A Reflection on Stewardship

Dear Nativity Family,

When we hear the word stewardship, many of us naturally think about money. We think about pledge cards, budgets, and what it costs to keep our parish going.

But at Church of the Nativity, we believe stewardship is so much more than that.

Stewardship begins with gratitude—with recognizing that everything we have is a gift from God. Our lives, our families, our abilities, our time, our resources, and this parish community we share have all been entrusted to our care.

So perhaps the question of stewardship is not simply, "How much should I give?"

Perhaps the deeper question is, "How do I respond to all that God has given me?"

We respond by giving something of ourselves back.
Sometimes that means giving financially. Sometimes it means giving our time and talents. It may mean singing in the choir, serving at the altar, teaching our children, helping a neighbor, caring for someone who is hurting, serving in one of our parish ministries, welcoming someone who walks through our doors for the first time, or simply being present for one another.

Each of these is an act of stewardship.

And when we give financially to Church of the Nativity, we are doing much more than paying bills. We are participating in God's work.

Our generosity makes worship possible. It supports the ministries of our parish. It helps care for this sacred place that generations before us entrusted to our care. It allows us to reach beyond our walls and serve our neighbors. And it helps ensure that Church of the Nativity is here for the person who needs it today—and for the person who may walk through our doors years from now searching for faith, hope, comfort, or a place to belong.

Jesus tells us:

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." — Matthew 6:21

Stewardship is ultimately a matter of the heart.

It is about gratitude for what we have received, faith in what God is doing among us, and generosity toward what God is calling us to do together.

None of us gives in exactly the same way. Our circumstances, abilities, and resources are different. What matters is that each of us prayerfully considers what God has entrusted to us and asks how we might use those gifts in His service.

As we look toward the year ahead, we invite every member and every family of Church of the Nativity to prayerfully consider what stewardship means in your own life.

Consider the gifts God has given you.

Consider what Church of the Nativity means to you and your family.

Consider the ministry we are called to share together.

And then ask a simple question:

“Lord, how are You calling me to respond?”

Our answers will be different. But together, our gifts of time, talent, and treasure allow Church of the Nativity to continue being a place of worship, fellowship, service, hope, and welcome. In the words familiar to generations of Episcopalians:

“All things come of thee, O Lord, and of thine own have we given thee.”

May we give joyfully, serve faithfully, and always remember that everything we offer begins with gratitude for all that God has first given to us.

Faithfully in Christ,

Cameron Durnya
The Stewardship Committee
Church of the Nativity

*Please click HERE to access the 2027 Pledge Card.