



# Roman Catholic Diocese of Lubbock

**Bishop of Lubbock**  
Most Rev. Robert M.  
Coerver

Office of Stewardship & Development

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## MEMORANDUM

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**To:** All Priests, Deacons, Religious, Parishes, Schools, Ministries, Catechists, Vocations, Development and Stewardship Committee Members (please forward)

**From:** Renée Underwood, Director

**Date:** April 19, 2017

**CC:** Rachel Martinez

**Re:** May Stewardship Reflections & General Intercessions  
Second Tuesday Webinar Information

Dear Friends,

This marks my final time to prepare for you and to send you information to help you evangelize the message of stewardship as a way of life in your preaching and teaching. I have accepted a position that allows me to continue my meaningful work in the church and live closer to my three grandchildren. On May 8 I begin serving as Associate Director of the Advancement Foundation Serving the Diocese of Fort Worth. My last day here is May 3. This was a bittersweet decision not only because of the many friends and deep roots I have here in Lubbock but also because I am so excited about the boundless opportunities here in the Diocese of Lubbock under the leadership of our new bishop. I will continue to keep you and your parish families in my prayers and I ask that you do the same for me.

Yours in Christ,

Following are the Stewardship Reflections for May 2017 to use as homily helps, teaching aids, bulletin announcements, websites, social media and other needs. Please forward this resource to your staff, clergy, PCLs, youth leaders, website/social media coordinators, catechists and, *especially*, your Parish Stewardship Chair. ***Note the general intercessions tied to the readings for each week.***

The May edition of the ICSC Catholic Stewardship e-Bulletin is now available at [www.catholicstewardship.com](http://www.catholicstewardship.com). Diocese of Lubbock stewardship education resources are always available at [www.catholicstewardshiplubbock.org](http://www.catholicstewardshiplubbock.org) or by contacting Rachel Martinez in the Office of Stewardship and Development.

We invite you to **register now** for this month's FREE second Tuesday stewardship webinar:



**1 p.m. Tuesday, May 9**

## ***Building Bridges to the Heart of the Community***

**Leisa Anslinger**

**Co-Director at Catholic Life and Faith, Loveland, OH**

Do you hope to form your parishioners as disciples and good stewards? Are you ready to build a parish community in which people grow as members of Christ's body, from which they are sent as missionary disciples? Building Bridges to the Heart of the Community will explore ways to engage your people to be committed disciples of Jesus Christ and to live as good and faithful stewards through an annual period of stewardship renewal and commitment or parish covenant process.

**Register now at <http://bit.ly/2htZbMU>**

This webinar is complimentary to all Lubbock parishes and ministries thanks to the Office of Stewardship and Development.

### **A STEWARDSHIP MOMENT**

*A thought or two on stewardship in the Sunday readings*

#### **Fourth Sunday of Easter Weekend of May 6/7, 2017**

Saint Peter plays a prominent leadership role in the first two readings, urging his listeners to be baptized and accept the gift of the Holy Spirit; and encouraging them to follow in the footsteps of Christ. We have just renewed our baptismal promises at Easter and the Holy Spirit dwells in us in a special way. Are we good stewards of those baptismal vows? Have we renewed our commitment to follow in Jesus' footsteps? Have we opened our hearts to discern the will of God in our lives? Take some time to reflect on the importance of our baptismal renewal and our lives as disciples of the Lord.

#### **Fifth Sunday of Easter Weekend of May 13/14, 2017**

In the reading from the Acts of the Apostles we see how the first community of Christians gathered together to discern and resolve how to care for each others' needs. As good stewards of the sisters and brothers who gathered around the Eucharistic table, the community of faith selected those among them who were to ensure that no one was neglected. How do we resolve to serve the needs of our parish family? How do we ensure that those who might be perceived to be the least of our brothers and sisters are not left alone and neglected?

#### **Sixth Sunday of Easter Weekend of May 20/21, 2017**

Philip understood very well Jesus' words: "If you love me, you will keep my commandments." We learn of Philip's devotion to prayer, evangelizing and healing in the region of Samaria; made up of communities that would not be very receptive to the followers of Jesus. Philip is a model steward, living his discipleship day by day in the Lord without being obstructed by feelings of what cost his actions might entail. Good stewards

summon the courage to proclaim the Lord and to serve Him by ministering to others. As an Easter people, eager to rejoice in the Lord, it is important to reflect on how we are living out our own commitment to discipleship.

### **Solemnity of the Lord's Ascension Weekend of May 27/28, 2017**

In today's Gospel, Jesus charges his followers to "make disciples of all nations." What exactly is going on here? What is this Great Commission anyway? Good stewards know they are directed to share what they exercise stewardship over: their life of faith in Christ Jesus. They know Jesus didn't direct them to go to church and to keep quiet about it; or to go out into the neighborhood, workplace or marketplace and just be nice. Christ's Good News is meant to be shared. Many people in our communities don't know about Jesus Christ. Does that bother us? Do we care? Do we realize we are supposed to do something about it?

