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St. Lawrence Ministry Leader's Workshop

The Journey from Attendance to Participation



Stewardship Committee

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The purpose of this document is to summarize presentation material from the St. Lawrence Catholic Church Ministry Leader's Workshop held on April 10, 2010.

Stewardship Committee Members

Stewardship Committee Chair	Kevin Anello (813) 875-4603 Kevin.Anello@astrazeneca.com
Members	Barton Lee
	Elle Spada
	Tracy Halme
	Maria Tweed
	Tony Tweed
	Marjorie Barcenas
	Barbara Portales
Advisor	Deacon Greg Lambert Deacon Cris Stout

Stewardship Committee Responsibilities

Here are the responsibilities of the Stewardship Committee:

- Stewardship focus is on **time** and **talent**
- Work with other parish leaders to present stewardship appropriately and prayerfully
- Research and prepare information that furthers the parish's experience of stewardship
- **Work with ministry leaders** to promote and organize stewardship
- Ensure that **volunteers are recognized** for their efforts

Stewardship Committee Plan

Since the Stewardship Committee was organized, we have been working on a plan:

- Understand the current state of stewardship at St. Lawrence parish
- Support the ministries and leaders with processes to better
 - Communicate

- Promote
- Recruit
- Support new ministries with a proper foundation to get started
- Bring back the ministry fair

Stewardship = Gratitude

The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many. (Matthew 20:28)

We are called to give of ourselves and to serve God with our time and talents. We should serve with the spirit of Gratitude for the sacrifice of Jesus for us, for the Love of our Father, and for all that he provides.

Keynote - Fr. Tom Morgan

See Fr. Tom's Handout for more details.

Ministry Fair

Purpose and Goals

- Educate parishioners on the numerous ministries available for their participation and support
- Communicate the needs and opportunities available within individual ministries
- Motivate parishioners to Participate in one or more ministries –share their gifts of Time and Talent
- Encourage a commitment to Stewardship by a greater percentage of the parish family
- Celebrate all the good being done by the parish ministries

Overview

- Focused on time and talent
- To be held on May 2, 2010 at the St. Lawrence Annual Family Picnic (from noon to 3 p.m.)
- Informational booths set up by each of the ministries throughout the piazza
- Pastor will encourage all Mass attendees to attend the Ministry Fair

Ministry Fair Table Setup

The Stewardship Committee will provide each ministry with the following:

- Signage with Ministry's name

- Business cards
- Registration forms for new members



Ministry Fair - Sample Table Setup

During the Fair...

- Keep it simple
 - Handouts
 - Tri-fold, poster board with pictures, etc.
- "Elevator pitch" - Be prepared to explain your ministry in 30 seconds or less
- Ask questions to locate their interests and talents
 - What do you do for a living?
 - What are your interests?
 - How would you like to help?
 - How much time could you gift to serve?
- If there is any interest, or they would like to think about it invite them to the next get together for this ministry (allow them time to discern if this is what they want to do)
- Collect their contact information for further follow-up

The Ministry Fair will run for about 3 hours or so. Be prepared to have coverage of the ministry's table during that time.

In order for the Fair to be effective and beneficial for each ministry, it is important that you follow up with the interested individuals. The purpose of the follow up is to re-introduce you as ministry leader or coordinator and invite them to the next get together. Follow up quickly while the interest is there. Unfortunately, we live in a society that is full of distractions and very taxing on our time and it is very easy for someone that is interested at the fair to lose that interest quickly.

Always keep in mind that people are at different stages of their spiritual growth and understanding of stewardship. Most may not have the same fervor to serve as active members, so understand this and allow them time to grow in these areas. All you can do is invite them, to share the good work of the ministry.

The Stewardship Committee will hold each ministry accountable for follow up with people that signed up during the fair.

Inventory of Existing Ministries

The Stewardship Committee performed an inventory of the existing ministries to get an understanding of where we are as a parish community. Our intent was not to "fix" anything, but to learn commonalities from these ministries that have served St. Lawrence for a while. We found many positive things in this process and were led to organize a workshop where these ideas could be shared with the other ministry leaders.

The workshop will allow for each ministry leader to get to know other leaders in the parish, meet the Stewardship Committee and share information that can help each ministry grow, communicate better, etc. The areas that jumped out at us the most in the inventory were:

- Succession Planning
- Structure and Organization
- Membership

Succession Planning

Succession planning is important for ministries to last beyond the dedication period of the individual(s) that are currently serving as leaders of the ministry. It is okay, for leaders to serve for a very long time, as long as they are "training" or "mentoring" someone that can serve in their absence or should they decide to take on a different role within the ministry.

Structure and Organization

Whenever two or more gather to work together towards a common goal, this requires some level of structure and organization. Not all ministries require the same levels of organization, but some require more than others. For example, ministries that serve at mass must have a very good scheduling system so that they can ensure coverage of all mass events. Other ministries that meet once per week or once per month may not require the same rigor but at least should have contact lists and a way to announce those meetings.

Membership

An active parish has strong membership involved in ministry. This workshop session discusses ways to promote, recruit and maintain strong membership. There are several ministries which have flourished at St. Lawrence and we would like to learn from these how they have done it.

Gratitude - Why we do it?

People are motivated to do what they do when they find a "Why" that touches them deep in the spirit. There are many subtle and not so subtle differences in the "Why" of each person, but as Catholics we can say that are motivations surrounding gratitude for:

- The Love of our Father
- Blessings in our lives
- Grace from our Father
- To give Glory to our Father

Jesus came to reveal the Father and to be the greatest example of showing gratitude to the Father. Our role in ministry is to serve with gratitude and to serve others in the way that Christ showed us.

Thanks be to God for his priceless gift! (2 Corinthians 9:15)

Next Steps

- ✓ Determine participation at Ministry Fair
- ✓ Notify Stewardship Committee by April 17
 - Kevin Anello (813) 857-4603
- ✓ Begin working on the table display (Table cloth, poster board, handouts, etc.)
- ✓ Further details will be communicated prior to the event to those that are participating