

*Church of St Mary
Stewardship 2008
Time & Talent*



Dear Members of St. Mary's:

A few weeks ago we experienced a call to "Open Our Hearts to Jesus" through the area mission. We were reminded that by virtue of our baptism each one of us plays a vital role in building up the church and manifesting Christ's presence in the world. Our ability to carry out this mission is best done in a community that reaches out in hope, love and service to one another.

We are blessed here at St. Mary's to have a community of faith-filled people who gather to worship each week and who generously share their gifts with others. Through the connections we make, the relationships we have and the gifts of time and talent we share, we are able to respond to the call of Jesus to be good stewards of our God-given gifts.

This year our stewardship theme is: "**Get Connected: Our Response to Jesus**". We all know how important it is to keep in touch, to get together, to stay connected with those we love. Likewise, we keep in touch and stay connected with God through prayer, witnessing our faith and the sharing of our gifts. *We invite you to "get connected" with other members of St. Mary's by volunteering to share your time and talent in our parish and the greater community.*

Enclosed with this letter you will find a form listing the Ministry and Volunteer Opportunities available at the Church of St. Mary. We invite you to look through these ministry and volunteer opportunities and then prayerfully consider making a commitment to share your time and talent in one or more of these areas. You are encouraged to fill out this form and return it on the weekends of April 5th & 6th and April 12th & 13th. Please return the form by putting it in the collection basket, by mailing or dropping off this form to our parish office.

On the weekend of April 5th & 6th we will be having a "ministry fair". Different booths will be set up to show the various ministries available at St. Mary's. At this "ministry fair" people will be available to answer questions and provide information about each ministry and volunteer opportunity; it will also be a time for parents to enroll their children and youth into next year's faith formation classes.

On Saturday, April 12th we will come together to show appreciation to all parishioners of St. Mary's. An invitation to this annual dinner is included with this letter and we hope that you will join us that evening.

The Church of St. Mary is able to reach out in Hope, Love and Service through its great people like you who are willing to share your gifts and make connections where it matters the most; with one another and with God.

Fr. Steve Verhelst and the St. Mary's Stewardship Committee