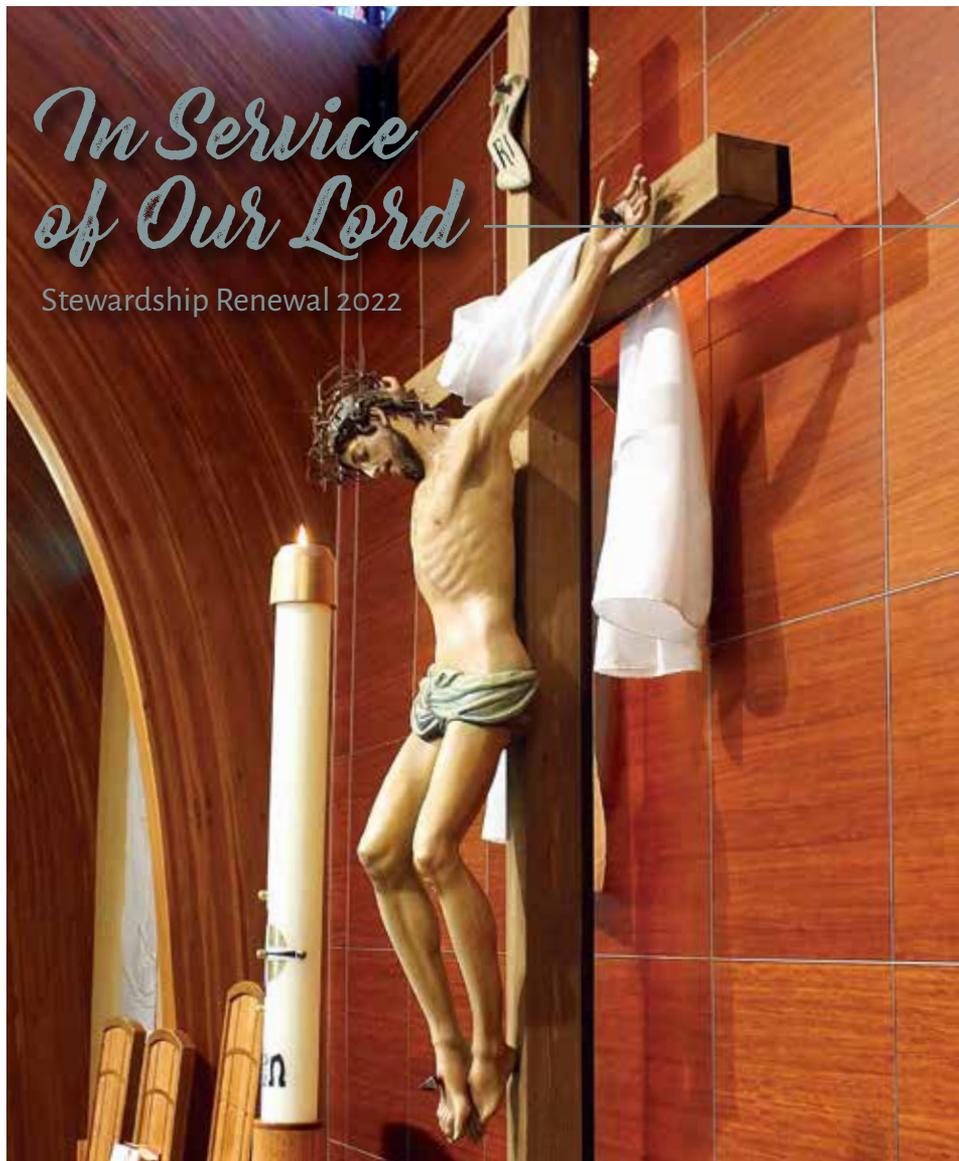


In Service of Our Lord

Stewardship Renewal 2022



Blessed Sacrament

CATHOLIC CHURCH

Stewardship Prayer

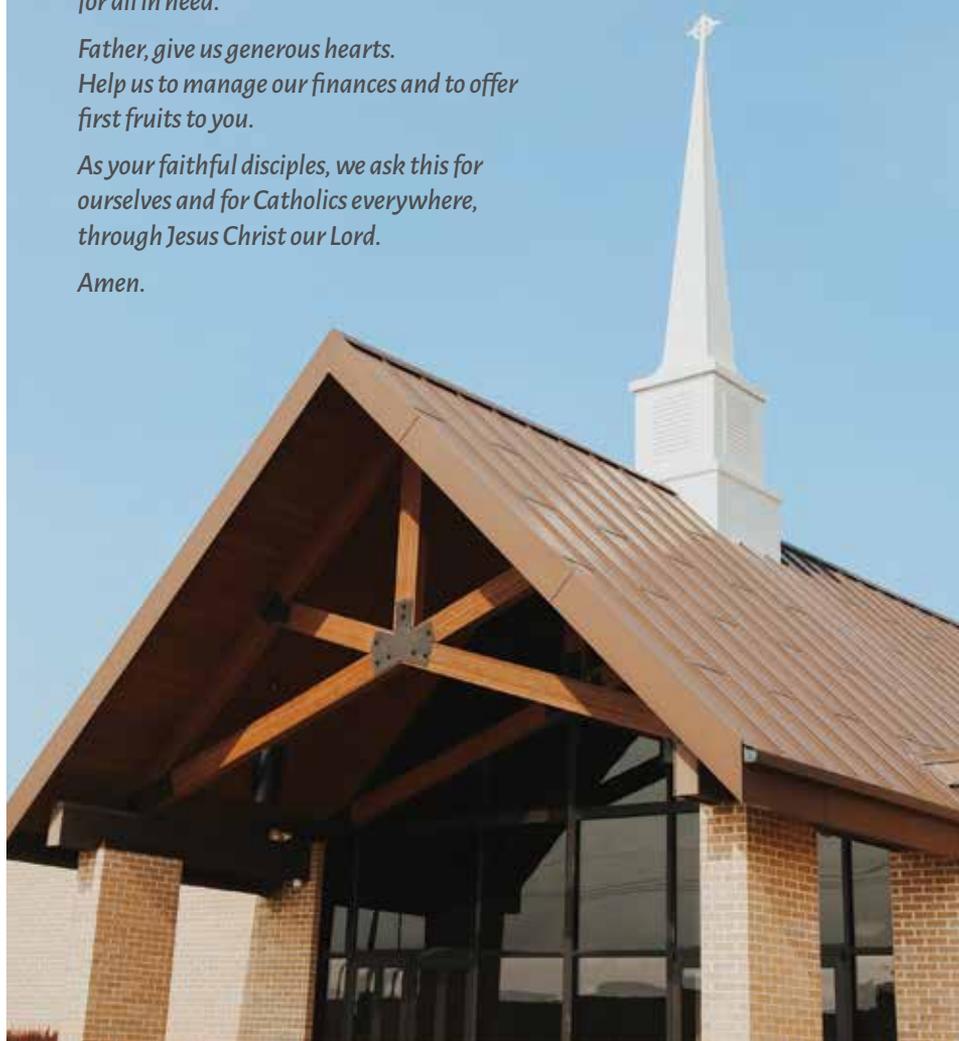
Jesus, teach us to pray. Help us to manage our time so that we can spend it with You.

Holy Spirit, fill us with your gifts. May we offer ourselves in sacrifice for our parish and for all in need.

*Father, give us generous hearts.
Help us to manage our finances and to offer first fruits to you.*

As your faithful disciples, we ask this for ourselves and for Catholics everywhere, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.



In Service of Our Lord

In the Apostle's Creed, we profess that we believe in, "Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord," affirming that God Himself is our "Lord." While some might say that true freedom exists by being subject to no one, we as a Christian people know that our everlasting freedom is found by living in accordance with the loving will and plan of our Heavenly Father. As His servants, we trust that His vision supersedes that of our own and we recognize and trust that when His will is accomplished, we will be blessed in ways much greater than anything we could have imagined. We can surrender our plans to Him with reckless abandon, trusting that His word is true as He tells us, "My yoke is easy, and my burden light" (Mt 11:30).

This year, as you prayerfully consider the ways in which you will offer God your time, talent, and treasure, do so with the heart of a servant.



"My yoke is easy, and my burden light."—Matthew 11:30



Prayer

The Language of a Servant

Prayer is the lifeblood of a true disciple of Christ. Without a healthy relationship with our Savior, we can't hope to know His perfect will or the depths of His love. Take time in daily prayer with God, asking Him how you can best serve others. As you discern how God is calling you to give of your time this year, ask Him to transform your heart into that of a servant.

