

*Christian Discipleship & Stewardship – A Catholic Reflection & Discernment Exercise*

*St. Gabriel Parish – Winter 2018 – Beginning with the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity*

**Disciples and Stewards – A Participant’s Overview**

*Dear Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ our Lord,*

*Jesus is the way, the truth and the life. He attracts people to Himself now as He has in every generation, but life causes us to have many questions. As it happened with his first disciples who also came to Him with many questions; Jesus responds to our questions with the same answer: “Come and see!” Jesus invites us to walk with Him, to listen to Him, to get to know Him, to love Him and to want to follow Him ever more closely. We invite you to enter into this series of reflections on Christian discipleship and stewardship with that same eagerness and enthusiasm shown by Andrew and Peter, James and John, and the other apostles. God bless you and your family.*

<b>Week # / Date</b>	<b>Movement of the Spirit – experienced as God’s Guidance Within</b>	<b>Our Response in discernment, prayer, consultation, and action</b>	<b>Handout Material</b>
<b>Week 1 of 4 – OT 3</b> Jan. 20-21	<i>Realization that our life – body and soul – is a gift from God – Gratitude for God’s gifts – openness to God’s ongoing call to us / me</i>	<i>We become willing to reflect and discern the next step to receive and return God’s love more deliberately.</i>	1. Participant’s Overview
<b>Week 2 of 4 – OT 4</b> Jan. 27-28	<i>Realization that this life is passing away, that God calls us to repent from a worldly life and apply our time and talent to serve his reign in the world, the kingdom of God, through our neighbor</i>	<i>I take inventory of my time and talent in the service of God and neighbor, and in care of my own life and family – I renew my commitment to apply my time &amp; talent for the glory of God.</i>	2. First Fruits of Time & Talent 3. Disciple & Steward Inventory
<b>Week 3 of 4 – OT 5</b> Feb. 3-4	<i>We realize that God calls each of us to keep our heart undivided and devoted to Him. Just being ordained, married, or in church is no insurance against unclean spirits; rather, I must love God and my neighbor in practice as well as in belief.</i>	<i>I resolve during the Sunday Liturgy to make my sacrificial offering: to render to God his portion in gratitude by applying what God gives me in trust to my spouse and family, my neighbor in need, and the Lord’s Church.</i>	4. First Fruits of Treasure (income) 5. Sacrificial Giving 6. Steward Inventory
<b>Week 4 of 4 – OT 6</b> Feb. 10-11	<i>Jesus offers me the joy of entering more freely and deliberately into God’s Covenant sealed by the Blood of the Lamb &amp; the out pouring of the Holy Spirit.</i>	<i>Prayerfully I prepare my annual Covenant renewal (for myself) with joyful heart, resolute will, and hope-filled spirit – I can share confidentially “<b>My Data and Pledge</b>” sheet.</i>	7. Covenant form 8. My Data & Pledge
<b>The rest of the year</b>	<i>In 2018 I will take time to ponder in my heart all that the Lord is giving and saying to me, to us.</i>	<i>I will continue to adjust my response and covenant with the Lord as needed, as life unfolds and my situations, conditions, freedom, and constraints and those of my family change.</i>	<i>Life is one long pilgrimage back to the Father’s House.</i>