

## Ministries and Groups

### in our Parish Life.

Welcome and Hospitality

Reading

Prayer Chain

Visiting

Men's Group

Women's Discussion & Spirituality group

Operation Cover Up

Mahjong Group

Coffee N Kids

Maintenance

Trade Aid

Stewardship Team

Worship Team

Music

Fireside Bridge Club

ALL SORTS

Preaching

Intercessions

And whatever other ministry or mission  
you feel called to.

## A Stewardship Prayer

Creator God, giver of life and source of freedom,  
we recognise that yours "is the earth and its fullness;  
the world and those who dwell in it". It is from your  
hands that we have received all we have...and  
are ....and will be.

Gracious and loving God, you call us to be the stew-  
ards of your abundance, the caretakers of all you  
have entrusted to us. Help us to use your gifts wisely  
and to share them generously.

May our stewardship be a genuine reflection of our  
discipleship, a tangible sign of our commitment to  
Christ.

We pray with grateful hearts, in Jesus' name.

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THE ANGLICAN PARISH  
OF CLEVEDON

*"A Christ-centered community of extravagant welcome and  
radical hospitality"*

# STEWARDSHIP

## Spirituality for Life



**The voice of the Spirit  
speaking of gratitude**

"Each one of you has received a special grace,  
so, like good stewards responsible for all these  
varied graces of God, put it at the service  
of others." (1 Peter 4:10)

# Stewardship—it isn't all about the money

## What is stewardship?

Stewardship is a spirituality – a way of life – which calls for our response by:

- Receiving the gifts of God with gratitude
- Cultivating them responsibly
- Sharing them lovingly with others
- Standing before God in a spirit of accountability

## The Gifts of God

Think of God's gifts in broader terms, beyond simply the material goods or security we may enjoy. Consider the preciousness of the following gifts:

- Our faith, hope and love
- Our family and relationships
- Our intelligence and skills
- Our imagination and vision
- Our world in all its beauty



## PERSONAL REFLECTION:

**What talents and abilities has God given me?**

**Do I use them in service for others?**

**How can I become a more effective steward?**

## Jesus is our Model Steward

Through our baptism we are called to follow in the way of Jesus, who not only taught about being good stewards of God's gifts (cf Mt 25:14-30, Lk 12:42-48) but who demonstrated this attitude through his commitment to the will of his heavenly Father. "My food is to do the will of the one who sent me and to finish his work." (Jn 4:34)

The more we can reflect on the life of Jesus, as the ultimate steward, the greater our capacity to follow his example of living life gratefully, generously and responsibly.

## What will Stewardship Ask of Us?

Stewardship calls us to embrace a radical vision for what it means to be a disciple of Jesus everyday, not just on Sundays, but in every area of our life - to see and experience life as gift from God.

Stewardship challenges us to act differently in how we use these gifts (time, talent and treasure) to benefit others and to serve the Kingdom. This vision speaks into every aspect of our lives, inviting us to be thankful, generous and accountable for what we have been given.

## Stewardship and a Vision for Living

It is a spirituality that encourages us to

- Be radically committed to Jesus and his teachings
- Participate more actively in our parish community
- Live out our baptismal mission in the world

Stewardship is about putting the Gospel into action – a spirituality for life that is both radical and life-giving.

## What are the Benefits of Stewardship?

It is an incredible challenge to be a disciple of Jesus in today's world. We all face obstacles, opportunities and challenges in our fast-paced environment that promotes selfishness and greed as the path to success and happiness.

Having a clear vision and sense of purpose informed by the Gospel, opens the way for us to actively commit to a life of gratitude and responsibility, to thank God for endless gifts and play our part in creating a better world. Being a Christian Steward helps us to:

- Nurture our talents for the benefit of others
- Let go of our worries about chasing after more and more of the world's goods
- Experience the power of God's presence in our lives
- Cultivate a generosity of spirit and an attentiveness to the needs of others

## Some Practical Ways to Live Stewardship

- Read the Scriptures and pray daily
- Participate fully in the life of the Parish
- Review your budget to ensure that your allocation of spending reflects your values
- Give thanks each day for God's provision
- Take active steps to care for the earth

## What is the parish asking of you?

To pray for the stewardship of the parish;

To share your time and talent in the ministries and mission of the Parish;

To be committed to the life of the parish by regularly praying for it and its members, by regularly worshipping with our faith community and by living out a mutuality of care within and beyond the parish,

To commit to regular giving.

We don't want to know the amount—that's between you and God but we do ask you to be intentional and faithful in your giving. (Please consider going on the envelope system or by AP)

