

Stewardship in Action at St. Bernard



EXERCISING STEWARDSHIP OF GOD'S GIFTS IN THE NEW YEAR

Stewardship of Prayer: Nothing is more important than cultivating a closer, deeper relationship with God. Make a new commitment to a time each day to listen to God's voice.

Stewardship of Family: How often in our busy lives does time with family get short shrift? Resolve to find a special time with each family member each week. Make sure that family meals are celebrated frequently. Plan a special family outing once or twice a month, and go to Mass together. Resolve that when your spouse and child speak, you will look at them and truly listen.

Stewardship of Health: Your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit. Without good health, we lack the energy to serve the Lord well. Resolve to make that doctor or dentist appointment. Make one healthy change in your eating habits. Add a few minutes of extra exercise to each day's routine.

Stewardship of Possessions: Want less. Live more simply. Do you own your possessions, or do they own you? Challenge yourself to sacrifice something you like but

that you know another person needs more than you.

Stewardship of the Parish Family: Offer your service to the liturgy or a ministry of your parish in the New Year. Enrich your parish and your parish experience by becoming involved.

Stewardship of Money: Take charge of your budget and your checkbook. Reprioritize your financial goals to ensure that the Lord is coming first in the expenditure of your wealth. Plan your spending and don't spend reactively or impulsively.

Stewardship of Work: Do your best at your chosen profession. Be honest and faithful. Resolve to find a class or other forum that will strengthen your knowledge and expertise. Bring a prayerful attitude to your job.

Stewardship of Mind: Resolve to read something regularly that enhances your faith life. Resolve to learn more about your faith and especially Catholic social teaching.

Stewardship of Neighbor: Be aware of those around you, whether it be your co-workers, fellow parishioners, neighbors, restaurant workers or store employees. Everyone needs a smile and Christian kindness.

Stewardship of the Poor: Resolve to interact with the poor in some specific way this year. Resolve to choose a time and place to minister to the poor in some way. Bring them into your prayer life as well.

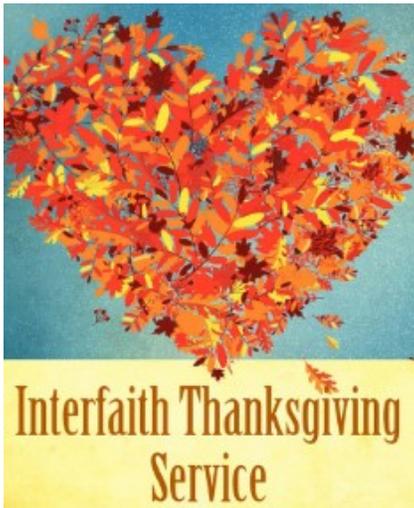


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ST. BERNARD HOSTS THANKSGIVING EVENT

Clergy, congregants, and the choirs of St. Bernard, Temple Beth El of Hillsborough, and the North Branch Reformed Church came together on Tuesday, November 26th to take part in the Interfaith Hospitality Network's annual Thanksgiving service. All three congregations are long-time members of the Interfaith Hospitality Network of Somerset County, a nonprofit organization that provides emergency housing and support services to homeless families in Somerset County.



St. Bernard hosted the event, which was open to the public and featured both a monetary collection to support the organization, as well as a collection of non-perishable food items.

THE STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL WELCOMES TESS CAMMACK

The St. Bernard Stewardship Council is happy to welcome our newest member, Tess Cammack. Tess and her husband Jon recently relocated to New Jersey, and Tess and Jon quickly answered the call to service at St. Bernard, choosing, she says, “to be *participants, not just attendees*” at the parish.

Growing up as part of a large family, Tess watched her parents set an example for Christian service and “seamlessly weave church and community into our lives.” She was a Eucharistic Minister, and participated in her high school youth group, while her siblings were altar servers and participated in the music group.

As an adult, Tess and her husband moved across the country several times while raising their 5 children and building their careers. During those busy times, there was little time for church volunteering, but she and her husband became active in the RCIA program at their last parish, an experience which they found to be “truly inspirational and meaningful, as were the relationships we developed with our parish priests.”

Tess is hoping to connect at St. Bernard in the same way: “I joined the Stewardship Council because I want to contribute to and experience St. Bernard’s more personally, and in a way I believe can bring me even closer to our faith community.”

Welcome Tess!

Interested in learning more about the Stewardship Council?

Please contact Mark Dransfield (dransfam@gmail.com) or by calling 908-526-6649

