

Goals for the Implementation of Stewardship
Diocese of Rockford
Recommended by Diocesan Stewardship Commission
Approved on May 1, 1998
by Bishop Thomas Doran

Annual Review at January 26, 2001 Meeting
Stewardship Commission of Diocese of Rockford

Goal 1:

The Rockford Diocese leadership: Bishop, Curia, Diocesan Department staff, Consultative and Advisory bodies will:

- affirm and promote Stewardship as a significant priority of this diocese;
 - A. After consulting with the College of Diocesan Counsellors, the Presbyteral, Finance and Pastoral Councils and the Stewardship Commission of the Diocese, Bishop Doran authorized the *United in Faith* Campaign to raise \$35 million dollars for identified needs.**
 - B. Because of the *United in Faith* Campaign, new Diocesan Endowment Funds will be established in the *Catholic Foundation for the People of the Diocese of Rockford* for: Catholic Education, Religious Education and Youth Ministry, Seminarian and Continuing Priest Education, and Needy Parishes and Schools. Fund earmarked for the Priests' Pension will be placed in the Clergy Relief Society. Parishes are encouraged to use their rebated funds from this campaign to establish or fund their own Catholic Foundation Endowment funds, pay off debt, or to save for capital projects.**
- seek ways to integrate the teaching and practices within their areas of responsibilities;
 - A. An ad-hoc Committee of the Stewardship Commission, composed of principals, DREs, youth ministers and parish stewardship leaders, published and began the distribution of the Rockford Diocese Children's Stewardship Manual to be used in Parish Catholic Schools and Religious Education Programs.**
 - B. The Ministry Formation Office offered a Stewardship specialization day for those enrolled in the two-year program. The Director of Parish Stewardship conducted this event.**
 - C. The Communications Office worked in close cooperation with the Office of Stewardship Development such as: numerous appearances on the weekly radio show, creative assistance with the development of campaign materials, advertising and annual reports.**
- sponsor educational opportunities for diocesan and parish leaders and all membership;
 - A. Office of Stewardship Development published three editions of the Sharing Newsletter, ten issues of Parish Update and two issues of the Perpetual Light Newsletter. These were distributed to close 1,000 parish stewardship leaders.**
 - B. In the Spring 2000 five regional training sessions were conducted for parish Time and Talent efforts. Four more regional meetings were conducted to train parish leaders for Diocesan Stewardship. In the Fall four regional training sessions were conducted for Witness Training.**
 - C. Parish Business Managers and High School Development Directors were convened by Office of Stewardship Development staff throughout the year for support, self-help and skills improvement opportunities.**

- D. Office of Research and Planning collaborated with the Stewardship Office by surveying Diocesan Stewardship lapsed donors regarding their acceptance of the stewardship message and their giving practices. These results spurred a second survey of parish stewardship leadership.**
- E. Low pre-registration cancelled the annual Parish Stewardship Day; schedule conflicts cancelled the Perpetual Light Mass; Catholic Foundation participants questioned the need for an annual gathering after being surveyed.**

- incorporate Stewardship teachings, principles and practices into fund-raising, volunteer recruitment, budgetary decisions and statements of accountability.

- A. In the development of the Case Statement of the United in Faith Campaign, a major statement was included linking Stewardship theology, spirituality and practices with this campaign.**
- B. During the kick-off of Diocesan Stewardship 2000, the Office of Finance and Administration published the annual Financial Statement for the Diocese of Rockford.**

Goal 2:

Each parish of the Rockford Diocese will:

- establish a Stewardship Commission (or a leadership structure) that is committed to Stewardship and is dedicated to educating and promoting the teachings and practices of Stewardship within the parish;
 - A. 57 parishes have some form of stewardship leadership**
 - a. 41 have established or are establishing Stewardship Commissions**
 - b. 16 have one or more Stewardship Advocates**
- foster year-around Stewardship education;
 - A. 78 parishes are listed as presenting the Stewardship message in an on-going manner. These parishes are currently sharing the message in various forms and media and in varying time intervals. This information is being clarified by the survey of the Eight Characteristics of a Stewardship Parish which is currently being returned and tallied.**
- conduct an annual parish appeal of time, talent and treasure with the goal of achieving full participation of its membership;
 - A. 63 parishes are presenting an annual Stewardship of Treasure Appeal.**
 - a. 47 parishes presenting the appeal at their preferred “best” time schedule.**
 - b. 16 parishes presenting the appeal combined with the Diocesan Stewardship Appeal.**
 - B. 64 parishes are presenting an annual Stewardship of Time & Talent Appeal.**
 - C. 53 parishes are tithing a percentage of their income to other charities ranging from less than one percent to over ten percent of their ordinary income.**
- educate about time and talent opportunities at the diocesan level;
 - A. In two editions of *The Observer*, the Diocesan Time and Talent Sign-up Sheet was published. Approximately thirty individuals filled out the form. Each filled-in form was sent to the appropriate Department Head for follow-up.**

- exceed its Diocesan Stewardship goal by striving to gain pledges for at least 110% of its goal from all of its membership;

A. As of January 23, 2001 Diocesan Stewardship 2000 has achieved 112.1% of goal by pledges from 31,982 donors, which is 35.6% participation.

- strive for contributions from all members to the Combined Collections for the Universal Church.

A. 2000 National Appeal - \$439,243 – 10,507 donors - \$41.80 avg. gift – 11.7% participation

B. 2000 International Appeal - \$445,640 – 10,493 donors - \$42.47 avg. gift – 11.6% participation

C. 2000 Mission Appeal - \$414,180 – 9,734 donors - \$42.55 avg. gift – 10.6% participation

Goal 3:

All entities of the Rockford Diocese will:

- educate about Stewardship of Assets;

A. 7 parishes have a group responsible for promoting planned giving (either through a planned giving committee or Finance Council)

B. Foundation brochure printed and mailed to pastors, parish leaders, Perpetual Light members, and lawyers

C. All parishes with email now receive a monthly planned giving tip to be used in bulletin/newsletter

D. All diocesan high schools are participating in a planned giving/development support group

E. Every new account in Catholic Foundation received resource manual on promoting and educating on planned gifts

F. New brochures on bequests, stock gifts and retirement assets were purchased and made available to parishes and schools

G. Catholic Foundation participated in local Leave A Legacy program encouraging people to remember charity in their estate plan

H. Catholic Foundation annual report produced for *Observer*

I. Several articles in *Observer* on Foundation and planned giving ideas

- promote planned gifts as a meaningful expression of stewardship;

A. 5 Wills Seminars conducted in CY2000 resulting in at least one bequest for \$100,000

B. 20 new gift annuities established totaling \$302,032

C. All parishes received packet on how to conduct an end-of-year giving mailing with sample letters

D. All parishes have a personalized gift annuity flyer and information on mailing to parishioners 65+

E. All priests 65+ received mailing on gift annuity program (4 new annuities established)

F. Began similar process with deacons 65+

G. Approximately 105 “check offs” from diocesan appeals contacted by letter and phone call.

H. Numerous meetings with individual donors and Perpetual Light members

I. Four gift annuity ads placed in *Observer*

- establish an account in the *Catholic Foundation for the People of the Diocese of Rockford*.

A. 60 new accounts established in the Catholic Foundation totaling \$3.7 million, including

a. 25 new accounts from the McHenry County Education Foundation

b. 3 new donor advisory endowments (16 total)

c. \$1.6 million endowment for Archbishop Romero School

B. Only 13 parishes do not have an account in Catholic Foundation (2 are pending)

C. \$7.2 million available to participants in FY 2000