

Stewardship in Action at St. Bernard

ST. BERNARD STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL: A YEAR IN REVIEW

As chairperson of the Council, I want to take this opportunity to share with you some of the highlights and accomplishments of the Stewardship Council over the past ten months.

At our meetings, held every three weeks starting in September, Council members address current initiatives and also engage in faith formation so as to let the philosophy of true stewardship guide the direction of the Council. The Council also provides support to other ministries to help them reach pa-

rishioners in order to meet each ministry's goals and objectives. Your Stewardship Council continues to strive to get everyone involved to make Christian service a living reality at St. Bernard.

The Stewardship Council continues to thrive and serve as an example of St Bernard's *time, talent* and *treasure* at work. Our next major initiative will be co-hosting a St. Bernard Service Day in the Fall with the Youth Group Ministry. More details to come on this event.

Thank you for your prayerful support.

Yours in Christ,

Mark Dransfield
Chairperson
Stewardship Council



STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mark Dransfield, Chairperson

Deacon Gerry Sims

Laura Hennessey

Martha McCray

Elizabeth Dransfield

Joe Huchko

Russell Nesbitt

Michael Macchiarola

Karen Brophy

Fran Lim

Gemma Thompson

Vince Riello

Steve Ossi

Camille Bene



HIGHLIGHTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Ministry Fair

In October, the Council hosted the bi-annual Ministry Fair. The Fair serves two main purposes; it showcases the wide array of ministries and organizations that serve the community, while inviting parishioners to consider how the Lord may be calling them to use their gifts of *Time, Talent* and *Treasure*.

The Council adopted the theme “GET CONNECTED” for this year’s event. The Fair featured the launch and demonstration of the parish’s updated website.



Stewardship Webpage

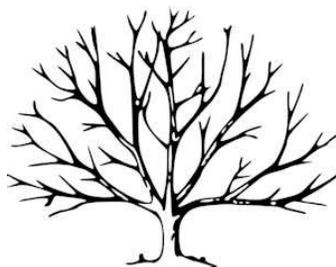
Coinciding with the launch of the revamped parish website, the Council took full advantage of the opportunity by developing its own webpage. The page highlights Council objectives and initiatives and provides links to Stewardship-related materials and organizations.

Stewardship in Action / Stewardship Sunday

The Council continued to produce a monthly newsletter, *Stewardship in Action*, which highlights the accomplishments of individuals and ministries in the parish as well as spreads the word about the stewardship way of life. These bulletin inserts were distributed on “Stewardship Sundays.”

Stewardship Tree

The Stewardship Tree returned during the Advent and Lenten seasons this year and continued to provide an opportunity for ministries to seek help and support by means of presenting simple tasks or requests in the form of “leaves” on the tree. These “leaves” enable parishioners to take



advantage of service opportunities and allowed them to “test drive” a ministry to see if they feel called to serve.

“Stewardship Night” for Confirmation Candidates

In March, the council provided assistance to Sister Lorraine and the CFC staff by coordinating Stewardship Night for students beginning the Confirmation program. The Council invited representatives from various ministries to introduce their ministries and present opportunities for the students to earn service hours. A Council member kicked the evening off by addressing the audience about the Stewardship way of life. The students then formed small groups and rotated through a number of ministry stations. The presentations by the ministry leads at each station provided reinforcement to the students on how to be good stewards while educating them on what the ministry does.

Interested in learning more about the Stewardship Council?

Please contact Mark Dransfield (mlrek@optonline.net or by calling 908-526-6649)

We welcome your feedback and suggestions.

