









Prayer

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Office of Parish Stewardship

We are pleased to present our May issue of **ONE FAMILY IN MISSION** newsletter. We invite you - as part of that **FAMILY** - to share articles, best practices and any other items that you believe would benefit our community of Stewards. Please send them to tzalud@drvc.org.

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Modeling our Stewardship after Mary

Hail Mary full of Grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed are thou amongst women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb Jesus. Holy Mary Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

When we think of May, we think of the beautiful flowers, beautiful weather and Mother's Day. How fitting that the month of May is dedicated to the Mother of Our Lord, and Our Mother—Mary. Throughout the world, through different cultures, and throughout different denominations, Mary is honored and held in high regard. God chose her to be the Mother of God and her humble "yes" is why we love and honor her. This month, let us model our stewardship after the one who displayed the pillars of stewardship throughout her whole life. Let us also remember that the purpose of building a strong foundation of stewardship in our life is to grow closer to Our Lord.

We can focus first on the Pillar of Formation. The Second Luminous Mystery of the Rosay, "The Wedding in Cana", is from the Gospel of John and it can provide us a good example of how to build the Pillar of Formation in our lives. While Jesus and Mary were at the wedding, Our Lady overheard that the wine was running out. In order to help the couple and to ensure they had what they need, Mary interceded on their behalf to her Son. Her instruction to the wait staff was, "Do whatever He tells you." We too should always be willing to intercede for those who need prayers and, like Mary, we should have the courage to remind our brothers and sisters to listen to Christ.

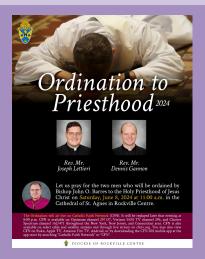
The next pillar is the Pillar of Service. Like in the wedding at Cana, Mary was at service to others but she also was always at service to God. Her "yes" to God should inspire us to always trust in God's will for us and have courage to go with His plan. How is God calling you to serve Him now? Perhaps it is to volunteer at your parish or to assist an elderly neighbor or friend. When we serve others, we serve God.

The Pillar of Hospitality is another pillar we can imagine that the Blessed Mother practiced in her life. Mary, like all the great saints, showed love to others (as she and they do now in Heaven). As Catholics, we are called to be hospitable, as we read in Matthew, "By their fruits you will know them." This month, act in a way that will attract others to our Faith. Like Mary, care about those in need and always seek out God's will in every moment of your day. By doing so, you will be attracting those you come across to our Church and you will be bearing good fruits.

Finally, the Pillar of Prayer. There are so many beautiful and powerful prayers to Our Lady, some we know of and some we may never have heard. We invite you to dig deeper in your faith this month and perhaps pick up a new devotion to Mary. Perhaps you can pray the Rosary— it is such a powerful devotion; we strongly encourage you to pray it. Also learn about some other prayers that may be new to you—like the Regina Caeli.

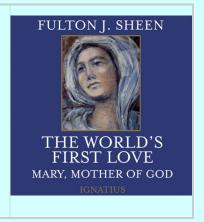
May the Good Lord continue to bless you and your loved ones this month and may the Blessed Mother pray for you as well.

Please keep Rev. Mr. Joseph Lettieri and Rev. Mr. Dennis Gannon in your prayers. They will be ordained priests next month!



Formed Stewardship Content of the Month

Each month, our office suggests Stewardship content from Formed.org that will help you grow in the faith! If you are not signed up with Formed.org, check with your parish to see if they have a subscription. This month, we recommend "The World's First Love: Mary, Mother of God".



Office of Parish Stewardship (516) 678-5800 ext. 285 May God bless you and your Connect with us



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