

# Stewardship Messages

## December 2018

Dec. 1/2

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent

***“But, when these signs begin to happen, stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand.” Luke 21:28***

We celebrate Advent, in preparation for the birth of Jesus. This is His first coming – and we await His second coming. It is never too late to strengthen your relationship with Jesus. This Advent season, use the sacrament of Reconciliation to build up that bond.

Dec. 8/9

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent

***“And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception, to discern what is of value...” Philippians 1:9-10***

In the days and weeks leading up to Christmas, we are inundated with colorful and convincing ads. The commercialism can cause us to lose sight of our stewardship values. In this season of shopping and buying, it is important to remember that we have a need to give back to God – and to support those who are in need.

Dec. 15/16

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

***“Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God.” Philippians 4:6***

God is the giver of all gifts. He promises to give us what we need. When we trust that God will take care of us, it is easier for us to share the gifts we have been given.

**Dec. 22/23**

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent**

***“For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears,  
the infant in my womb leaped for joy.”*** Luke 1:44

When you hear the Word of God through the scriptures at Mass, do you “leap for joy?” If you do not, the blame cannot lie with the priest or homilist. Take a look into your heart and mind. Do you come to church as a bystander looking to be entertained, or do you take an active role in “participating” in the celebration of the Mass.

**Dec. 29/30**

**Feast of the Holy Family**

***“See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God.  
Yet so we are.”*** 1 John 3:1

So much gift giving and receiving takes place during this season, and it is important to remember the most important gift we have ever received – being children of God. As children of God, it is important that we show our love for others, too. Tell – and show in small ways – your spouse, children, family and friends, how much you love them. Do so regularly.