SEAS Fall 2019 SHARE Message GROW Guide
Week 1 (November 2/3) Be Responsive!

The Third Characteristic of Discipleship at SEAS is “SHARE”: Growing disciples are generous. Sharing our God-given gifts of time, talent, and treasure are at the heart of the Christian life.

Are you a good steward of what God has entrusted to you? Will you respond in faithfulness to what you have been given?

Prior to meeting as a group, attend Mass and read over Fr. Mark’s message for the corresponding week, found on the parish website: www.seasp.org.

Opening Prayer:
Read and reflect on this past Sunday’s Gospel Reading-
   - Luke 19:1-10 (Reading found on the back)
   - What word or phrase stuck out to you in this reading? Why?

As a group or prior to meeting as a group:
   ➢ Watch the Week 1 message series video on “SHARE” from the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Website: www.seasp.org

Group Discussion Questions-
As a group discuss the following from your weekly reading and reflection:

1. What from the message video and/or homily stood out to you this week and why?
2. Read and discuss the following quote together as a group: “Generosity is at the heart of the Christian life, just as it is at the heart of the Gospel. For it is often through our generosity that we are able to bring the love of God to life for others in very real and tangible ways. God is by his very nature generous.” (4 Signs of a Dynamic Catholic p. 111)
   - Would you consider yourself generous?
   - Who is the most generous person you know? Why?
3. The Catholic author, Matthew Kelly, in his book “The Four Signs of a Dynamic Catholic” has discovered through his research that only 7 percent of the members of any given parish in the U.S. are fully practicing prayer, learning, sharing and witnessing. Why do you think it is difficult for people to “engage more fully in the life of the parish”?
4. Zacchaeus became a generous person not because of a feeling of obligation or duty but rather because of his relationship with Jesus. Do you find that this is true of your life as well?
5. God has gifted each one of us. Are you willing to RESPOND to that giftedness by sharing your time, talent and treasure with our parish community?
   - What is something that you can do this week to respond in generosity? Share your thoughts with the group. Maybe get some ideas from other group members or those featured on the video.
Weekly GROW Challenge:

➢ Make a “Gratitude List” this week. How have you been blessed with time, talent and treasure in life? Thank God for the gifts that you have been given. How might God be calling you to respond based on these gifts?
➢ LEARN: Supplemental Reading throughout the message series: 4 Signs of a Dynamic Catholic pp. 109-140.

Closing Prayer: Read the following prayer together—Almighty God, my parish is composed of people like me. I help make it what it is. It will be friendly if I am. It will be holy if I am. Its pews will be filled if I help fill them. It will do great work if I work. It will be prayerful if I pray. It will make generous gifts to many causes if I am a generous giver. It will bring other people into worship if I invite and bring them. It will be a parish family of loyalty and love, of fearlessness and faith, of compassion, charity, and mercy if I who make it what it is-am filled with these same qualities. Therefore, with the help of God, I will dedicate myself to the task of being all the things that I want my parish to be. Bless my journey, Lord God, that I might build the Church through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.


At that time, Jesus came to Jericho and intended to pass through the town. Now a man there named Zacchaeus, who was a chief tax collector and also a wealthy man, was seeking to see who Jesus was; but he could not see him because of the crowd, for he was short in stature. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree in order to see Jesus, who was about to pass that way. When he reached the place, Jesus looked up and said, "Zacchaeus, come down quickly, for today I must stay at your house." And he came down quickly and received him with joy. When they all saw this, they began to grumble, saying, "He has gone to stay at the house of a sinner." But Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, "Behold, half of my possessions, Lord, I shall give to the poor, and if I have extorted anything from anyone I shall repay it four times over." And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house because this man too is a descendant of Abraham. For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save what was lost."