



STEWARDSHIP *Hospitality*

A Guide to Stewardship of Hospitality

Hospitality is more than kindness—it is sacred discipleship. When we welcome others with love, attentiveness, and reverence, we welcome Christ Himself.

In the Gospels, Jesus frequently receives—and offers—hospitality. He dines with sinners, visits homes, blesses gatherings, and washes feet. He calls us to go and do likewise: to make space for the stranger, the seeker, the newcomer, and the forgotten.

Stewardship of hospitality means:

Time: pausing to see and engage others, especially those on the margins.

Talent: using your gifts of service, conversation, and presence to create belonging.

Treasure: offering resources and spaces that reflect God's welcome to all.

Hospitality is not just a ministry—it's a way of life. A hospitable parish is a missionary parish, where people don't just attend—they belong.

Best Practices

- Offer simple hospitality in your home—invite neighbors, friends, parishioners, or those in need of connection. It doesn't need to be fancy. A cup of coffee and a listening ear can be sacred.
- Be approachable, kind, and attentive—not rushed or distracted. Hospitality is more than doing—it's being present to the person in front of you.
- Using someone's name makes them feel seen and valued. If you forget—just ask again! It shows care and genuine connection.

HOSPITALITY OPPORTUNITIES



Bereavement Ministry
extends Christ's welcome and comfort to grieving families, creating a compassionate space of presence, prayer, and peace during their time of loss.



Parish Hospitality Ministry
Warmly welcomes all who enter the church, helping every person feel seen, valued, and at home in the Body of Christ.



Welcome New Neighbors
Drop off a card, small gift, or homemade treat with your name and parish contact info.



Prayer
Ask God each morning: "Lord, help me to see You in the stranger today."

I was a stranger and you welcomed me. - Matthew 25:35



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WELCOMING OTHERS: HOME AND PARISH CHECKLIST

Hospitality is more than a smile—it's a disposition of the heart that says: "You belong here." Use this checklist to reflect on how you can live out stewardship through a spirit of welcome in your home, parish, and daily life.

In My Parish:

- ☐ I greet people before or after Mass, even if I don't know them.
- ☐ I smile and make room for others in my pew.
- ☐ I offer to help someone new find where to go (restroom, nursery, bulletin, etc.).
- ☐ I introduce myself to someone I don't recognize at parish events.
- ☐ I intentionally invite a new family or person to coffee hour or a parish ministry.
- ☐ I look for ways my ministry or group can be more welcoming to newcomers.
- ☐ I pray that my parish community reflects Christ's love to everyone who walks in.

In My Home or Daily Life:

- ☐ I make my home or table open to others—even in small, simple ways.
- ☐ I welcome visitors or neighbors with kindness and interest.
- ☐ I intentionally teach my children or family what it means to be welcoming.
- ☐ I offer encouragement, a smile, or a kind word to someone who looks lonely.
- ☐ I strive to listen attentively and without judgment when someone shares.
- ☐ I ask: "Who might feel left out—and how can I include them?"

Personal Reflection:

- ☐ Do I make space for others in my life the way Christ makes space for me?
- ☐ What keeps me from being more hospitable?
- ☐ What is one concrete step I can take this week to welcome someone new?

Prayer for a Welcoming Heart

Lord Jesus, You welcomed the stranger, the sinner, the poor, and the proud.

Open my heart to see You in every person I encounter.

Teach me to make room, to share joyfully, and to love generously.

May my words, actions, and presence reflect Your welcome. Amen.

Do not neglect hospitality, for through it some have unknowingly entertained angels. – Hebrews 13:2