

Stewardship & Administration Sub-Committee

FOCUS AREA ONE: STEWARDSHIP

Vision: Transforming stewardship into discipleship

Goal 1: Broaden the understanding of true stewardship.

Goal 2: Encourage people to share the ministry of stewardship.

TO RESPOND TO THIS VISION AND MEET THESE GOALS

It is recommended that Families/Individuals will:

1. Offer prayerful reflection and discuss the meanings of stewardship.
2. Become Christian stewards who receive God's gifts gratefully, cherish and tend them in a responsible and accountable manner, share them in justice and love with others, and return them with increase to the Lord.
3. Pray in gratitude for all that God has given.

It is recommended that the Parishes/Schools will:

1. Understand, embrace and teach all aspects of stewardship on a continuing basis.
2. Establish a Stewardship Committee/Commission separate from the Parish Finance Council.
3. Pray in gratitude for all that God has given.

It is recommended that the Regions/Vicariates will:

1. Embrace stewardship through Vicariate newsletter articles.
2. Coordinate parish bulletin articles on stewardship.
3. Encourage multi-parish stewardship events.
4. Pray in gratitude for all that God has given.

It is recommended that the Archdiocese will:

1. Provide materials which teach stewardship.
2. Focus on all aspects of stewardship: prayer, service, thankfulness and grateful giving.
3. Pray in gratitude for all that God has given.

It is recommended that the Archbishop will:

1. Provide a Pastoral letter to define true stewardship.
2. Promote "Stewardship - A Disciple's Response."

FOCUS AREA: FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Vision: Ensuring a financially healthy Archdiocese.

Goal 1: To ensure financially strong parishes through sound financial policies and transparency.

TO RESPOND TO THIS VISION AND MEET THIS GOAL

It is recommended that Families/Individuals will:

1. Prayerfully discern their financial commitment to the Church Universal, the Archdiocese, and their parish.

It is recommended that the Parishes/Schools will:

1. Communicate to parishioners at least annually the financial standing of the parish to create a climate of transparency.
2. Establish a Parish Finance Council in accordance with the Parish Finance Council Statutes.
3. Establish a realistic and fiscally responsible budget for the parish/school, and manage resources to that budget.

It is recommended that the Region/Vicariate will:

1. Create a climate of financial accountability and transparency among their parishes.

It is recommended that the Archdiocese will:

1. Work to establish a Finance Council in every parish.
2. Develop and distribute Parish Finance Council Statutes.
3. Continue to conduct regular audits of parishes/schools every four years.
4. Conduct financial reviews of parishes/schools as needed and prior to priest assignments.
5. Improve evaluation of parish/school budgets, to identify and report to the Archdiocese and pastor/principal where budget amounts are significantly different from trends, and require the parish/school to supply an explanation or revise the budget.

It is recommended that the Archbishop will:

1. Implement recommended policies and procedures for the Loan Deposit Program.
2. Communicate the financial standing of the Archdiocese annually to create a climate of transparency.

FOCUS AREA: COMMUNICATION

Vision: Provide transparent and effective information to the people of the Archdiocese.

Goal 1: To provide up-to-date transparent information to the people of the Archdiocese.

Goal 2: To make the Archdiocesan website more user friendly.

Goal 3: To better utilize electronic communications tools and procedures.

TO RESPOND TO THIS VISION AND MEET THESE GOALS

It is recommended that the Families/Individuals will:

1. Make a commitment to keep themselves current on parish and Archdiocesan information.
2. Avail themselves of the available communications tools for two-way information exchange.

It is recommended that the Parishes/Schools will:

1. Provide updated information to all parishioners by any means possible.
2. Create and regularly update a parish web site.
3. Fully utilize ParishSoft capabilities.

It is recommended that the Regions/Vicariates will:

1. Encourage parishes, schools and religious institutions to improve their electronic communications.
2. Encourage Vicariates to set up/improve their web sites with links to parish, school and religious institution web sites.

It is recommended that the Archdiocese will:

1. Create and maintain a calendar of events in the Archdiocese.
2. Provide regular updates of Archdiocesan operations and events.
3. Set up links to the Vatican and document resources on the Archdiocesan website.
4. Upgrade and improve web sites to current technology.
5. Create a "What's New" section on the Archdiocesan web site, post blurbs about what is currently happening in and around the Archdiocese, with links to more detailed information.

It is recommended that the Archbishop will:

1. Encourage parishes, schools and Archdiocesan Central Services offices to improve their electronic communication capabilities.
2. Promote transparent communications to strengthen trust in the Archdiocese.