

Pastoral Letter on Stewardship...

"All temporal and spiritual goods are created by and come from God. That is true of everything human beings have:

Pastoral Letter on Stewardship...

- spiritual gifts like faith, hope, and love;
- talents of body and brain;
- cherished relationships with family and friends;
- material goods;
- the achievements of human genius and skill;
- the world itself.

Pastoral Letter on Stewardship...

...One day God will require an accounting of the use each person has made of the particular portion of these goods entrusted to him or her."

## Diocese of Orange

*Stewardship is the grateful response of a Christian disciple who recognizes and receives God's gifts and shares these gifts in love of God and neighbor."*



## Holy Family Parish, S. Pasadena

- *Grace*
- *Gratitude*
- *Generosity*

### Steward Disciples...

Growing in grace  
Growing in gratitude  
Growing in generosity

**Stewards Seek** (prayer)

**Stewards Serve** (time & talent)

**Stewards Share** (financial resources)

- Steward disciples –  
Called, Capable, Caring
- Called, equipped, sent to serve
- Summoned, supplied, sent
- Grateful giving/Sacrificial living

- Offering our hearts,  
our hands,  
our whole selves...

Giver, Gift, Giving (Downey)

- Lover, Beloved, Love

Taken and blessed, broken and shared...



## Everyday stewardship

- Hospitality the heart of stewardship –  
*“The key to stewardship and sacrificial giving is to build community in a parish. When you offer people a sense of prayer, hospitality, belonging, and community, then they’ll be ready to hear the call for responsibility and service.”*

Msgr. Thomas McGread



## Everyday stewardship

- “Naming and claiming” stewardship –
  - Bulletin – grateful language
  - Website
  - Signage
  - Office personnel
  - Service opportunities
  - Prayer & adoration

## Assess parish demographics...

- Who is “at home” at your parish?
  - What languages?
  - What ethnic groups?
  - What other English-speaking cultures?
  - What “flavor” are you?



## Assess parish demographics...

- Who is “at home” at your parish?
  - What languages?
  - What ethnic groups?
  - What other English-speaking cultures?
  - What “flavor” are you?
- Who is target audience for stewardship?

## Assess cultural differences...

- In definition of “stewardship”
- In “readiness”
- In underlying assumptions
- On your Stewardship Committee

## Assess cultural differences...

- Different meanings for membership
  - Ownership or Belonging
  - Contractual or Relational
  - Personal responsibility or inclusion
  - “entitled” to opinions or need to be invited
- Different views of pastors role
  - chief steward or CEO or revered father figure



## Multi-cultural Annual Renewals...

- Form a multi-cultural liturgy team
  - Completely new, not just “tokens” added
    - All on equal footing
    - Translations take longer...
  - Allow lots of time to grow!
    - Will grow slowly
    - Requires time for trust and experience to build
  - Develop a special multi-cultural choir
    - Include some musicians from each choir
    - Build up a special repertoire



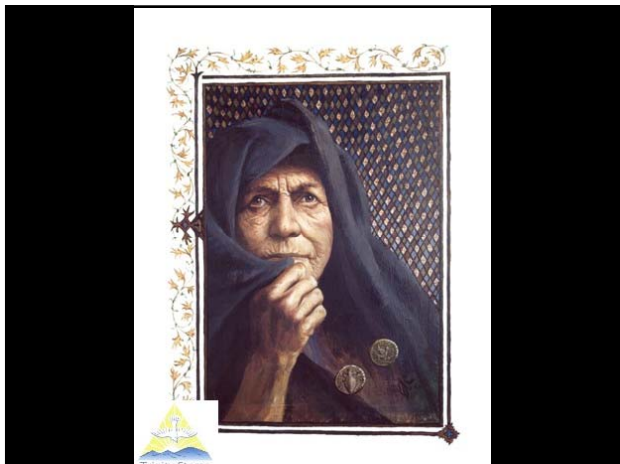


## Multi-cultural Annual Renewals...

- Use Lectionary-based themes to unify
  - All weekends have stewardship themes
  - All languages have good translations
- Consider:
  - Presentation tailored to different cultures?
  - What to translate?

## Translations...

*"...our language  
stumbles behind  
like an over-  
burdened porter  
with a mountain  
of cases."*



"Zacchaeus, come down..."  
"Zaqueo, bájate pronto..."  
"Giá-kêu, hãy xuống mau..."

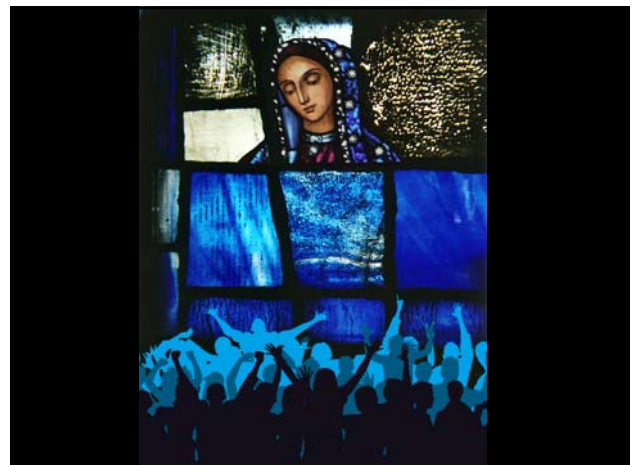


An invitation to "go out on a limb"  
in ministry and service at OLA  
Ministerios en la comunidad hispana  
MỤC VỤ CỦA CỘNG ĐOÀN VIỆT NAM

- Sometimes the concept or the idiom just can't be translated...
- Be careful of "literal" translations!