### **General Intercessions for April (English)**

#### **May 6/7, 2017 – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

That we live our lives being grateful for the gift of life and joyfully sharing our abundance with others, we pray to the Lord.

#### **May 13/14, 2017 – 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

That we continue to strive to achieve the faith that will allow us to perform the works that Jesus calls us to do, we pray to the Lord.

#### **May 20/21, 2017 – 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

That we can show our love for God by obeying the commandments, we pray to the Lord.

#### **May 27/28, 2017 – Feast of the Ascension**

That are able to use our gifts of time, talent and treasure to glorify God, we pray to the Lord.

## **UN MOMENTO DE CORRESPONSABILIDAD**

*Algunos pensamientos sobre corresponsabilidad en las lecturas del domingo*

### **Cuarto Domingo de Pascua Fin de Semana del 6/7 de Mayo de 2017**

San Pedro juega un prominente rol de liderazgo en las dos primeras lecturas, impulsando a quienes le escuchan a ser bautizados y a aceptar el don del Espíritu Santo; y motivándoles a seguir los pasos de Cristo. Nosotros acabamos de renovar nuestras promesas bautismales en la Pascua y el Espíritu Santo habita en nosotros en una manera especial. ¿Somos nosotros buenos corresponsables de esos votos bautismales? ¿Hemos renovado nuestro compromiso de seguir los pasos de Jesús? ¿Hemos abierto nuestros corazones para discernir la voluntad de Dios en nuestras vidas? Tomemos un tiempo para reflexionar sobre la importancia de nuestra renovación bautismal y nuestras vidas como discípulos del Señor.

### **Quinto Domingo de Pascua Fin de Semana del 13/14 de Mayo de 2017**

En la lectura de los Hechos de los Apóstoles nosotros vemos como se reunió la primera comunidad de cristianos para discernir y resolver juntos cómo cuidar unos de otros de sus necesidades. Como buenos corresponsables de las hermanas y hermanos que se reunieron alrededor de la mesa Eucarística, la comunidad de fe seleccionó de entre ellos a aquellos que se asegurarían de que nadie fuese olvidado. ¿Cómo decidimos nosotros el servir las necesidades de nuestra familia parroquial? ¿Cómo nos aseguramos de que aquellos que tal vez sean percibidos como los menores de nuestro hermanos y hermanas no sean abandonados y olvidados?

### **Sexto Domingo de Pascua Fin de Semana del 21/22 de Mayo de 2017**

Felipe entendió muy bien las palabras de Jesús: “Si tú me amas, guardarás mis mandamientos.” Nosotros aprendemos de la devoción de Felipe para orar, evangelizar y sanar en la región de Samaria; formada por comunidades que no serían muy receptivas a los seguidores de Jesús. Felipe es un corresponsable modelo, viviendo su discipulado día a día en el Señor sin ser obstruido por sentimientos sobre el costo que podría implicar sus acciones. Los buenos corresponsables reúnen el valor para proclamar al Señor y servirle a través del ministerio hacia otros. Como gente de la Pascua, ansiosa de regocijarse en el Señor, es importante reflexionar sobre cómo estamos nosotros viviendo nuestro compromiso al discipulado.

### **Si la Solemnidad de la Ascensión del Señor Fin de Semana del 27/28 de Mayo de 2017**

En la segunda lectura de hoy, nosotros escuchamos la proclamación de que somos bendecidos si compartimos los sufrimientos de Cristo. ¿Qué significa entonces “compartir Sus sufrimientos” en este contexto? La mayoría de nosotros no vivimos en un lugar del mundo en el que pudiéramos ser asesinados por ser seguidores de Jesús. Pero podríamos enfrentar o “sufrir” burlas, ridiculización y desaprobación de parte de otros. Con demasiada frecuencia, y por varias razones, quienes profesan la fe en Cristo actúan como si se avergonzaran de Él. Aunque actuar avergonzados, es lo mismo que una negación. Los corresponsables de las Buenas Nuevas nunca están avergonzados de revelar su amor por el Señor. ¿Cómo revela usted a otros cada día que es un seguidor de Cristo?

## **Intercesiones Generales para Mayo (español)**

### **de mayo 7 2017 – 4 Domingo de Resurrección**

Que vivimos nuestras vidas agradecidos por el don de la vida y alegremente compartiendo nuestra abundancia con otros, roguemos al Señor.

**de mayo 14 2017 – 5 Domingo de Resurrección**

Que sigamos esforzándonos por alcanzar la fe para realizar las obras que Jesús nos llama a hacer, roguemos al Señor.

**de mayo 21 2017 – 6 Domingo de Resurrección**

Para que podamos mostrar nuestro amor a Dios obedeciendo los mandamientos, roguemos al Señor.

**de mayo 28 2017 – Si la Solemnidad de la Ascensión del Señor**

Para que podamos usar nuestros dones de tiempo, talento y tesoro para glorificar a Dios, roguemos al Señor.