

*Let Me Be
Your Servant*



Sacred Heart of Jesus
Catholic Church

2017 RENEWAL BROCHURE





Let Me Be Your Servant

Our goal at Sacred Heart is to be a welcoming community that extends a friendly invitation to each member to become active in building the Body of Christ. In our parish, “Let Me Be Your Servant” is an appropriate theme as we strive to live as Jesus taught us.

Just as Jesus welcomes every person with open arms, we welcome the presence and involvement of all our members – whether they are longtime parishioners, new families, or just recently returning to the Church. Just like the father in the story of the Prodigal Son, God welcomes each and every one of us to come home. As a community of faith, we strive to show Christ’s love and kindness to those we encounter. This year, during our annual Stewardship Renewal, will you prayerfully discern how God is calling you to be His servant in welcoming others?

Stewardship of Time

While many of us understand that prayer is an important element of the Christian life, most of us admit that it's difficult to find a quiet moment to spend with God.

As Christians, we must remember that we cannot give what we do not have. In order for us to welcome others into the life of the Church, we need to make sure that our spiritual lives are properly in order. To become a more prayerful person, take inventory of how you spend the 168 hours in the week. Are you taking time to talk to God in prayer, to speak with Him as you would a friend? Are you seeking His truth through reading the scriptures? Will you make Him first on your priority list so that you are able to give to others from the graces He has given you?

Maintaining A Healthy Prayer Life:

- Pope Francis encourages all Catholics to spend time in daily prayer, thanking God for His blessings, asking for His help in difficult circumstances and reading scripture.
- Receive spiritual nourishment in the Eucharist at least every Sunday.
- Receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation on a regular basis, and ask God for the grace to live a life of holiness.

“For Catholics, stewardship of time should include setting aside periods for family prayer, for the reading of Scripture, for visits to the Blessed Sacrament, and for attendance at Mass during the week whenever this is possible.”
From the U.S. Bishops’ Pastoral Letter on Stewardship

Helpful Prayer Resources

- Catholic phone or tablet apps: Laudate, iBreviary, Magnificat, Divine Office or The Pope App (news and homilies from Pope Francis)
- Websites: usccb.org/bible/readings (daily readings of the Catholic Church), Vatican.va (The Vatican and Holy See)



Stewardship of Talent

“As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God’s varied grace” (1 Peter 4:10). Each of us has received gifts from God that we are to use in humble service. While many of us may not recognize the skills or abilities we have as gifts, they are a means by which we can give glory to God through serving each other. At Sacred Heart, our ministries provide opportunities for us to serve God and others. From a warm smile to giving someone a warm meal, we are able to welcome others into the family of God by being Christ to them. Reaching out in love, while sometimes difficult, can be quite spiritually enriching! Will you take the time to ask God how you can best serve Him through the service of His children?

Ways to Welcome and Serve Others:

- Pray about how your gifts can best be used to help others feel welcome.
- Sign up for a parish ministry that stretches you to put others’ needs before your own.
- Greet our fellow parishioners before or after Mass, introducing yourself to unfamiliar faces.

“There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit; there are different forms of service, but the same Lord... To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit.” — 1 Corinthians 12:4-7

Stewardship of Treasure

Throughout Scripture, we are taught to give to God our “first fruits” or the “choicest portion.” In modern speech, we might say that the first “line item” in the family budget should be returning a portion of our income to God. Both symbolically and in actuality, this is a powerful expression of God’s place in your life. “Where your treasure is, there also lies your heart” (Matthew 6:21). Will you take some time to reassess how you prioritize God in your finances?

Reasons to Tithe:

Why give a percentage of income?

We give our tithe (which means 10% of one’s harvest or income) because it is a Scriptural benchmark that has been honored since the early Church (see Malachi 3:10).

Working Toward Giving the Tithe

5% to Sacred Heart

1% to the Archdiocese

4% to charities of your choice

If you have difficulty reaching your goal of the tithe, try increasing your giving incrementally, by one or two percent of income each year. Over time, you will find that the tithe is a reasonable goal that can be reached. Most importantly, you will know that you have been faithful in placing God first in everything, even in your finances.

“He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your resources and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for great generosity, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God.”

2nd Corinthians 9:10-11

Guide for Giving 5%:

| Annual income | 5% Weekly Gift |
|---------------|----------------|
| \$10,000 | \$10 |
| 20,000 | 20 |
| 30,000 | 29 |
| 50,000 | 48 |
| 75,000 | 72 |
| 100,000 | 96 |
| 125,000 | 120 |
| 150,000 | 144 |
| 200,000 | 192 |

Sacred Heart Stewardship Prayer



Almighty God, you who have created all things by your love, we acknowledge your presence with us and with our community.

In the fullness of your plan for humanity, you sent your Son, who gave his life for us. It was through this sacrifice that he revealed the resurrection, and offered eternal life to all who believe in him.

As we the people of Sacred Heart, move toward the future, may our own sacrifices of time, talent and treasure be united to the sacrifice of your Son. May all our efforts be directed to praising your name.

Give us the Spirit of wisdom, generosity and perseverance as we strive to do your will. Spirit of God be with us, always at work in us.

Time Stewardship of Time

True stewardship begins with prayer. It is here we come to know the Lord. How will you spend time in prayer this year? Please check the boxes below to make prayer commitments.

- Attend Mass every Sunday and on Holy Days
- Create a personal plan for regular prayer
- Spend time each week in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
- Spend 15 minutes a day in personal prayer
- Invite a friend or acquaintance to Mass
- Pray together with my spouse
- Pray together with my family
- Discuss the Catholic Faith with my children
- Read the Bible for one hour a week
- Pray the rosary at least once a week
- Go to confession at least every other month
- Schedule time for a spiritual retreat
- Commemorate myself to the Blessed Mother

The gift of my time, talent and treasure is the right aim:

- When I can no longer make any more for the sake of the gift (time or talent).
- When I can honestly state that the gift is essential to I offer it in thanksgiving to God.
- When I can honestly state that on the giving of the gift I will bring honor to God and to His will.

Talent Using My Talents in Parish Ministries

Currently listed in interested in having these skills utilized. depending upon whether you are currently involved or interested in joining a ministry. Please clearly state the first name of ministered family member on the line.

For example:
Eucharistic Minister: John

Ministry of Hospitality: Grace
New Parishioner: John
Welcome Committee: John
Social Committee: John
Others: _____

Ministry of Prayer: John
Aide Sacristan: John
Aide & Environmental: John
Children's Liturgy Church (3-7 yrs. old): John
Adult Education: John
Children's Liturgy of the Word (8 yrs. old -): John
Adult Education: John
Eucharistic Adoration: John

Treasure My 2017 Annual Financial Tithe to Sacred Heart:

Total Giving Goal: _____

Beginning: _____
End: _____

How to Give: by check by debit by credit by cash

Authorization Agreement for Automatic Withdrawal: I am hereby authorizing Sacred Heart to debit my checking or savings account for my annual tithe to Sacred Heart of the bank named below.

2017 Commitment Card
My Offering of Time, Talent or Treasure

Name: _____
Family Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____
E-mail: _____

After completion, please bring this card to Mass on February 4th, or mail using the envelope provided.

Participate Online

All of the commitments listed on the paper Commitment Card are also available online. If you prefer this method of participation, simply visit: www.shoj.org. Located on the webpage are instructions for completing your online Commitment Card.

You may also complete the online Commitment Card via your smartphone.

To do so, scan the QR Code below.



Please keep until Winter 2018

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