## Multi-cultural Annual Renewals...

- Themes & images transcend culture
  - Mary





**Multi-cultural Annual Renewals...**

- Themes & images transcend culture
  - Mary
  - The cross



## Multi-cultural Annual Renewals...

- Themes & images transcend culture
  - Mary
  - The cross
  - The Eucharist



Taken and blessed,  
broken and shared...

“Eucharist” means “thanksgiving”

- \* Giving thanks
  - thanking God for our blessings
- \* “Thanks” giving
  - what we do with those blessings
  - the giving we do in gratitude

Why give?



Because God gives to us.

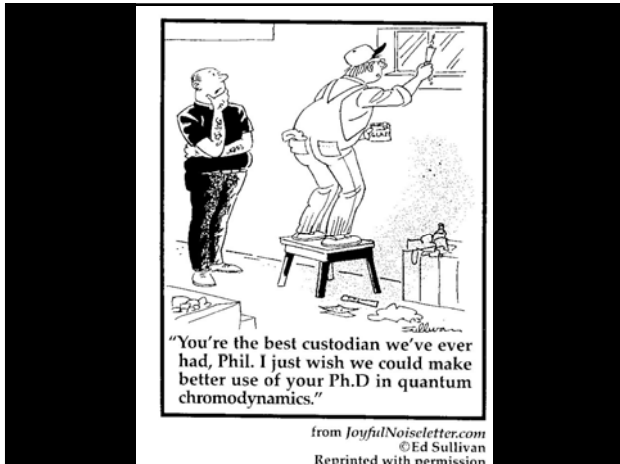
## Multi-cultural Annual Renewals...

- Use “gifts” language
  - Focus on defining/discerning one’s gifts
  - Everyone has gifts!
  - Be aware of different cultural gifts and differing values for same gift
    - *“Take all the good things you bring from your motherland and share that. And also receive what this country gives. It’s not only giving... It is a give and take.”*
  - Be aware of different cultural styles



## Pastoral Letter on Stewardship...

*"We are all stewards of the Church. As 'to each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit' (1 Cor 12:7), so stewardship in an ecclesial setting means cherishing and fostering the gifts of all, while using one's own gifts to serve the community of faith."*



## Multi-cultural Annual Renewals...

- Use cultural feast days to educate and invite participation
  - Corpus Christi
  - Our Lady of the Rosary
  - Dia de los Muertos
  - Our Lady of Guadalupe
  - Las Posadas
  - Simbang gabi?







## Measure your progress...

- ... in understanding each other
- ... in growth of understanding that all is gift and all are called to share
- ... in the deepening of the spirituality of stewardship
- ... in involvement and hospitality

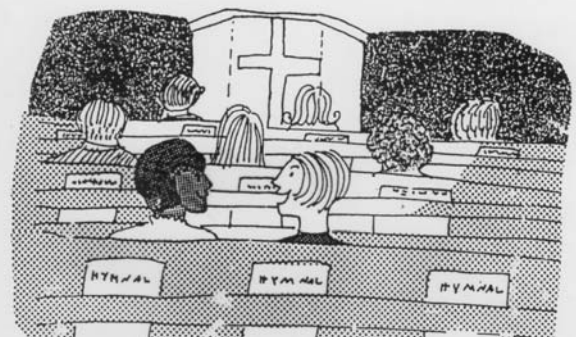


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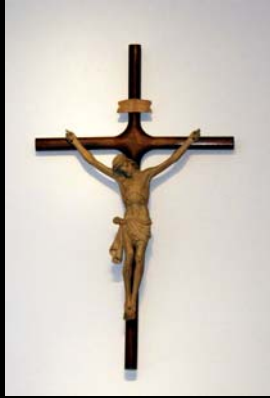
- ... in understanding each other
- ... in growth of understanding that all is gift and all are called to share
- ... in the deepening of the spirituality of stewardship
- ... in involvement and hospitality
- **NOT in dollars in the collection basket!**



"Brace yourself, here it comes –  
the Sermon on the Amount."



*“There is no universal language of pure communion except Christ, and we do not yet know fully how to speak the Word that he is. We speak our different languages, and it is right that we delight in them and fight for their survival. But we can let the Word of Christ penetrate and purify our languages by all the ways in which the gospel challenges us to speak with strangers and find the words that open up friendship.”*



## Pastoral Letter on Stewardship...

*“Refracted through the prisms of countless individual vocations, this way of life embodies and expresses the one mission of Christ: to do God’s will, to proclaim the good news of salvation, to heal the afflicted, to care for one’s sisters and brothers, to give life – life to the full – as Jesus did.”*

## The Parish Annual Renewal

Sharon Hueckel  
shueckel@gmail.com