



Stewardship of Prayer 2009-2010

A Report to St. Thomas More Parish ~ February 14, 2010

During our 5th annual Stewardship of Prayer campaign in Advent 2009, parishioners were encouraged to make a commitment to enhancing their prayer lives through a variety of communal and personal prayer opportunities. We completed prayer pledge cards during Masses to indicate our personal commitment to prayer in 2010.

Following is a summary of parish participation since the implementation of our annual *Stewardship of Prayer* campaign:

2005:	<i>583 cards completed/returned</i>
2006:	<i>671 cards completed/returned</i>
2007:	<i>680 cards completed/returned</i>
2008:	<i>608 cards completed/returned</i>
2009:	<i>663 cards completed/returned</i>

The details on the prayer summary (*reverse side*) provide the number of responses in the specific prayer categories. This report reflects a combination of responses from both our English and Hispanic Masses.

This year's summary reveals an increase in participation in Stewardship of Prayer; this is encouraging and hopefully the upward trend will continue. More importantly, we must keep in mind that as Roman Catholics, prayer is not something we merely do...prayer is our foundation, our beginning, the place from which we encounter God. The presence and power of prayer is evident in our love of Catholic liturgies, sacraments, and traditions. The impact of prayer in our lives--individually and collectively as a parish--is significant and substantial.

I hope you will strive to make prayer an essential part your daily life. Please know that I will continue to keep in prayer everyone here at St. Thomas More Church. May God bless you abundantly!

Yours in Christ,

**Give thanks to God, bless his name; good indeed is the LORD,
Whose love endures forever, whose faithfulness lasts through every age.**

~ Psalm 100

Continued on reverse side

Stewardship of Prayer Summary - Advent 2009

	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>
<i>Attend Mass every Sunday and Holy Day</i>	566	621	637	579	689
<i>Attend Mass on a weekday</i>	160	184	183	171	226
<i>Spend time in daily personal prayer</i>	536	482	585	530	636
<i>Pray Grace at mealtimes</i>	492	545	520	490	581
<i>Read the Bible daily</i>	177	179	188	183	211
<i>Receive Sacrament of Reconciliation more frequently</i>	243	267	268	260	300
<i>Family prayers - daily</i>	165	207	190	179	195
<i>Family prayers - weekly</i>	96	123	82	80	112
<i>Pray the Rosary - daily</i>	57	45	57	56	57
<i>Pray the Rosary - weekly</i>	133	120	118	140	122
<i>Pray the Rosary - monthly</i>	90	118	220	91	129
<i>Pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy (added in 2007)</i>			42	38	53
<i>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament - weekly</i>	38	32	40	22	19
<i>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament - monthly</i>	62	100	88	91	109
<i>Pray the Way of the Cross - weekly</i>	18	14	21	15	23
<i>Pray the Way of the Cross - monthly</i>	28	34	30	30	37
<i>Pray a monthly Novena</i>	53	45	62	51	54
<i>Read the "Catechism of the Catholic Church"</i>	124	163	154	115	132
<i>Attend a retreat annually</i>	59	77	79	48	90
OTHER	32	37	161	24	47
Total	3129	3393	3725	3193	3822