- Pope Francis encourages us to read the daily readings of the Catholic Church found at <http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings>, and to ask God how He would have you apply them to your life.
- Spend 10 minutes each morning, thanking Him for the ways He has graciously blessed you and then asking Him for help with your struggles.
- Pray with your children each night before bed, giving each family member an opportunity to pray for something and concluding with an *Our Father*, *Hail Mary* and the *Glory Be*.
- Download and utilize Catholic phone and tablet apps, such as Magnificat, The Pope App or Divine Office.

"Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light for my path." — Psalm 119:105

Talent

The Actions of a Servant

Talents are the gifts God has given us that enable us to serve Him. All talents or skills that we have can be used to give God glory and are equally important in His eyes. During this year's Stewardship Renewal, consider your own talents and ask God how you can best use them to serve Him through His people.

Action Steps to Become More Active in Service

- Pray about how the gifts God has given you can best be used to serve others.
- Use your Commitment Card to find a ministry that will help you grow personally in understanding the faith as well as serving others.
- Commit to being faithful to God through those you serve in word and deed.



"Incline my heart according to your will, Oh God."—The Divine Office

Treasure

The Servant's Gift

In just the same way that we have received the gifts of time and talent from God, so have we received our treasure. While many of us have worked hard to earn the money in our pockets, His gifts to us are what have enabled us to do so. In grateful appreciation for His gifts to us, we are called to give our best, our “first fruits,” back to Him.

At our parish, we give to God in accordance with the scriptural tithe, and ask parishioners to give 5 percent of their income to God through the offertory, 4 percent to other charities, and 1 percent to the diocese. In this way, we entrust our plans and ourselves in a unique way to God and His providence in our lives. By placing Him first in our finances, we show Him that He is more important than any of the material goods we have in this world, and give Him power over all in our lives.

Reasons to Tithe

Why give a percentage of income?

We give because the tithe (which means 10% of one's harvest or income) is a scriptural benchmark that the Church has honored for centuries (see Malachi 3:10).

Ways to Give Generously to God:

- Take a look at your current budget and spending habits and assess what expenses are preventing you from giving more selflessly.
- Commit to giving a percentage of your income to God through the parish offertory and be faithful to your tithing commitment, even when you attend Mass elsewhere.



“In this is love: not that we have loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as expiation for our sins.”—1 John 4:10

2022 Ministry Catalog

Faith Formation

We offer religious education to preschool children through mature adults to help form their understanding of Catholic doctrine, devotions, morals, scripture, and spirituality. These offerings include Children's Liturgy of the Word, all sacramental preparations, young adult faith formation, and adult enrichment studies.

Contact: Deb Wetzel, 308-395-8521 unless otherwise noted.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

Volunteers lead children ages three years through sixth grade in a Liturgy of the Word for Children which includes 30 minutes of age-appropriate study, prayer, and crafts based on the Sunday readings at the 10 a.m. Mass twice a month. Volunteers range in age from older youth through grandparents. You will enjoy your time committed in this ministry.

PRESCHOOL THROUGH GRADE 8 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

We offer religious education classes to preschoolers through 8th grade on Wednesday evenings from September through Easter. This includes sacramental preparation for First Eucharist and Reconciliation. We depend on a commitment of many faithful volunteers willing to commit an hour each week in class plus preparation time. As a volunteer,

you will receive training, guidance, and support to prepare you to be successful in the classroom. Prior experience is not required; rather a deep faith and desire to pass on our Catholic faith to our youth.

HIGH SCHOOL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND YOUTH MINISTRY

We use the Godparent Program Model for our high school religious formation program that aims to help our teenagers to learn to apply Christian principles and incorporate Jesus' teaching into their daily lives through theological discussion, practical applications, social activities, and prayer. The Godparents stay with their group 2 ½ years beginning with a freshman group. Generally, Godparents are those of an age and experience that enables them to relate to teen issues and can include married couples. Time commitment for Godparents is 1 ½ hour class time plus preparation time each week for the Religious Education Year. During the junior year, the students move from this program into preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation which is taught by another Catechist.



ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (OCIA FORMERLY RCIA)

We offer OCIA to adults who desire to join the Catholic Church and to those who want to learn or refresh their doctrinal understanding and practice of being Catholic. We need faithful volunteers to augment the teaching of clergy and people in consecrated life willing to commit 2 hours a week from September through Easter.

