



## ST. MARIA GORETTI CATHOLIC CHURCH

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November 25, 2009

Dear Parishioner,

In recent weeks you have been hearing about stewardship at **St. Maria Goretti Parish**. A theme of our educational efforts is addressing the question – What is stewardship and what does it mean in my life?

### **Stewardship is a way of living!**

Stewardship begins with a sense of who we are as Christians – as disciples of our Lord, Jesus. It is the acknowledgement of God as the Creator and Owner of all, and the recognition of our need to serve as caretakers (stewards) of all of God's gifts. Our gratitude for these many gifts can be expressed through our prayer, worship, offerings and action. Christian stewardship is actively returning to God a portion of the many gifts – our time in prayer, our talent and our treasure – that we have been given.

As God's faithful servants, we are called to **Stewardship** as *a way of living* by:

- Prayerfully discerning how God has uniquely gifted each one of us
- Reflecting on what priority God and His Church play in our lives
- Deciding how we plan to share these gifts with God and His Church
- Making an intentional, planned and proportionate gift in the areas of time in prayer, talent and treasure.

Accompanying this letter, you will find a Reflection Guide and Stewardship Commitment Form. Please take some time to read the enclosed and reflect on the gifts God has provided you and determine how you plan to share these gifts to serve others through our parish. Your gifts will make it possible to continue and expand the spiritual, sacramental, social and outreach ministries at our parish.

I ask you to join your fellow parishioners by returning your completed commitment form at Mass on Stewardship Commitment Weekend, November 22, 2009, or earlier, or by mail.

Thank you for your gift of yourself. You are the Church and together we will build up God's kingdom on earth and answer His call to **Stewardship** as *a way of living*. May God bless you for sharing your gifts in service to His Church.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Fr. Soane Kaniseli  
(Pastor)