



BISMARCK DIOCESE 520 N. Washington St. P.O. Box 1137 BISMARCK, ND 58502-1137

SUNDAY BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS THAT CONTAIN STEWARDSHIP MESSAGES

July 6, 2025

(14th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

- "The harvest is rich," Jesus tells the seventy-two in today's Gospel, "but the workers are few." The situation is the same today. How can *I* help with God's harvest? Am *I* one who could provide food or shelter or wages to those who toil in the fields of the Lord?
- <u>Stewardship Thought</u>: The heart grateful to God needs to find a way to express that gratitude. Some important ways to do that are through prayer, service, and giving of one's resources.
- Have you ever considered purchasing a paid-up life insurance policy naming (parish) as the beneficiary? It could provide a very substantial gift for a small investment on your part. Talk with your agent.

July 13, 2025 (15th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

- In today's Gospel, the good Samaritan was also a good steward, giving his time and his treasure to meet his neighbor's need. At the end of this familiar story, Jesus urges the people listening and us to go and do the same!
- <u>Stewardship Thought</u>: It is only the hand that is open to give that is open to receive. God cannot give us what we refuse to take and God cannot give to us when our hearts and hands cling too tightly to things on earth.
- Many families have willed their homes, vacation homes or other real estate to their parish. Some with the provision of living in those homes until death. Consult an attorney if this gift option would benefit you and your estate.

<u>July 20, 2025</u> (16th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

- Today's readings speak of hospitality. Abraham, who cheerfully did for his guests all that hospitality required, was rewarded with his heart's desire a son. Martha also busied herself with all the details of hospitality, but grudgingly and with complaint. Am I a cheerful or a grudging giver?
- <u>Stewardship Thought</u>: "For everything is from you, and we only give you what we already have received from you." (1 Chr. 29:14-16)
- Over 70% of all adults neglect to make out a Will; many do not keep it up to date. Think about getting yours done or reviewed. You will be doing your heirs a service. And consider helping (parish) through a bequest.

July 27, 2025 (17th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

- Jesus is describing God's immeasurable generosity when He says in today's Gospel, "Whoever asks, receives; whoever seeks, finds; whoever knocks, is admitted." But if should also be the description of us as Christian stewards – those seeking to follow Christ by using our gifts in service to others.
- <u>Stewardship Thought</u>: If we accept the challenge of putting God first in our time and treasure, our attitudes, priorities, and spiritual lives will definitely change.
- Memorial gifts in your Will can provide for a scholarship in your name or that of your family. The annual income earned on your gift will provide a Catholic education for some student almost perpetually.

<u>August 3, 2025</u> (18th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

- Seeing Jesus transfigured made Peter want to *do* something to mark the event. But the Voice from the cloud said clearly that the first task of those who recognize Jesus as Lord is to *listen* to Jesus and then act!
- <u>Stewardship Thought</u>: Have you given real thought lately to how good God has been to you? Do you give in proportion to what God has given you?
- Are you interested in investing in the future of religious education? A bequest in your Will could provide for an even better religious education program for our young people.