ADULT ENRICHMENT

From fall through spring, we offer short study programs to adults led by faithful volunteers, clergy, and people in consecrated life. We encourage you to submit your topics of interest to incorporate into our enrichment studies. In general, these studies last 1.5 hours a week and run from 4 to 8 weeks long.

Contact: Sr. Bernadette Engelhaupt, 308-384-0532, ext. 202



Pastoral Care

BEFRIENDER MINISTRIES

BeFriender Ministers offer Pastoral Care to parishioners who are going through a difficult time in their lives, including loneliness and aging. Its key component is listening, so the person visited finds their own inner wisdom and resources. Visits usually take place once or twice a month for no more than an hour. Initial training of 20 hours over a period of weeks followed by ongoing education once a month is provided to BeFriender Ministers.

Contact: Sr. Bernadette Engelhaupt, 308-384-0532, ext. 202

VISITING HOMEBOUND

Parishioners take Holy Communion to those who are unable to attend Mass due to illness or advanced age. This happens at the request of the person who is homebound. Time commitment is usually one visit a weekend after a weekend Mass. Visitors are trained and accountable to Fr. Marty or Sr. Bernadette.

Contact: Fr. Marty Egging, 308-384-0532, ext. 206; Sr. Bernadette Engelhaupt, 308-384-0532, ext. 202



FUNERAL DINNERS

As a service to the family who is grieving, our parish provides a dinner immediately following the funeral service. Often these luncheons can be quite large, so many volunteers are needed to prepare and serve the meal.

Contact: Parish Office/Teri Puncochar, 308-384-0532

COOKIE MINISTRY

Volunteers provide and serve cookies after Vigil services to the bereaved. Occasionally, this group also serves cookies after other special events.

Contact: Sheryl Blauhorn, 308-380-0176

Liturgical Ministries

These ministries serve one purpose: the celebration of the Eucharist which is the “source and summit of our faith” (Vatican II).

Contact: Richard Clawson (Music and Liturgy), 308-384-0532, ext. 205

LECTORS

Those who proclaim the Word of God and lead the Prayers of the Faithful.

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION (EMHC)

Those who assist the Priest in the distribution of Christ’s Body and Blood during Mass, cleanse the communion vessels after Mass, and prepare the vessels for the next liturgy.

HOSPITALITY MINISTERS

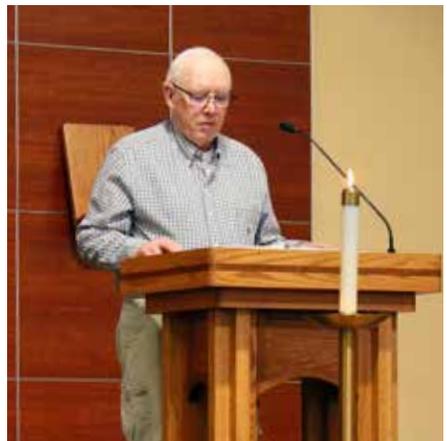
Those who have an important role of greeting and welcoming the community to Mass. They find someone to take up gifts and collection, respond to emergencies, and distribute bulletins after Mass. This underserved liturgical ministry is one of our highest priorities for volunteer recruitment. We need 4 persons for each Mass and children can augment this ministry.

ALTAR SERVERS

Female and male altar servers range from 4th grade students to adults.

MUSIC MINISTERS

Those who offer their musical gifts and talents in service to Christ and his Church. In addition to choir members and soloists, music ministers may also serve as Cantors or play musical instruments for the glory of God and the enrichment of our worship.



TECHNOLOGY MINISTERS

Those who offer serve as videographers for all liturgical functions Livestreamed on various social media platforms and who operate the sound board for liturgical celebrations, including weekend and Holy Day Masses, funerals and weddings.

ART & ENVIRONMENT MINISTERS

Those who enhance liturgical celebrations by decorating our church and other spaces in ways that reflect the liturgical season. Volunteers with artistic or interior design skills plan the décor, and those with physical ability decorate the space as needed.

Contact: Barb Binfield, 308-379-1671



Hospitality/Outreach

COFFEE AND ROLLS

Volunteers set up and serve coffee and donuts each Sunday after the 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. Masses.

Contact: Parish Office/Teri Puncocchar, 308-384-0532

WELCOME COMMITTEE

Members of this committee call on people who are newly registered in the parish to welcome them, share information about the parish and give them a welcome gift bag.

