



August 30, 2023

Stewardship Renewal 2023
Pray. Serve. Give

Dear Parishioner,

In recent weeks you have been hearing about stewardship as *a way of life* at St. Mary's Cathedral. We invited you and your fellow parishioners to reflect on how God has blessed you and consider your response to His blessings through your gifts of time, talent and treasure. I write to you today to ask you to make a prayerful stewardship commitment to our parish!

What is stewardship and what does it mean in my life?

Stewardship is a lifestyle. It is a life of accountability and responsibility. Living as a good steward acknowledges everything we are and everything we have is a gift from God. Christian stewards see themselves as the caretakers of God's gifts. Gratitude for these gifts is expressed in our prayer, worship, offerings, and action. Stewardship is a way of thanking God for our blessings as we return a portion of the many gifts (our time, talent, and treasure) that we have been given by God.

You will find a stewardship commitment form with this letter. Please take some time to reflect on the gifts God has provided you, pray for guidance, and determine how you can share your gifts to serve others through our parish. Your gifts will make it possible to continue supporting the needs of our parish in worship, education, and outreach.

St. Mary's hasn't had a stewardship renewal since before COVID. Now is the time to start again. I ask you to join with other parishioners and return your completed stewardship commitment form at Mass on or before Stewardship Commitment Weekend, September 9-10, or by mail if you will not be at the parish that weekend.

God has blessed our parish in so many ways and you are a part of that blessing. Thank you for the gifts you have given to help us fulfill the mission that Christ has entrusted to all of us. May God bless you for generously sharing your gifts in service to the Church.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Fr. Jorge Canela

Rector/Pastor

P.S. Forms are available in either **English or Spanish** and there are forms for both **youth and adults**. Additional forms may be found near the entrances of the church, at the parish office, downloaded from our website or can be completed online at stmarysgi.com/serve. We ask that each member of the household complete their own form.

Reflection Questions: How much time do I set aside each week to PRAY? How am I using my talents for the betterment of the parish family and to SERVE God? What percentage of my yearly income do I GIVE to support the church? Where do I feel called to help? What is one thing I can do to step closer to God?