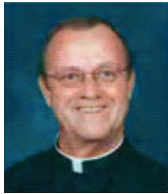


## A Word From Monsignor McSweeney:

**T**his coming weekend, January 10th and 11th, we will be holding our annual Stewardship of Treasure renewal weekend.



In a time of uncertainty, it is easy to become distracted by our worldly concerns. However, for that reason, it is also a perfect time to remind ourselves of the many ways in which God has richly blessed us in our lives. Particularly since the blessings that God bestows tend to withstand the ups and downs of the world around us.

Similarly, the message of Stewardship and Discipleship is one that has stood firm for 2000 years and through many different ages: good times and bad. When we recognize the many gifts that God has given us and return a portion of those gifts back to God, in service to Him, we are living what it means to be true Stewards. We have seen this past year how even small gifts-like pennies- can become a great testimony of our love for God and for each other with the help of the Holy Spirit.

As we consider now the financial gifts that God has placed in our lives, please join me as we as a community "stir into flame the gift of God" (2 Tim 1:6) by completing the Intention Card on the reverse side of this letter. Bring it with you to Mass this weekend where we will offer it in thanksgiving to God in recognition of His many blessings. May God continue to bless you always and in all ways.

Saint Matthew Catholic Church  
P.O. Box 49349  
Charlotte, NC 28277

# Stewardship of 2009 Treasure



**"Stir into flame the gift of God"**

**2 Tim 1:6**

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[www.stmatthewcatholic.org](http://www.stmatthewcatholic.org)

## What Scripture Tells Us

*"Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you shall eat or what you shall drink, nor about your body, what you shall put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?" (Mt 6:25)*

*Are you worried? Saint Matthew continues on saying "Can any of you by worrying add a single moment to your life?" (Mt 6:27)*

*Do you have food, clothing, and shelter for today? "So do not worry and say 'What are we to eat?' or 'What are we to drink?' or 'What are we to wear?' All these things the pagans seek. Your heavenly Father knows that you need them all." (Mt 6:31-32)*

*Matthew 6: 33-34 helps us to put our priorities in order, reminding us "But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given you besides. Do not worry about tomorrow; tomorrow will take care of itself."*

# Stewardship of Treasure 2009

Complete this Intention Card and bring it to Mass on Commitment Sunday, January 10 - 11

### 1 OFFERING AMOUNT

My offertory intention for 2009 is \$\_\_\_\_\_ per week.

### 2 HOUSEHOLD INFORMATION

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ MI \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse \_\_\_\_\_ Envelope # \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

### 4 SIGNATURE

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### 3 METHOD OF DONATION

☐ **Option 1: Automatically through Faith Direct**

Initiate or update your automatic offering plan via Faith Direct by enrolling online at: [www.faithdirect.net](http://www.faithdirect.net). Saint Matthew parish code is NC 36.

☐ **Option 2: Automatically through your Bank**

Initiate or update your recurring offering through your bank's online automatic bill payment system. Please be sure to include your envelope number in the account information section.

☐ **Option 3: Weekly Envelopes**

Use your weekly envelopes to increase your stewardship offering.

### TAKE A STEP THIS YEAR BY INCREASING TO THE NEXT PERCENTAGE LEVEL:

Household Annual Income:	WEEKLY OFFERING AS A % OF INCOME				
	2%	3%	4%	5%	10%
\$30,000	\$12	\$17	\$23	\$29	\$58
\$60,000	\$23	\$35	\$46	\$58	\$115
\$90,000	\$35	\$52	\$69	\$87	\$173
\$120,000	\$46	\$69	\$92	\$115	\$231
\$150,000	\$58	\$87	\$115	\$144	\$288
\$175,000	\$67	\$101	\$135	\$168	\$337
\$200,000	\$77	\$115	\$154	\$192	\$385

Recommended tithing: 5% to our parish community; 1% to the diocese; 4% to other charities