Contact: Sr. Bernadette Engelhaupt, 308-384-0532, ext. 202

PARISH NURSE PROGRAM

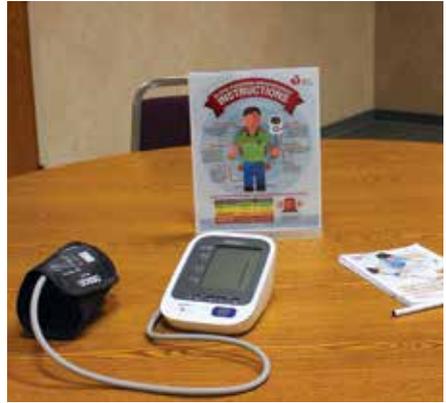
The parish nurse, and volunteers working with her, focus on both healing ministry and on wellness of mind, body, and spirit by providing education, blood pressure clinics, Brown Bag consultations with pharmacists, individual counseling regarding health issues, and finding resources for persons with health issues. Time commitment: For nurses about ½ hour a month; for pharmacists about 3 hours once or twice a year.

Contact: Mary Anne Hinchey, R.N., 308-384-0532, ext. 211

PARISH THRIFT STORE

The Thrift store has a Christian mission of helping those with limited incomes live dignified lives by providing clothing, furniture, household appliances and more at an affordable price. It also helps the environment by keeping quality used goods out of the landfill. Funds derived from resale of goods help fund parish ministries and outreach programs. The Thrift store needs volunteers on Mondays, Fridays and Saturdays during the hours of 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Time commitment is up to the volunteer.

Contact: Anne Coffey or Betty Aalborg at the Thrift Store, 308-398-3443 on the above days of the week, or at home: Anne, 308-390-2131, Betty, 402-631-3577



FOOD PANTRY

The parish Food Pantry lives up to the work of mercy: “Feed the hungry”. Volunteers come in on Mondays at 9:00. They help with stocking shelves, rotating stock, being aware of expiration dates, and setting up the grocery bags that would be given to those in need. They would also be aware of how well stocked the freezer is with perishable items such as meats and breads. Since this could happen in a couple of hours one day a week with two or three volunteers, having multiple teams could mean rotating weeks.

Contact: Teri Puncochar, 308-384-0532

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Working with people from all walks of life, Habitat for Humanity builds homes for the working poor. Volunteer work can be as little as one hour a month or a full eight-hour day.

Contact: Julie Markvicka, 402-440-5254; Marty Markvicka, 308-390-3988



COMPASS

Blessed Sacrament participates in Compass Nebraska, which is a statewide Christian Ministry which focuses on keeping struggling, local families intact by meeting their basic financial and material needs. We need volunteers to help decide which needs we will fulfill and to recruit the finances to fill those needs. Time commitment: about 45 minutes for a meeting once a month.

Contact: *Mary Anne Hinchey, R.N.*,
308-384-0532, ext. 211

Social Activities

FALL FEST

The Fall Fest is an annual parish festival where there is fun and food for everyone in the parish and community. It is run solely by parish volunteers and we have dinner, games for the children, and raffles for all. Volunteers in abundance, are needed to assist this one event.

Contact: *Teri Puncochar*, 308-384-0532,
ext. 201, teripuncochar@gmail.com;
Fr. Martin Egging, 308-384-0532, ext. 206,
martyegging@hotmail.com

PRIME TIME GROUP

The Prime Time Group offers an opportunity for our senior citizens (age 50+) to share some time together. The group meets the third Wednesday of each month for the noon Mass followed by a home-cooked dinner and a program of education or entertainment. A freewill offering is taken to help defray costs. Volunteers are needed to prepare the meal, decorate the Jubilee Center, and help plan for the education and entertainment offered.

Contact: *Sr. Bernadette Engelhaupt*,
308-384-0532, ext. 202

QUILTING GROUP

This group hand quilts the raffle quilt for Fall Fest and does hand quilting for individuals. No experience is necessary to join. We will teach you.

Contact: *JoAnn Sok*, 308-379-5618

WOMEN'S SPRING-A-LING

An evening for women beginning with a light supper followed by an inspirational speaker. Volunteer Committee members plan and set up for the event. Time commitment is 4 meetings of one hour each, plus what each volunteer does to make the event happen.

