



Formation



Hospitality



Prayer



Service

Office of Parish Stewardship

We are pleased to present our April 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.

PLEASE LET US KNOW WHAT ELSE YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE!

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Called to Evangelize



As we look out our windows during these next few weeks, we will notice the little buds beginning to grow on the once dead-looking trees. We will realize that we are in Spring and in a few weeks, we will be celebrating our Risen Lord's victory over sin and death!

Of all those beautiful trees and flowers that will pop up over these next few weeks, one tree sticks out among the rest—the Dogwood tree. The Dogwood's blossoms, it appears to some, have been specially blessed by the Lord to memorialize His Paschal mystery: Resurrection-white flowers, consisting of four-pronged cross-shaped petals, splattered with stains of reddish-brown "Blood," nail-torn edges, and centered with an uplifted yellow-raised "crown of thorns."

The Dogwood's blossoms, it seems, give beautiful witness to what Ven. Fulton J. Sheen is said to have counseled... "Unless there is a Good Friday in your Life, there can be no Easter Sunday."

May pondering those Paschal blossoms in the Lenten and Easter Seasons to come give strength, perseverance, and comfort to us--*and through us to others*. As we take up our crosses to faithfully follow the Lord, may the Dogwood's uniquely symbolic flowers remind us of the implications of the Bishop's words for Jesus' disciples. Suffering through painful Good Fridays will come, it's true—but, take heart! For through them so also will come the victorious reward of Glorious Easter Sundays.

Praise God for the beauty of nature--- and His signs of love hidden within them!

An Opportunity for Young People to Come Together Before God



The Diocese of Rockville Centre's Office of Youth Ministry will be hosting a series of nights filled with Eucharistic Adoration, games and community for our youth! The next and final nights are April 8! For more information on this series-- called INSPIRE-- please click [HERE!](#)

For Young Adults, the Diocese will be having monthly Scripture sessions to teach young adults how to pray and engage with the Scriptures. Click [HERE](#) to learn more.



Steward of the Month

This month's Steward of the Month is Nicholas Viscovich! Nicholas is a faithful, prayerful Catholic whose life has brought the light of Christ to all those around him, including his family. Here is a short story from Nicholas' father, Bob:

If you are in need of a prayer warrior, well Nicholas is your guy! He's dedicated to reciting the litany of names that need our special prayers and is always ready to pray the Rosary each night or the Chaplet of Divine Mercy each day at 3pm. You should

see the beaming smile on his face when we sit down for prayer or go to Mass. All this shouldn't surprise anyone, since I truly believe that children with disabilities come to us straight from God with a special grace already within them, with the Blessed Mother protecting them with her motherly love, and upon their last breath, they will return immediately into the loving arms of Our Lord. Because of this, I always feel the Blessed Mother's strong presence around Nicholas, somewhat knowing that Nicholas is one of our "direct lines" to God.

In an ironic sense, it is WE who have learned so much from Nicholas. It is WE who depend on Nicholas. The world wants to tell us otherwise, but WE are the ones that benefit and derive so much love from those with disabilities. It makes us better Christians. As I always tell Nicholas, I wish that more people had Down Syndrome. In fact, I often wish that I had Down Syndrome. I would probably be a better Christian.

"See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven." – MT 18:10)

As Donna and I have said many times, we still don't know why we are deserving of such a blessed gift from God, but we now know what PURE LOVE is this side of Heaven.

Thank you, Nicholas, for your evangelism and your prayers! May we all learn to love and treat with the dignity the lives of all of God's creation!

For more information on Neo-natal care for God's creation in the womb, please visit The Office of Human Life, Family and Bio Ethics resources page: <https://drvclife.org/adverse-prenatal-diagnosis>.

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 audio drama entitled "The Passion According to Saint Luke."



Office of Parish Stewardship
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May God bless you and your loved ones!

Connect with us



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