

**St. Catherine of Genoa  
Stewardship Commission Meeting  
February 27, 2010**

Those present included Fr. Tim Seigel, Jill Hansen, Julie Carlson, Donna Letterer, Pat Riedy and Beth Gehringer. This meeting was rescheduled from February 16<sup>th</sup> because of the Mardi Gras family night event.

Father led us in the Liturgy of the Hours prayer service for the day.

We discussed the preface, introduction and the discussion questions from “Stewardship: A Disciples Response.” This gave us an introduction to what stewardship is and how the bishop’s pastoral letter will be laid out.

### **Diocesan Stewardship Program 2010**

We will be hosting a regional diocesan stewardship planning meeting on March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7 p.m. Dave Hougan will be leading this meeting.

Jill has not gotten too much information regarding the process this year. She did notify the diocese that we will be using the “in-church” method. We’ll go over the calendar and the process at the next meeting.

We need to find ways to be more aggressive or find more creative ways to encourage more people to pledge towards Diocesan Stewardship. While we have been very successful in the past few years (we have exceeded our goal each of these years) we need to have more people pledging. It seems that some people still believe that the fall treasure appeal is really for diocesan stewardship. Some large pledge amounts have been received in the fall.

### **Children’s Coloring/Essay Contest**

We’d like to host this contest again this year to keep stewardship in the forefront of the minds of our youth. This needs to be done before the end of religious education classes this spring. Younger students would draw a picture and older students would write an essay or draw a picture. We may want to create a committee to judge the entries. Ideally the assignment should be announced and materials distributed by March 14<sup>th</sup>. The deadline for entries would be March 28<sup>th</sup>. We discussed possible themes of “Stewardship and Easter” and “caring for God’s gifts.” Pat volunteered to organize this and speak with Alaisa. We discussed how we could display the winning entries (in a frame, in the lobby and/or in the bulletin).

### **St. Mary’s – trip to Aurora**

We will travel to St. Mary’s on Monday, March 1<sup>st</sup> to meet with them at 7 p.m. We’ll meet here at 5:45 p.m. This will allow us to meet their stewardship commission, tour the church and talk about our relationship. We need more creative service projects; ones in which our parishioners will want to travel to Aurora for. Would there be a way to carpool or take a bus to Aurora? Can we reach out to our Hispanic community to assist us with this? We should ask someone from our Hispanic community to come with us next Monday to meet with St. Mary’s. Is there anything that St. Mary’s parish can offer us? We could organize a kermes here and invite St. Mary’s parishioners here. Maybe St. Mary’s choir could join us for a bilingual mass here.

### **Treasure Follow-Up update**

Jill reported that we received \$195,000 in pledges this year from 164 families. Last year we received \$194, 200 in pledges from 162 families.

## **International Catholic Stewardship Council (ICSC) Conference**

Fr. Seigel will be presenting a talk for the beginner stewardship track at the conference in San Diego in September. He will be speaking on the spirituality of the “Stewardship: A Disciples Response” pastoral letter.

Father closed with a prayer.

The next meeting is March 9, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

Submitted by  
Beth Gehringer, Secretary