

A Pastors Call to Love

Father,

As a person of faith and leader of your parish, your personal example of stewardship to your parishioners is the most crucial element in their response to living as Christian stewards.

The Church on the South Plains of West Texas certainly needs the financial help of all Catholics. But more importantly, all Catholics are called by their baptism to share their time, talents, and financial gifts with their parishes and with the larger Church of which they are members. The need to give in thanksgiving to God for all the blessings and gifts in our lives is far greater than any programs or ministries from which we benefit.

Responsibilities of a Pastor:

- Please discern who will be your parish DCA Coordinator, DCA Committee Members and Lay Witnesses. These important roles will set the groundwork for a Stewardship Parish.
- Share the My Catholic Giving Guide found on page 41. This will help parishioners calculate where the biblically based 10% tithe goes. Some say only when you give over 10% are you truly being charitable.
- At the Masses on Appeal Weekend be a **Witness of God's Love** by making a public commitment in support of the Diocesan Catholic Appeal.
- Please **ask for 100 percent participation**. Ask every household to consider a gift to the Diocesan Catholic Appeal. Remember, equal sacrifice does not equate to equal giving.
- Also, remember the Four Pillars of Stewardship: Hospitality, Service, Prayer and Formation. With these four foundation pillars your parish will thrive.

*“When we show enthusiasm for the DCA, our parishioners notice.
They begin to question how they can play a bigger role in the Church.
When we don't show enthusiasm for the DCA, our parishioners notice.
They fail to see the larger picture.
We must call our parishioners to share what they have,
because if we don't, they may be missing out
on an opportunity to show their love.”*

–Rev. Msgr. David Cruz
2018-2019 DCA Campaign Chair

Reflection

As leader of your parish family, you play an essential part in communicating to your parishioners the importance of their involvement with the larger Church. Prayerfully reflect on your obedience to your bishop and on the reasons you support the work of the Diocese of Lubbock. Recall your own testimony of living stewardship as a holy way of life.