

Stewardship Bulletin Inserts for July / August 2010

July 4, 2010 (14th Sunday in Ordinary Time)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

“The harvest is abundant,” Jesus tells the seventy-two in today’s Gospel, “but the laborers are few.” The situation is the same today. How can *I* help with God’s harvest? Am *I* one who could provide food or shelter or wages to those who toil in the fields of the Lord?

July 18, 2010 (16th Sunday in Ordinary Time)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

Today’s readings speak of hospitality. Abraham, who cheerfully did for his guests all that desert hospitality required, was rewarded with his heart’s desire – a son. Martha also busied herself with all the details of hospitality, but grudgingly and with complaint. Am I a cheerful or a grudging giver?

August 1, 2010 (18th Sunday in Ordinary Time)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

In today’s Gospel, Jesus is very clear about the folly of thinking that we can ensure our own security with material possessions. The good steward knows that real treasure lies in our faith and trust in God and our demonstrated love for Him and other people.

August 15, 2010 (Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

“After Jesus, it is the Blessed Virgin Mary who by her example most perfectly teaches the meaning of discipleship and stewardship...she was called and gifted by God; she responded generously, creatively and prudently; she understood her divinely assigned role as ‘handmaid’ in terms of service and fidelity.” (U.S. Bishops’ pastoral letter on stewardship)

August 29, 2010 (22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

In the Gospel today, Jesus warns us not to give in hopes of repayment, but to give open-handedly to the poor and needy. That sort of giving mirrors the bountiful giving of God, and Jesus assures us it is blessed indeed!

July 11, 2010 (15th Sunday in Ordinary Time)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

The good Samaritan was also a good steward, giving his time and his treasure to meet his neighbors needs. At the end of this familiar story, Jesus urges his hearers – and us – to go and do the same!

July 25, 2010 (17th Sunday in Ordinary Time)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

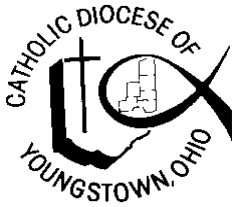
Jesus is describing God’s immeasurable generosity when He says in today’s Gospel, “...ask and you will receive; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be open to you.” But it should also be the description of us as Christian stewards – those seeking to follow Christ by using our gifts in service to others.

August 8, 2010 (19th Sunday in Ordinary Time)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

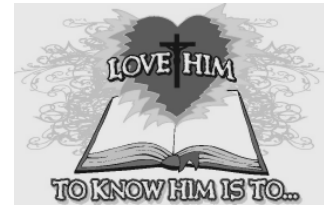
Am I waiting for the “right” time to become a good steward? Do I plan to share my time and talents “later?” Today’s Gospel warns those who are procrastinating about stewardship to be prepared – “You also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come.”

August 22, 2010 (21st Sunday in Ordinary Time)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

Today’s reading from Isaiah describes the Israelites bringing their offering to the Lord “in clean vessels.” The gift of myself – my patient endurance and fidelity to the will of God – is as important as the monetary gift I offer.



2010 Diocesan Youth Convention
“To Know Him is to Love Him”
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Attn: Bulletin Editor and Parish Vocations Committees

Vocation Bulletin Blurbs July 2010/Cycle C

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time -- July 4, 2010

“The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few.” Are you being called by the Lord of the harvest to proclaim His kingdom as a priest, deacon or in the consecrated life? Call Fr. Chris Luoni (330) 744-8451, or email: cluoni@youngstowndiocese.org.

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time -- July 11, 2010

“What must I do to inherit eternal life?” Faithfulness to one’s vocation is essential to holiness. Is yours to be a priest, deacon, sister or brother? Call Fr. Chris Luoni (330) 744-8451, or email: cluoni@youngstowndiocese.org.

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time -- July 18, 2010

“Mary has chosen the better part.” Does a life of prayer and service as a priest, deacon or in the consecrated life attract you? Call Fr. Chris Luoni (330) 744-8451, or email: cluoni@youngstowndiocese.org.

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time -- July 25, 2010

“Give us this day our daily bread.” Are you being called to help feed the people of God as a priest, deacon or in the consecrated life? Call Fr. Chris Luoni (330) 744-8451, or email: cluoni@youngstowndiocese.org.

Vocation General Intercessions July 2010/Cycle C

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time -- July 4, 2010

For an increase in our dedication to keep the Lord of the Harvest’s command to pray for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and the consecrated life, and for the holiness of all those now serving the people of our diocese in these vocations, we pray to the Lord.

