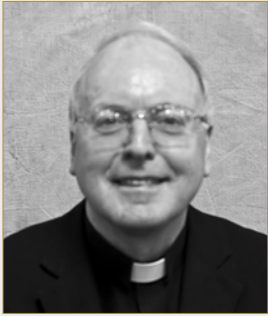


SERVANT LEADER



FR. MICHAEL KIERNAN

This week I share with you some insights on how each of us can daily put our faith into practice. Each of us is given talents by God and called to use these wisely and generously. We are the stewards of our lives and the concept of stewardship offers us a blessed way of using all we have and are for God.

In Christian discipleship based on solid biblical foundations a follower of Jesus is truly a thankful, responsible and generous caretaker of God's many blessings. In short, Jesus' disciples are called to practice authentic stewardship.

While the New Testament does not provide a total portrait of the Christian steward all in one place, elements of this image abound in the pages of scripture. Based on several parables and the many apostolic instructions, Jesus' disciples understood they were to rejoice in their gifts and share them with others. Guided by Scripture, we believe that the Christian steward is a person whose prayer leads to a constant awareness that God is the creator of all blessings in life—spiritual and material. Jesus presented the ultimate gift to God - the gift of his life—and we, too, are called to follow in Jesus' footsteps by:

Receiving God's gifts gratefully
Cultivating them responsibly
Sharing them lovingly in justice with others
Returning them with increase to the Lord.

God has entrusted to us as Catholics the gifts of material creation, individual vocation, and the Church. Gratefully caring for these gifts leads to these tangible examples of stewardship in our daily lives:

Stewardship of Creation: Respecting life from conception to natural death, protecting the environment and developing our world through noble human labor.

Stewardship of Vocation: Faithfully carrying out our unique individual roles in God's plan.

Stewardship of the Church: Prayerfully sharing our time, talent and treasure to fulfill the mission of the parish, diocese and universal Church.

Stewardship as a way of life has astonishing implications for our relationships and daily lives. We can experience life-shaping changes of mind and heart as we commit ourselves to the Lord. Recognizing God as the origin of life, we are grateful for the gifts we have received and are eager to use them to show our love for God and one another.

The journey of discipleship is one of intense joy, fulfillment and peace. As Mary the mother of Jesus lived her ministry in a spirit of fidelity and service, we can find the same favor with God by living as authentic stewards of our world, our vocations and our Church. I invite you to prayerfully consider how stewardship is working out in your life. I pray all the time that I will have deeper faith, be more generous and be a better servant in my own life. This is a growing life long process but it is important to be on the journey. May God bless you each day with a deeper awareness of who you are as a child of God, a person filled with the Holy Spirit, a brother or sister of Jesus. May each of us see our giftedness in our own unique way and may God show us how to use our gifts of time, talent and treasure to build up the Church and society giving us peace, joy and fulfillment. God bless you for all you do already and God has greater plans for us than we could ever imagine. The peace and joy of Christ be with you in the week ahead.

~ STEWARDSHIP PRAYER ~

Praised are You, O God, our loving creator and giver of all good gifts. Bless us Your people, strengthen our faith and grant us the spirit of Christian stewardship so that we may give generously of our time in worship and prayer, our talent, and our treasure to the spread of Your kingdom here in our Church and throughout the world. We thank you for our life and your many gifts. Help us to use well what you give us and be generous as we support our Cathedral parish. Show us more and more how to serve you with gentle, humble and generous hearts as we as we make our offering today. This we ask through Jesus Christ, Your son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen.

Fr. Michael F. Kiernan

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION

Religious education classes for children start September 19, 2009. Register your child today. Applications will be available after all masses. Also, volunteers are desperately needed to teach religious Education on Sundays. Must be bilingual Spanish/English. Call Sister Jenny at 444-5364.

INSTALLATION MASS OF FR. KIERNAN AS RECTOR/PASTOR OF CATHEDRAL

Bishop Jaime Soto will formally install Fr. Michael F. Kiernan as Rector/Pastor of the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament on Sunday August 9 at the 11:00 am Mass. That same day, fortunately, has previously been set aside for the presence of the Handicapped group who visit various parishes on occasion. A simple reception will be held in Mercy Hall (Cathedral Lower Level) after Mass and all are welcome.

