



Stewardship 2007

Imagine If We All Contributed

As I looked to for someone to witness to the Parish on stewardship (a search which Garrett Conaty warmly embraced) I called Deena Lorraine. Deena is passionate about her parish, as you will soon read, but declined the opportunity to speak at mass. However, she presented her thoughts in writing, and they are offered below for your prayerful consideration. - John Russell, Administrator

Deena Lorraine on Stewardship and Ministry at Holy Rosary

In the fall of 1998 soon after my youngest child was born, I began my journey as a candidate inquiring about the Church through the RCIA program. I was warmly welcomed and immediately felt at home in this Parish. Throughout the inquiry period and the Rites, and while receiving Reconciliation, Eucharist and Confirmation during the culmination at Easter Vigil, I felt the blessings of our community.

Our RCIA group continued meeting through that summer for Bible study. As my faith was developing, I looked forward to continuing my spiritual journey. Many special people were instrumental in this process including Anne Hendricks, Larry LaPorte, Madeline Ancelard, John and Terri Peters and, of course, Father Haydock. I came back year after year and eventually they encouraged me to join the RCIA team. I began as a sponsor, then developed the courage to lead dismissal.



Eventually I gave a talk to our class about Ministries, one of my very favorite subjects. Much like discerning your giving, you are lead to ministry opportunities by prayerful consideration, reflecting on how your own unique interests and talents can benefit others.

Like Anne, Larry, Madeline, John and Terri, many people called to stewardship made occasions at Holy Rosary memorable and special. Whether on an auction committee, assisting in the school computer lab, taking photographs for marriage celebrations, monitoring the playground, or teaching in the RCIA program, I have been truly inspired in this wonderful parish.



I have learned over the years that people gain inspiration in many ways. It could be through prayer, family, friends, co-workers or situations. How often are people complimented on their genuine interest or a developed skill? How could that transfer to stewardship? Have you ever encouraged someone in your own family, friends, or even in your own pew to share their gifts?

Our parish is abundant with altruistic, considerate, talented and kind people willing to share their many gifts. Imagine if we all contributed!

Thank you,

Deena Lorraine