

**St. Catherine of Genoa  
Stewardship Commission Meeting  
October 2, 2007**

Those present included Fr. Tim Siegel, Jill Hansen, Betty Burke, Wendy Engles, Linda Dolder and Beth Gehringer.

We began the meeting with a prayer service.

We discussed Chapter 8 of “What Do I Own and What Owns Me-A Spirituality of Stewardship.” We discussed the theme of “Poverty as a Spiritual Discipline. We talked about poverty in terms of not being in control. We need to depend on God for everything and allow his grace to transform us.

### **Building Community**

We discussed ways that we may try to build community in the parish (both spiritually and socially). Is there an activity or topic that may entice everyone to come to church? What if we tried something radical like only having one mass on Sunday to have more people in the church together? This wouldn't work logistically. Maybe Father could try to make more personal connections with parishioners (visiting them at home). Father does meet each First Communicant's families during the year before the celebration of the sacrament. We could try to have some sort of communal conversion experience. Linda volunteered to write a personal witness story to be put in the bulletin. Maybe we could do something like this on a regular basis.

### **Time, Talent and Treasure Logistics**

Father's letter announcing **time and talent** will be sent out October 12<sup>th</sup>. It will be sent to all active parishioners. Included in the letter will be the diocesan flyer and prayer and the time and talent pledge card. The stewardship prayer will be placed inside the bulletin instead of being handed out and said in mass. This prayer will not be included in Father's letter this time.

Jill went over the revised time and talent pledge card. She changed the spot for people to put in their name and address on the card. The men's club and altar and rosary were removed as organizations and the building and grounds committee was added. We added youth ministry and a public relations coordinator to the card. The bulletin company will print the card for us.

Wendy Engles will speak as a lay witness during masses on October 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. The ministry booklets will be handed out this weekend. We changed the cover of the ministry booklets to match the diocesan theme that will be used on the time and talent card. The bulletin company will also print these booklets for us.

The time and talent cards will be completed by parishioners on October 27<sup>th</sup> and October 28<sup>th</sup>. The pledge cards and pens will be placed in the pews. We'll need to get more pens and have enough cards to be placed in each pew.

Father's letter to parishioners about **treasure** will be mailed out October 26<sup>th</sup>. We'll change the treasure pledge cards to match the time and talent cards and ministry booklets. The bulletin company will also print these for us. Dale Jurs will be speaking as a lay witness at all masses on November 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>.

We decided to have a member of the stewardship commission go over the treasure pledge card on November 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>. We'll want to mention to parishioners that this is their pledge for weekly donations throughout the year. This is NOT a pledge for Diocesan Stewardship. If anyone has questions about making a pledge they can speak to a stewardship commission member or Father. The treasure pledge cards with envelopes will be placed in all the pews. The ushers will pick up the completed pledge cards before the offertory.

We'll be sending a treasure follow up thank you for those that made a pledge. We'll also be sending a letter out during the week of November 16<sup>th</sup> to parishioners who didn't make a pledge at mass.

We'll want to have a meeting again this year (around November 9<sup>th</sup>) with the ministry owners giving them the results of the pledges. They will then contact interested parishioners with details of the ministry and thank them for volunteering to serve.

Father closed the meeting with prayer. The next stewardship commission meeting is November 13, 2007.

After the meeting Father determined it would be best to postpone the treasure pledge process until next spring. He wants to focus on the capital campaign for the elevator.

Submitted by,  
Beth Gehringer, Secretary