	\$1,000	100	90	80	70	60	50	40	30	20	10	5
\$78,000	\$6,500	\$1,500	150	135	120	105	90	75	60	45	30	15	8
\$104,000	\$8,667	\$2,000	200	180	160	140	120	100	80	60	40	20	10
\$130,000	\$10,833	\$2,500	250	225	200	175	150	125	100	75	50	25	13
\$156,000	\$13,000	\$3,000	300	270	240	210	180	150	120	90	60	30	15

Use this chart when filing your worksheet in your pledge form. For example: If your weekly income is \$ 800 a week and you are currently giving \$32 a week (4% of your income), an increase of 1% would be \$40 a week (5% of your income).

***Thank you for your offering!***

Mailing Label

**An Important Question for You:**

Would you like to be contacted to learn more about bequests and other forms of planned giving to the church? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

**PLEDGE FORM - ST JOHN'S BY THE LAKE (SJL)**

In response to God's grace, so that the Church can maintain the momentum of its dynamic ministry – nurturing faith in Christ and serving the world God loves, I /we intend to make the following financial offering in 2007 & 2008.

2007 \$  per  (week, month, etc.) for an annual offering of \$

2008 \$  per  (week, month, etc.) for an annual offering of \$

Signature(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**PRE-AUTHORIZED GIVING**

Please complete this section if you wish to pledge to SJL through automated withdrawals from your bank. If you do not wish to use this service, please proceed to the bottom of the page.

I/We authorize SJL to withdraw the following amount from my/our financial institution account, on the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month beginning in January 2007:

Name and Address of financial institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Branch number \_\_\_\_\_ Account number \_\_\_\_\_

2007 Amount of monthly pre-authorized giving \$ \_\_\_\_\_

2008 Amount of monthly pre-authorized giving \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized signature(s) of account holder(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Please attach an unsigned cheque marked VOID

Please place the pledge form in the special confidential pledge envelope provided.

# Personal Contact

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- **A key element alluded to in all the literature**
  - **Can accomplish many objectives**
    - **making direct request**
    - **collecting the pledge**
    - **cultivating relationships**
    - **communicating the story of ministry**
  - **Can take many forms**
    - **every member visitation**
    - **coffee meetings**
    - **telephone follow-up to parish mailing**
    - **meet the pastor**
    - **stewardship dinners**

# Details ... Details ... Details

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- Critical to be well organized
  - pay attentions to timelines
  - allocate tasks, & follow-up
    - mailings, personal contact, recruiting
    - e.g. writing, layout, stuffing, training, calling
- Who are the great detail people in your parish

# The Big Picture

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- All we have entrusted to us by God
  - Stewardship is our management of these gifts
  - Cultural challenges
  - Education, Leaders, prayerful & thoughtful
- 
- We share the ministry entrusted to us and we invite one another to make our offering to Christ's Church intentionally and proportionally.

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**Questions or Comments**

**Thank You**