



*A Message from Father Pat...*



***Stewardship of Ministry***  
***Week Three (August 2, 2009)***

**“Serve the Lord with gladness...” *Psalm 100***

**It’s Just a Matter of Time...**A quick internet search for “sayings about time” resulted in more than 18,200,000 possible websites about sayings or quotes about time. Of course we’d never take the time to browse that many sites! But how *do* we use the time God has given us here on Earth? As Christians called to embrace a life of stewardship, let us ponder these questions:

***Do I make time in my life to serve in parish ministry?***

Participating beyond attendance at Sunday Mass by sharing our time and talents is a great example of stewardship, an opportunity to learn new skills, a way to foster new friendships, and helps ensure the growth and success of our parish.

- ◆ Am I using my time and talents to support God’s work on Earth?
- ◆ Am I living a life of gratitude to God by returning a portion of my time and talent?
- ◆ What do I do well? What do I like to do? What comes easy for me? What do others say I do well?
- ◆ When I am asked to participate in the work of my parish, do I look for an excuse to say “no” or do I search for the courage to say “yes”?
- ◆ Do I rely on others in the parish to “get things done” or do I answer the call to minister in some way myself?

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**In approximately one week, you will receive a Stewardship of Ministry Packet in the mail.** Please review the information, prayerfully reflect on your commitment of time and talents through parish ministry, and complete and return the Ministry Commitment Form by **August 31, 2009**. Your participation in parish ministry and your timely response are deeply appreciated.

***If you have any questions, please contact Donna in the Parish Office at 534-9000 or donna@stmore.org.***

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***Stewardship of Ministry***

*St. Thomas More Church*  
**Stewardship of Ministry 2009-2010**

Following is just a very small sampling from approximately 18,200,000 websites containing quotes about “time”. Perhaps we can keep these wise words in mind as we contemplate and pray about how we can serve our parish and community by sharing our God-given talents and gifts.

- ◆ What would be the use of immortality to a person who cannot use well a half an hour?
  - ◆ Time is at once the most valuable and the most perishable of all our possessions.
    - ◆ Time is the most valuable thing a man can spend.
      - ◆ It takes a long time to grow an old friend.
        - ◆ It takes less time to do things right than to explain why you did it wrong.
    - ◆ It's not so much how busy you are, but why you are busy. The bee is praised.  
The mosquito is swatted.
- ◆ Just as you began to feel that you could make good use of time, there was no time left.
  - ◆ Never let yesterday use up today.
    - ◆ Ordinary people think merely of spending time. Great people think of using it.
    - ◆ Remember, you can earn more money, but when time is spent it is gone forever.
    - ◆ Whether it's the best of times or the worst of times, it's the only time we've got.
    - ◆ You will never find time for anything. If you want time, you must make it.



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

*Psalm 100*

*God bless you for sharing your gifts  
and talents through parish ministry!*