

Parish Stewardship Committee Guide

What is a Stewardship Committee?

The Stewardship Committee fosters parish growth by promoting stewardship as an act of gratitude. It consists of diverse members with term limits who actively embody stewardship. Responsibilities include creating an annual plan with a calendar of activities, integrating stewardship into religious events, and organizing community gatherings. A Time and Talent Catalog tracks engagement, and workshops aid in gift discernment. An annual stewardship effort encourages lay testimonies and volunteer involvement. The committee ensures appreciation for volunteers, evaluates efforts annually, provides stewardship education, develops hospitality programs, and communicates initiatives while expanding outreach beyond the parish.

Who should be on the Stewardship Committee

The Stewardship Committee should be developed as a separate entity from the Finance Council and Pastoral Council, though it should maintain a connection with both. The committee should consist of three to eight members, carefully recruited by the priest rather than through an open call. The selection process should focus on influential leaders who are spiritually motivated and committed to stewardship not merely as a means to increase financial contributions or volunteer numbers, but as a way to give back in gratitude for their blessings. Membership should reflect the diversity of the parish, similar to a congressional model with term limits to ensure fresh perspectives. Committee members should be spiritually motivated, exemplify and actively live out stewardship, have a vision for how stewardship can enhance the parish, and possess personal qualities conducive to success.



Ideal Attributes for a Member of a Parish Stewardship Committee

Spiritual and Personal Attributes

- Spiritually motivated and rooted in prayer
- Practicing intentional discipleship
- Demonstrates a life of gratitude and generosity
- Models stewardship in their own life (time, talent, and treasure)
- Committed to the Church and parish community
- Desires to give back out of love, not obligation
- Humble and open to the Holy Spirit's guidance

Leadership and Relational Attributes

- Influential and respected in their parish group or ministry
- Willing to serve quietly or publicly as needed
- Collaborative and team-oriented
- Good communicator and listener
- Welcoming and hospitable to all
- Encourages others to get involved
- Able to represent diverse parish perspectives

Organizational and Strategic Attributes

- Visionary and forward-thinking — can see where stewardship can grow
- Dependable and follows through on commitments
- Comfortable with planning and calendaring
- Open to training and ongoing formation
- Willing to evaluate and improve parish efforts
- Understands or is willing to learn stewardship principles

Bonus: Practical Skills (Helpful but not required)

- Event planning or hospitality experience
- Public speaking or lay witness comfort
- Experience in ministry coordination
- Data or volunteer tracking skills
- Writing, design, or communication experience



Duties of a Parish Stewardship Committee

Planning and Coordination

- Develop an annual stewardship plan aligned with the liturgical calendar
- Schedule at least four hospitality/community events each year
- Coordinate stewardship efforts across all seasons — not just during fall or school year

Ministry and Volunteer Engagement

- Maintain a current catalog of parish ministries and volunteer opportunities
- Track who is involved, their roles, and areas of interest or gifts
- Identify and personally invite parishioners to discern how they can serve

Discernment and Formation

- Provide opportunities for parishioners to discern their gifts and charisms
- (e.g., StrengthsFinder, Called & Gifted, charism workshops)
- Offer formation and education for stewardship committee members
- Educate parish leaders, children, and youth on the spirituality of stewardship

Parish-Wide Stewardship Renewal

- Lead an annual Time, Talent, and Treasure campaign
- Organize lay witness talks and testimonies at Mass
- Encourage broad participation in parish life and giving

Hospitality and Welcome

- Create and maintain a hospitality and welcoming program for new and existing parishioners
- Plan events like newcomer meals, parish picnics, or social gatherings
- Foster a sense of belonging and community within the parish

Communication and Promotion

- Promote stewardship through bulletin reflections, social media, and flyers
- Include stewardship themes in homilies, announcements, and Prayers of the Faithful



- Ensure visibility of stewardship literature in parish spaces

Gratitude and Recognition

- Regularly thank volunteers and donors
- Host appreciation events or recognition efforts
- Foster a culture where gratitude is openly and frequently expressed

Evaluation and Growth

- Review and evaluate stewardship efforts annually
- Adjust strategies to better meet parish needs and encourage greater engagement
- Look for ways to expand stewardship beyond the parish — into the broader community and Church

