## **Stewardship Messages August 2021**

July 31/Aug. 1, 2021

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Each day the people are to go out and gather their daily portion.

Thus, I will test them, to see whether or not they follow my instructions." -- Exodus 16:4

When the Israelites gathered more of the manna that God provided for them, the excess got rotten and unable to be used. In our own lives, do we use our God-given gifts as He intends, or do we hoard our riches? Using our gifts from God correctly means that we examine what we need, compared to what we want.

Aug. 7/8, 2021

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"... 'Get up and eat or the journey will be too much for you!' " 1 Kings 19:7

Living the way that God wants us to do is not always easy. God knows that. He knows that we need nourishment and strength for our journey. So, God gave us the ultimate food – the Bread of Life, Jesus. We are fed by the Eucharist to help lead lives of discipleship and as good stewards of God's many gifts to us.

August 14/15, 2021

**Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary** 

"And Mary said, "My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my savior." Luke 1:46

Mary's response and obedience to God is incredible. She lived her entire live in response to God's call to her. Of course, her life was blessed, but she also suffered greatly for her faith. We can only imagine how much pain and grief she felt as she witnessed her Son rejected, ridiculed and crucified. We can turn to Mary when we need encouragement on living a life as a good disciple and steward.

August 21/22, 2021

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

"If it does not please you to serve the Lord, decide today whom you will serve ...

As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord." Joshua 24:15

Serving the Lord requires action, not just words. Giving of our gifts of money, talent and time to our local parish and world Church and community are important in living a life of stewardship and sharing the love of Christ. When we combine these things with a life of prayer, we are truly serving God.

August 28/29, 2021

22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Be doers of the word and not hearers only..." James 1:22

It is not always easy to live as good stewards of the gifts given to us by God. Of course, we need to spend time in prayer and participate in the Eucharist, but we also need to share our gifts of time, talent and finances with those who need support. This is what we are called to do as Christ's disciples.