Stewardship Messages January 2023

January 1, 2023

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

"And Mary kept all of these things, reflecting on them in her heart." – Luke 2:19

Mary is the premium example of hearing and following the Lord's call. Certainly, she was confused, scared and maybe even amazed. She was a young girl called to do something and live a life that no one had ever been asked to do before. Ask Mary to help you to recognize, understand and live out your call.

January 8, 2023

Epiphany of the Lord

"Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh." – *Matthew 2:11*

Although the gifts that we offer to Jesus are not precious metal or fragrant or healing materials like the Magi presented, we are all called to give whatever we can. We are called to generously share our gifts. In the sharing, our gifts are precious.

January 15, 2023

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

"For now the Lord has spoken who formed me as his servant from the womb ..." – Isaiah 49:5

Each of us have different gifts. They are gifts from God. We are called to return those gifts to God through our service to others. No one's journey is the same. Gratefully embrace your gifts and return them to God by using them as He intended.

January 22, 2023

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

"He called them and they immediately left their boat and their faither and followed Him." Matthew 4:21-22

The first apostles left everything behind – their families and their livelihood. All of us are not called to make such a dramatic change as did Peter, Andrew, James and John, but we are called to put God first in all things in our lives. For each of us that means something different, but through prayer and sharing our gifts we come to realize how to put God first.

January 29. 2023

Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." – Matthew 5:3

Some of the Beatitudes can be difficult to understand by our modern language meanings. The phrase "poor in spirit" speaks of a spiritual condition of poverty. It describes a person who recognizes his or her need for God. Those who do rely on God realize that God is at the center of all things are one in the kingdom of God.