

*Holy Redeemer by the Sea Catholic Parish
Stewardship Annual Report
2016*

Letter from the Pastor

Reverend Dr. William F. Walsh, osfs

Dear Friends:

I am excited to offer you, the parishioners of Holy Redeemer by the Sea Catholic Parish, our Annual Stewardship Report. We have been richly blessed with a vibrant and giving community of volunteers which realizes that God is the source of all blessings. In stewardship, we choose to give back to God what God has first given us. We are a people of all ages worshiping together, ministering together, serving God's people together and especially growing in faith together. Through our ministries and programs, we are making God's presence ever more real, not only for our parishioners, but throughout the Outer Banks community.

The Liturgy, as the center of our parish life, continues to nourish us in our faith and challenges us to live it. From this springs the commitment of our volunteers who share their time, talent and treasure and, in so doing, nurture the fruits of the Holy Spirit within each one. Stewardship is a mark of true discipleship, and underscores the power of God in our lives as an energy which impels and equips us to love and serve each other.

Our Patron, Saint Francis de Sales, urges us to do ordinary things in extraordinary ways. As I reflect on the contents of our seventh annual Stewardship report, I am excited to be reminded that we are certainly an extraordinary community. Let us all become enthusiastic in our awareness of the thousands of hours spent in service as hundreds of you accept the challenges that God presents daily. I am inspired by how you have personally answered the call to live life as a steward of Jesus. It is in these small services that we become more like Christ; it is in serving others that we serve God.

Let us not stand on what we have already accomplished. Instead, let's look to the road ahead, for around every turn we will have the opportunity to be the hands and feet and heart of Christ for those in need. He relies on us to be stewards of His boundless and healing love for all creation.

I am indebted to our Stewardship Council for leading us in these efforts, and for persistently gathering the information contained in this report so that we can see, without doubt, that we are "good stewards of God's varied grace" (1 Peter 4:10).

May God continue to shower us with blessings.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Fr. Bill". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Reverend Doctor William F. Walsh, osfs
Pastor

Holy Redeemer by the Sea Catholic Parish

Stewardship Annual Report

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The Stewardship Annual Report is a vehicle to communicate how God's Word is carried out at our parish. It's an opportunity to tell those who support the parish with their time, talent and treasure how their contributions have made a difference in carrying out the mission of the Church.

The Stewardship Annual Report is a valuable resource to:

- *Assess ministries; those needed and those whose purpose has been served.*
- *Define plans for the future based on parishioners' need and interests.*
- *Empower the community in realizing the Stewardship efforts that are already occurring and how they can grow.*
- *Provide opportunities of educating parishioners on how Stewardship is a way of life.*

The Stewardship Council of Holy Redeemer by the Sea would like to use this Parish Stewardship Annual Report to illustrate the different ways we are called to a life of service and the various ways our volunteers are accomplishing God's work through these ministries. Each ministry is proud of the accomplishments achieved through the work of its volunteers.

How are we doing as a Parish in living out the challenges of a life of Stewardship? Holy Redeemer by the Sea has over fifty (50) active ministries sustained by over 1,000 volunteers giving approximately 50,000 hours of their collective time. This is the Holy Spirit working through God's people. When we serve others, we are imitating Jesus.

Our shared gifts of time, talent, and treasure nurture faith, hope, love, and the fruits of the Spirit. They allow us to witness to the power of God in our lives. Stewardship is essential to our faith; Stewardship is the mark of a true disciple of Jesus.

Stewardship Council:

**Marian & Frank Sciacchitano, Co-Chairs
Judy Gach
Nancy Barlow**