

Lent 2009

Do You Desire To Know Jesus Better?



Then Join Fellow Parishioners
On Saturday, March 28

Parish-wide Lenten Retreat

9:00—11:00 am
Church Sanctuary

Journey with us as we examine our *Parish Mission Statement*

alongside our **DESIRE** to *serve Christ* in our lives

Pax Christi is A Eucharistic Community United to continue
the mission and message of Jesus.

We invite and welcome all people to learn and grow with us in Living
the Good News through: *Stewardship* of God's Gifts

LOVE Manifested in Service **Peace** Achieved through Justice



We Make A Difference!

By baptism, and through the Gospel, we are all called to share our gifts, not because of the needs of the parish, but, rather, the need we each have to share what we have been given. Ours is the far greater need. Our stewardship way of life manifests a conversion from “giving to a need,” to “our need to give.”

During our **2009 Gifted for Shared Ministry** renewal, 200 parish households responded to the invitation to share their gifts through our 100 ministries. This represents a total of 345 individuals since, in most of our households more than one person participated in sharing their talents. Since most volunteered for several ministries, we recorded 841 as continuing and 261 as new. New, includes both new parishioners, and those parishioners taking on additional ministries.

In addition, we received 300 **Joyful Giving Intention Cards** indicating a 20% increase in total giving over last year. This represents significant steps towards tithing by our parish households.

*A Christian Steward
receives God's gifts gratefully,
cherishes and tends them in a
responsible and accountable manner,
shares them in justice and love with others,
and returns them with increase to the Lord.*

This definition comes from the US bishop's pastoral letter, “Stewardship, A Disciple's Response.” At Pax Christi, we recognize that all and everything is gift from our loving and generous God. Through our stewardship we share of our **time, talent and treasure**, and as a result, ***we make a difference.***

During a stewardship retreat in 1993, a group of five parish stewardship committees developed the following vision statement against which they could measure their progress of stewardship conversion.

*A Total-Stewardship Parish is ALIVE!
It is a prayerful, welcoming, Eucharist-centered
community with a common vision:
God Is the Source of All.
Its members are committed to furthering the word
and work of Christ by caring for each other
and all of God's creation.
In gratitude, they joyfully give back a portion
of their God-given gifts of Time,
Talent and Treasure.*

Doesn't this vision statement describe our Pax Christi journey towards being a total stewardship parish? How close are we to achieving the ideal described in this vision statement? We can truthfully say;

“We're on our way!”