

MAKE A STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENT:

We invite you to reflect on your stewardship of the gifts entrusted to you: your time, your talent and your material gifts as an outward sign of the treasure you hold in Jesus. Reflect on these questions and pray for the Lord's guidance. Make a commitment to grow, serve, and share together with your parish family.

How to Commit Your Time:

How much time do I spend on my relationship with God and fulfilling my mission as a son or daughter of God?

Lord, help me recognize where I do this well and show me where I can improve.

Prayer: Do I spend time in heartfelt and connected prayer? If my prayers have become rote or automatic can I commit to refreshing my focus and habits? *Lord, help to me to increase my time in prayer talking with you.*

Fasting: Have I committed to fasting and abstaining as the Church requires during Lent? Have I chosen an additional Lenten fast or sacrifice? *Lord, with your loving care, help me to adhere to your teachings so that my fast be an act of sacrifice as a concern for others less fortunate than myself.*

Mass: Do I attend and fully participate in at least one weekly Mass and the Sunday Holy Day of Obligation? If I do not attend daily Mass on a regular basis can I add one per month? *Lord, help me to come to you.*

Confession: Do I repent of my sins before receiving Communion? *Lord, help me to seek forgiveness and healing through the Sacrament of Reconciliation.*

Perpetual Adoration: Do I spend time adoring Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament? If I do not have a weekly Holy Hour, can I commit to a set amount of time per week in the Adoration Chapel? *Lord, help me to find time to come and rest in your Eucharistic presence.*

Daily Offering: Do I start the day by giving everything to God including my work, my joy, and my suffering? Do I love God and others throughout my day? *Lord, I offer my prayers, works, joys and sufferings of this day in reparation for my sins and for the intentions of your Sacred Heart. Show me the ways I can expand my devotion to You and share it with others.*

Ministries and Apostolates: Do I participate regularly in any ministries or apostolates? *Lord, help me find ways to serve you and others at my parish.*

How to Commit Your Talents:

How do I share my talents to love God and others?

Lord, help me recognize where I do this well and show me where I can improve.

Gifts: What are my talents? Do I have gifts of hospitality? Am I good with children? Can I minister to the sick or suffering? Do I enjoy cooking or serving? Do I enjoy crafts or construction? Am I musically inclined? *Lord, help me to identify my talents so that I can share them with others.*

Hobbies and Professions: Whether I am a professional, retired, homemaker, or student I have skills and talents given to me by God. Am I open to assisting the church where my expertise could help fill a need? *Lord, help me to share my gifts with others.*

Ministries and Apostolates: Do my talents align with ministries and apostolates available at St. Mark? Can I commit to serving in one? *Lord, help me to identify a place at the parish to share my gifts.* Go to stmarknc.org/ministry-directory to find out more.

How to Commit Your Treasure:

How do I share my material gifts to give back to God and help others? *Lord, help me recognize where I do this well and show me where I can improve.*

Parish Support: Do I contribute to the weekly offertory? Has my charitable giving increased when my income increased? Can I plan, prioritize, and consistently give to St. Mark? *Lord, help me to provide for my parish.*

Material Goods: Do I contribute food to the collection bin in the Narthex? Do I respond when asked for diapers, housewares or whatever is needed? Can I donate each week to help feed the hungry or provide to community outreach projects? *Lord, let me be your hands and feet in my community.*

Diocesan Support: Do I give to special collections throughout the year? Do I donate to the Diocesan Support Appeal, Priest Retirement Collection, Seminarian and Religious Funds? *Lord, help me to see that our greater Catholic community needs my participation.*

Ministries and Apostolates: Do I support ministries and apostolates doing the work of the parish? Do give or attend fundraising events? *Lord, help to support those who do the work of the parish.*

Thank you for spending some time reflecting on the many ways you can commit to stewardship at St. Mark. Remember, the purpose of service is not to do something for others, but to allow Christ to do something for others through us. Pray for one another as we enter into the Holy Season of Lent together.