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time -- July 11, 2010

That all those now discerning their vocation will be attentive in prayer and active in their response to Jesus the Eternal Word who calls them, we pray to the Lord.

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time -- July 18, 2010

That like Mary of Bethany, all the priests, deacons and men and women in the consecrated life will listen to the Lord in the silence of prayer, faithful to their choice of that better part, we pray to the Lord.

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time -- July 25, 2010

That with every “Our Father” we will be mindful of His generous goodness and ask that the Holy Spirit be given to all those discerning their vocation in Christ, we pray to the Lord.

July 4, 2010 Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and pursuit of Happiness: that to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed.

~ *The Declaration of Independence* (1776)

July 11, 2010 Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

I do not mean to say that caring for the elderly and others is *not* a burden. It can be, sometimes significantly so. I am saying that bearing this burden is so central to being human that if we run from the burden, we not only disrespect the elderly and vulnerable, we dehumanize ourselves.

~ William E. May, "On Being a Burden to One's Family," *Culture of Life Foundation Briefs* (March 26, 2010)

July 18, 2010 Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

For the very reason that God is love and man is his image we understand the person's profound identity, his vocation to love. Human beings are made for love; their lives are completely fulfilled only if they are lived in love.

~ Pope Benedict XVI, *Message to Cardinal Stanisław Rylko on the Occasion of the Tenth International Youth Forum* (March 20, 2010)

July 25, 2010 Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Families with lots of children are no longer considered examples of generosity, but rather irresponsibility. [Our culture says that] children with severe disabilities are not special angels sent to us by God, but drains on the economy; better that they were not born. And the elderly are burdens. But if we succeed in pushing away everyone who is dependent, then we're left with ourselves, our ego-centric, sin-rationalizing, defensive, irritable and vain selves. If we never learn to give till it hurts, till the painful reality that we're not the center of the universe sinks in, we will fail at marriage, at parenthood, at citizenship, even at simple neighborliness.

~ William E. May, "On Being a Burden to One's Family," *Culture of Life Foundation Briefs* (March 26, 2010)

Intercessions for Life

July 2010

July 4, 2010 – Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

That all legislators and public officials
work tirelessly to defend the right to life of every human being;
We pray to the Lord:

July 11, 2010 – Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

For victims of violence and for those who minister to them,
grant swift healing to those in pain, and
grant them all the grace and love to persevere;
We pray to the Lord:

July 18, 2010 – Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

For all those suffering the pain of infertility,
help them know the power of your healing,
and give them the strength to follow your will without anxiety;
We pray to the Lord:

July 25, 2010 – Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

For persons diagnosed with a terminal illness,
that the love of Our Lord will be evident
in the tender care they receive from family and caregivers;
We pray to the Lord:

Office of Pro-Life, Marriage and Family Ministry
Diocese of Youngstown
Natural Family Planning Bulletin Quotes – July 2010

July 4th Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

These two meanings or values of Christian marriage--the unitive and procreative--are intimately, inseparably linked; they cannot be divided without affecting the couples spiritual life and compromising their marriage and the future of their family. In fact, if a person enters marriage with the deliberate intention to exclude children from the marriage, the consent is invalid. Just as the persons of the Trinity are fruitful in love for one another and in creation, so the love of husband and wife is intended to be fruitful in love and offspring. Married couples are cooperators in the love of God the creator and are, in a certain sense, its interpreters.

-- Most Rev. J. Peter Sartain, Bishop of Little Rock

July 11th Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

In the light of the experience of many couples and of the data provided by the different human sciences, theological reflection is able to perceive and is called to study further the difference, both anthropological and moral, between contraception and recourse to the rhythm of the cycle: it is a difference which is much wider and deeper than is usually thought, one which involves in the final analysis two irreconcilable concepts of the human person and of human sexuality.

-Pope John Paul II (Familiaris consortio, #32)

July 18th Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

When it is a question of harmonizing married love with the responsible transmission of life, the morality of the behavior does not depend on sincere intention and evaluation of motives alone; but it must be determined by objective criteria, criteria drawn from the nature of the person and his acts, and human procreation in the context of true love; this is possible only if the virtue of married chastity is practiced with sincerity of heart.

-Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2368

July 25th Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Marriage and conjugal love are by their nature ordained towards the begetting and educating of children. Children are really the supreme gift of marriage and contribute very substantially to the welfare of their parents.

-Second Vatican Council (Gaudium et spes, #50)