ROME WITH CATHEDRAL CHOIR

Reservations can still be made to join our Cathedral Choir on their pilgrimage to Rome, Assisi, Florence, and Vatican City. Tour dates are November 5-15. Cost is \$3,395.00 + \$400 in departure and fuel surcharges. Contact Choir Director Rex Rallanka at 916-444-3070 or email at rrallanka@cathedralsacramento.org for further information. Any parishioner may join this tour.

DIOCESAN SECOND COLLECTION

Next week's Second Collection is for the Catholic Communication Campaign (CCC). Through your generous donations, CCC is able to spread the gospel message in our community and all over the world. CCC funds the development of traditional and new media programs that inspire and minister to their audiences. Half of the collection from our diocese stays here to support local communication efforts, while the other half supports national Catholic media initiatives. Please give generously in next week's Collection to help us spread the Good News. To find out more about the work of CCC, please visit www.CatholicCommunicationCampaign.org.

"UNDERSTANDING GRIEF" WORKSHOP

St. Anthony Ministry of Consolation is offering a five week program (Saturdays, August 8-September 5, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.) to help individuals understand the grief process, including the stages of grief; surviving stress and loneliness; handling feelings of guilt and anger; and spiritual elements of grief and healing. This educational program has been well received in the past. Please consider attending if you have lost a loved one or are experiencing grief. Everyone is welcome to attend. There is no fee, but registration is appreciated. Contact the St. Anthony parish office (428-5678) or Judy Bezzone (428-2592) for info.

STEWARDSHIP GIFT TO OUR PARISH JUL 26

Our collection last week was just \$8,838.77. Thank you. Of course our goal is \$14,000 per week so this is a worry to me. To achieve this goal we encourage parishioners to donate one hour's pay per week to the parish or 3% of income. Please do what you can to help keep our parish going.

UNIVERSITY OF SACRAMENTO

The University of Sacramento is excited to announce the fall 2009 course offerings in various Catholic Faith Formation programs. Course include: Foundations of the Catholic Faith; Marriage & Family; Passing on the Faith in the Modern Ag; Scriptural Foundations; and Introduction to the RCIA. The Foundations of the Catholic Faith is available as an online course. Information and Applications and Registration forms for these programs can be downloaded from www.universityofsacramento.org Contact DeAnna at 916-443-4760 ext. 16 or dmartinez@universityofsacramento.org

CATHEDRAL MASS SCHEDULE

- MON 8/3/2009** **18TH WEEKDAY**
 12:10 p.m.: Oscar Omar Gamboa, S.I.
 5:10 p.m.: Santo Niño +
- TUES 8/4/2009** **ST. JOHN MARY VIANNEY**
 12:10 p.m.: Giacomo Bozzini +
 5:10 p.m.: Rene Iralda +
- WED 8/5/2009** **DEDICATION OF ST. MARY MAJOR**
 12:10 p.m.: Nelly Yolanda Salguero, S.I.
 5:10 p.m.: Pablito Castello, S.I.
- THUR 8/6/2009** **TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD**
 12:10 p.m.: Rudy Pertile, S.I.
 5:10 p.m.: Sherie Usi +
- FRI 8/7/2009** **ST. SIXTUS II & ST. CAJETAN**
 12:10 pm: Danelle E. Saldana +

NO EVENING MASS ON FRIDAYS

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

WED & THUR 12:40PM-4:45PM FRI 12:40PM-3:45PM
 TO SIGN UP CALL ISABELLA CAZARES 391-1760 OR 833-1948,
 OR E-MAIL BECAZ96@SBCGLOBAL.NET

**CATHEDRAL TOURS EVERY SUNDAY
 AFTER 9:00 AM AND 11 AM MASSES**

**GIFT SHOP HOURS
 MON-FRI 11AM-2PM (CLOSED SAT) SUN 10AM-2PM**

New Parishioner Registration and Change of Address Form

Name: _____ Envelope No.: _____

Phone: (____) _____

Address: _____ ZIP Code: _____

Fill out and deposit in Offertory Basket. Thank You!