

Ministry and Service Stewardship Commitment

Family Name _____ ID# _____
 Email _____ Phone _____

After giving prayerful consideration to the ways in which you may be called to serve, or the ways in which you would like to participate or be served, please complete the commitment form below. The full list of ministries is included in the Ministry Guidebook and Phone Directory which you recently received. A quick list of ministries with particular needs is on the reverse of this sheet.

List your name and any ministry in which you feel called to serve:
 (For example, you feel called to be trained as an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion and are willing to take Holy Communion to homebound members ... List Eucharistic Ministry to the Homebound. If you are willing to bake and deliver bread to new parishioners, then list Bread Ministry)

Please call _____ to begin service in _____
(Name) (Ministry)

Please call _____ to begin service in _____
(Name) (Ministry)

Please call _____ to begin service in _____
(Name) (Ministry)

List your name and any ministry in which you wish to participate or to be served by:
 (For example, you are homebound and would appreciate receiving Holy Communion ... List Eucharistic Ministry for the Homebound. If you wish to study the Bible in a parish Bible study, then list Bible Study)

Please call _____ to be served by or participate in _____
(Name) (Ministry)

Please call _____ to be served by or participate in _____
(Name) (Ministry)

Please call _____ to be served by or participate in _____
(Name) (Ministry)

Please call _____ to talk about possible areas of service, an idea for a new ministry, or a personal need. A member of the pastoral staff or stewardship commission will call you soon.

Please fill out this form and bring it to mass the weekend of September 23-24, or return it to our Parish office. Thank you.

YOU SPOKE, WE'RE LISTENING: ME25

Over 1800 parishioners recently completed an "ME25" survey. The ME25 is designed by the Gallup Organization to provide insight into the ways in which we are spiritually committed people who are engaged in our faith community, leading to profound life as people of Christ. In the coming months you'll be invited to offer your thoughts about our parish and you'll be hearing much about what we are learning from the ME25. Through this process of sharing, the ME25 is opening the doors to new ideas for our growth as a community strong in faith, alive in spirit.



7820 Beechmont Avenue Cincinnati, Ohio 45255

Coming Soon:
*Discover the person
 God Created You To Be*



This is a special time in the life of our faith community! Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish has grown into a community that is "strong in faith, alive in spirit," as a result of the commitment of many parishioners. Every September, we reflect on our lives as disciples and stewards. I encourage you to spend time in prayer, asking yourselves how you are being called to deepen your relationship with Christ and with our parish community.

Be sure to bring the enclosed commitment forms with you to Mass on the weekend of September 23-24, when we will celebrate our commitment to one another in a special way.

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BEING COMMUNITY TOGETHER calls us to live for God and others. In this time of renewal, we remind ourselves of how important it is that we offer to one another all that we can, so that we will continue to grow in Christ as individuals and as a community.

WHAT DO YOU GIVE OUR PARISH? Offer the gifts God has given you as your gift back to God! We as a parish community promise one another that we will gather our gifts together in service of one another and those in our world who need to know God's love through us.



WHAT DOES YOUR PARISH GIVE IN RETURN?

As a parish, we give one another a place in which to grow strong in faith through the Mass and sacraments, caring for one another in all of the moments of our lives. We challenge one another to be formed in faith to live the gospel of Jesus Christ through work and deed, continuing Jesus' ministry of service to all of God's people.

How are you living as a steward of all you are and all you have been given?

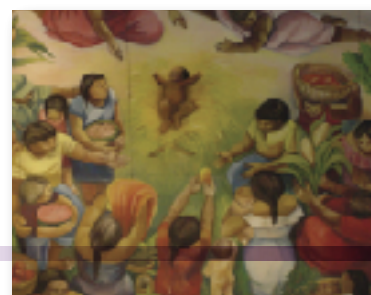
Stewardship is about Christ. It is about the way we live as Christians, following Jesus' example of selflessness. It is about getting our priorities straight and putting first things first.

Stewardship is where faith and real life meet. It puts flesh on the invisible. It is a way of expressing our love for God by acting in love for others.

Stewardship challenges us to put our money, our very lives, where our mouth is – we say we are blessed, that we have much for which to be grateful. Stewardship is the way of living what we say we believe, it is the way to express who we are as Christian people.

Stewardship itself is also a blessing! Those who have entered the path of stewardship often speak of the happiness they find when they realize that the world need not have power over us. We can spend much time acquiring possessions, seeking position, constantly moving from one thing to another. Remembering that all we are and have comes from God, and giving back a generous portion in gratitude helps to bring perspective and purpose to our lives.

