

# Stewardship Appreciation & Recognition

The success of stewardship in the lives of individuals and their parishes can be greatly enhanced by an expression of appreciation and recognition. Whether in words, print or deeds – thanking your stewards is most important.

Special venues include periodic social gatherings such as parish dinners, picnics, pupu parties, etc. Events of this nature will typically result in a renewed sense of involvement and support while also building upon a spirit of stewardship within the parish community. Stewardship appreciation events also provide an excellent opportunity to report and share information about ministry activities, volunteer highlights, future plans and new opportunities.

The important habit of saying thank you cannot be overstated.

## **Suggestions for thanking and recognizing volunteers**

1. Profile ministry volunteers in your newsletter and bulletin.
2. Develop a stewardship section on your website to highlight parish stewards.
3. Host an appreciation breakfast, lunch or dinner – maybe a picnic or pupu party .
4. Make a special thank you video for your website and to show at parish events.
5. Create specially designed thank you cards to send to your volunteers.
6. Thank donors via social media like Facebook, Twitter, Instagram.
7. Handwrite thank you notes, or add a new twist to the standard letter with a personal comment.
8. Add a personal touch or special insert to the annual contribution letters mailed each January.
9. Schedule monthly times for making thank you calls. Get everyone in the stewardship committee to commit to this as a team!
10. Send an anniversary card to recognize volunteer loyalty and have it signed by the Pastor and the Ministry Leader. Make cards for 5, 10, 15 and 20 years of giving their time and talent.