Contact: *Sr. Bernadette Engelhaupt*,
308-384-0532, ext. 202

Facilities Environment

COURTYARD GARDENING

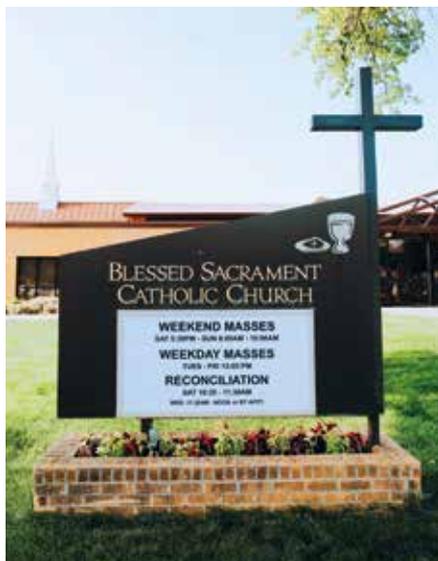
The courtyard is maintained by volunteers with many ornamental bushes and flowers to assist any person in prayer. Volunteers are needed throughout the year to do general gardening.

Contact: Deb Kobza, 402-200-0774

LANDSCAPING, LAWN CARE, AND SNOW REMOVAL MINISTRY

Volunteers are needed to help with landscaping, mowing, cleaning up the yard of debris, and snow removal on the parish property.

Contact: Scott Hiatt, 308-379-9666



Small Groups and Organizations

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS

These women strive to embrace the principles of faith through love in the promotion of justice, equality, and the advancement of human rights and dignity for all. Under the patronage of the Blessed Mother, its members are united by their faith in Jesus Christ, in their devotion to the Church and the Holy See. New members always welcome.

Contact: Mary Phelan, 308-382-0311

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

This Catholic men's fraternal organization was formed to tender financial aid to members and their families. Social and intellectual fellowship is promoted through educational, charitable, religious, social welfare and service to the Church, country and fellow men. New members always welcome.

Contact: Mike Jarosz, 308-379-9791

CENTERING PRAYER GROUP

Centering Prayer is a receptive method of silent prayer that prepares us to receive the gift of contemplation which is a simple gaze of love between God and the person. The Centering prayer group meets on the first and third Mondays of the month; one Monday focuses on praying and the other on learning about centering prayer.

Contact: Dee Brabander; 308-380-7217

CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

Charismatic Prayer Group is a gathering of parishioners and others for the purpose of praise and worship of our Heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. The weekly meetings consist of prayer which may include some of the members speaking in tongues and some praying over others. It also includes song, and Scripture sharing with Mass once a month.

Contact: Dean and Anita Graf, 308-384-8855



School Ministries

BLESSED SACRAMENT PRESCHOOL

We provide and support our very own pre-school to both parish and non-parish families by offering a distinctly Christian and caring environment. We pledge excellence in preparing young children to move on to Kindergarten. We welcome committed volunteers and grandparents as classroom assistants once background checks are complete. Time commitment for volunteers is worked out with the Director of the Preschool.

Contact: Leah Housel, 308-384-2086

CENTRAL CATHOLIC MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL

We support Central Catholic Middle/High (GICC) School and strongly encourage your involvement in their academic and athletic endeavors. Volunteer opportunities abound at GICC.

Our Parish Contact for GICC: Parish Representative Rob Czaplewski, 308-370-1372; Mr. Jordan Engle is the Principal, 308-384-2440

Parish Councils and Committees

The positions on these councils are either elected or appointed, but it is helpful to know who might be interested in them.

FINANCE COUNCIL

Works with Pastor for the financial well-being of the parish. These members include the two directors of the parish and others at the invitation of the Pastor.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

This council is advisory to the pastor and looks at the total welfare of the parish. Members are elected in the months of May and/or June.

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

This is an appointed committee whose focus is developing a stewardship culture in the parish.





Stewardship Involves Commitment

All parishioners are encouraged to participate in our annual Stewardship Renewal. Please take the time to review the materials in this packet, and prayerfully consider how you can offer Christ a portion of your time, talent, and treasure this year. Then, take a few moments to fill out the enclosed Commitment Card. The Commitment Card enables you to make a written commitment to God of how and where you desire to place Him first.

Please return the completed card during Mass on the weekend of **August 27/28**. Thank you for your participation in the life of our parish community!

Blessed Sacrament

CATHOLIC CHURCH

518 W. State Street | Grand Island, NE | 68801
308-384-0532 | www.blsachurch.net