

# Stewardship

## Time | Talent | Treasure



Each new year comes with an opportunity to review the previous year and to look for ways to do things a little better in the coming one. With our Stewardship of Time, we specifically focus on improvements to our prayer life and time spent growing in faith. How might your prayer life grow this year? Do you need to simply spend more time with God? Do you need to spend less time doing some things to make more time available for prayer? Maybe one or more of these suggestions will help.

### Reflect on your own

- ☐ Spend at least a little time with God every day – put an appointment in your calendar!
- ☐ Learn about a saint, and once you find one that you connect with, ask them to intercede on your behalf, or for another person/event
- ☐ Use or learn the ancient practice of *lectio divina*. Try it with the daily Mass readings available at <https://bible.usccb.org/readings/calendar>, with accompanying video reflections
- ☐ When life is overwhelming and stressful (or any other time) rest in God using the techniques of Centering Prayer
- ☐ Come early for Saturday/Sunday Mass and read the readings before Mass begins; they are now available in the songbook
- ☐ Come to daily Mass once per week – Tuesday at 7:00pm; Wednesday, Thursday, Friday at 9:00am
- ☐ If Mass times do not fit with your schedule, stop by a church to pray on your own – St. Michael is open from 7:30am – 3:30pm Monday – Friday

### Reflect with family or friends

*Consider gathering with your immediate or extended family, and/or inviting friends to join in faith-based discussions. They can be in-person, by phone, or through Zoom.*

- ☐ Reflect on and discuss the day's homily or another online reflection
- ☐ Share answers to short discussion questions, such as "How did you see God working in your life this week?" and "How did you see God working in someone else's life this week?"
- ☐ Watch a religious show or movie and discuss it. (If you need a suggestion, try the series *The Chosen*, which is available for free online and through *The Chosen* app.)
- ☐ Pray the Rosary or Chaplet of Divine Mercy together. Share one image or idea that came out of your reflection.
- ☐ Watch (or rewatch) the recordings from our Parish Mission ([www.stmichaelgl.org/video](http://www.stmichaelgl.org/video)) and discuss what caught your attention.
- ☐ Ask people around you what you can pray for them for in the coming week.



**ST. MICHAEL**  
Catholic Church



## Epiphany 2023

### **Take advantage of Catholic apps/online material to support your prayer life**

- *Hallow* has numerous free features including daily audio versions of the rosary, Gospel readings, reflections, lessons from the saints; Christian music; and Bible stories
- *Hallow Kids* has content created for younger family members (there may be a cost)
- *Laudate* includes daily readings and reflections, the saint of the day, and links to a wide range of additional Catholic information and content
- The *Amen App* has readings, reflections, music, inspirational quotes, and more
- *Word on Fire* website shares Bishop Robert Barron's homilies, recitations of the Rosary, podcasts, and more
- The *Bible in a Year* Podcast with Fr. Mike Schmitz provides daily reflections on Scripture, which you can complete at your own pace

### **Plan to go on retreat or participate in a religious gathering this year**

- The St. Francis Retreat Center in DeWitt offers men's and women's retreats, individual retreats, and married couples' weekends (visit [stfrancis.ws](http://stfrancis.ws) for more information)
- FaithFest, with live music and inspiring speakers, is typically in June, also at the St. Francis Retreat Center, DeWitt
- The Michigan Catholic Women's Conference will be October 21, 2023 – watch for more information this summer.

### **Plan ahead for Lent**

- Reflect on Jesus' journey to the cross by participating in Stations of the Cross, Friday evenings in Lent.
- Break open the celebration of the Eucharist through reflection and discussion, Wednesday evenings in Lent.

### *Stewardship of Time Prayer*

To you Lord, we come with praise and thanksgiving.

You have given us everything we need, every gift we have.

Help us to realize our most important gift, Lord, the time we spend with you.

Help us to hear you in the Scriptures and meet you in the Eucharist,

see you in the faces of those in our community,

to love you in the people we love and the people we struggle with,

and to know your love for us in our time with you in prayer.

Create within us a desire to give back to you in prayer and worship

the first portion of all the time you have given to us.

We pray in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.