The truth is, embracing stewardship can change us, for the better! That is why we keep talking about it – we hope everyone will know the joy of being a good steward.



"Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities. Come, share your master's joy." (Matthew 25: 21)

The Call and the Challenge:

Stewarding our gifts calls us to challenge ourselves to move from self and toward others by sacrificing our time, our financial resources, through offering the talents we have been given by God, and by being committed to living as a person who looks to Christ as the first and best example of faithful living, as God calls us to do.



Full descriptions of the ministries through which you may serve or be served are found in our Ministry Guidebook and Phone Directory. A quick list that highlights particular ministerial needs is on your personalized ministry commitment form to the right.

Four Ways of Living the Call: Thanking, Inviting, Serving and Giving

Thanking:

Praising God: Liturgical, Sacramental Preparation, and Prayer Ministry

Did you know that each of us has an essential role in the Mass and sacramental celebrations? Coming together for prayer, especially the Eucharist, is the most important role we can fulfill in our lives. Liturgical Ministry helps us to put our relationship with God above all others in our lives by assuring that the liturgy will be celebrated well and with care.

Inviting:

Welcoming and Renewing in Faith

Imagine walking into someone's house and feeling no sense of welcome. How important it is that we warmly welcome those who come to us as guests or new parishioners, as a sign of Christ's love, and of our joy that they are with us.

Serving:

Within and Beyond our Parish Community:

"See how they love one another," it was said of the early Christian communities. When we serve within our parish, we recognize Christ's presence with and around us, and we are strengthened to serve others who need to know God's love.

Giving:

Offering our Financial Resources to Further our Parish's Mission:

We give in many ways, through active involvement in ministry, through our prayer, and through financial giving. It is crucial that we challenge ourselves to step up our financial giving, to address the debt remaining from building and renovations completed in 2003, and to insure the continuation of our parish's mission and vision.



YOUR Help is Needed!
 Look at the list below to see ministries where help is needed now.

Shop Smart for IHM
 (formerly known as ABC's for IHM, needs Mass sellers)

Baptism Preparation needs a teacher and Assistants at baptisms

Bread Ministries needs more volunteers

FOCCUS (Marriage Prep) needs more couples and will train them.

Food from the Heart needs donations

HeartBeat needs writers and photographers

Holy Communion to Anderson

Holy Communion to New England Club

Holy Communion to SEM

Holy Communion to Homebound

Hospitality Ministers needs help at all but 9:30 Mass

Natural Family Planning (NFP) write a testimony

Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration (PEA) needs subs and adorers especially midnight to 6 AM

Respect Life needs help and co-chair

Time and Talent Team needs help throughout the year

A Time for Reflection: How can we give more of ourselves to God?

Family Name _____ ID# _____ Email _____ Phone _____

As a sign of my love of God and others, I can be a better steward of my time and talents in the following ways: *(For a family, think of each members' unique talents and interests).*

Fill in the other side of this form to volunteer or inquire about specific ministry opportunities.

Family Name _____ ID# _____ Email _____ Phone _____

As a sign of my/our love of God and others, I/we commit to be good stewards of treasure in the following ways in the coming year:

My/Our 2007 annual commitment is \$ _____, to be offered in the following manner:
 Weekly _____ Monthly _____ Annually _____

Our commitment will be made by: (Please check one)
 Use of Sunday envelopes _____ Electronic Funds Transfer _____* Stock Transfers _____
(Information already on file at Parish Office) _____

Additionally, I/we will contribute to the following at Immaculate Heart of Mary in the coming year (memorials, special gifts, special collections of money or goods): _____

*If NEW to Electronic Funds Transfer, you must enclose a VOIDED CHECK to set this up for withdrawal beginning January 1, 2007. If your preference is to begin your electronic transfers now, please note here when you want it to begin: _____

Electronic Funds Transfer authority will remain in effect until I notify Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in writing or email (sandiz@ihom.org) at least 2 weeks prior to the next withdrawal date. I/We understand that this commitment is made only before God and is not legally binding. It may be changed by contacting Sandi Zibulka at 388-4183 or by email at sandiz@ihom.org

Signature _____ Date _____ Signature _____ Date _____

Please fill out this form and bring it to mass the weekend of September 23-24, or return it to our Parish office. Thank you.