

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ

From the very beginning of His public ministry, Our Lord gathered communities around Him. He said that whenever even two or three met in His name, He would be with them. The same is true today when we come together as the parish community here.

The Church has always been this living community that preaches the gospel and celebrates the sacraments to make visible Christ's presence in our world. It also must sustain itself to achieve these ends. Each parish, is responsible for funding its own activities and property and cannot rely on others, such as the diocese, for financial support.

Our community must take responsibility for balancing our books and taking forward the ongoing mission given by Jesus Christ to his first apostles. I'm very grateful for the support so many give to our parish and for their continued participation in the life of our community.

In the light of the many pastoral activities taking place in the parish, as well as the challenges presented by the upkeep of our church buildings, I invite you to reflect on your regular offertory contribution and on the need to share your time and your talents so as to build our community. We must strive to pass on our parish (including its buildings) to future generations so that it can continue to enrich and bless the life of each member and reach out to our local community.

Thank you, as always, for your generosity.

Canon Matthew Jones

If you have any questions, please speak to a volunteer or contact the parish office.

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CHRIST THE KING CARDIFF



OUR CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

Week 1 of 3

*“serve one another with whatever gift
each of you has received”*

1 Peter 4:10

Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Cardiff
Registered Charity No 1177272

“...since everything has come from you and we have given you only what you bestowed in the first place”

1 Chronicles 29: 14



All we have and all we are comes from God

Our gifts include many things: our faith, our friends and family, our skills, our possessions, our parish and the gift of life itself.

As **God's Stewards** we should aim to receive these gifts:

- Gratefully
- Responsibly and accountably
- Sharing them with others and
- Return a meaningful proportion back to God

So how do I respond?

Regularly reflect on my blessings. Am I grateful for my gifts? Renewing my commitment to the faith through giving is an important part of my personal spiritual growth and discipleship.

Time, talent and treasure

Each one of us is blessed with a unique portion of time, talent and treasure. God calls us to use and share these blessings with others.

How do I share these gifts with my parish?

Give **Time** - Pray and engage

Share **Talent** - Volunteer your skills

Offer **Treasure** - Donate generously



Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

2 Corinthians 9:7

What does my parish mean to me

We are all stewards of this parish. We are responsible for the upkeep of our church and community. We want to pass it on to future generations in even better condition than we received it from those who have gone before us, the previous stewards.

Alongside volunteering, our parish relies on offertory collections to maintain and grow our mission. We do not receive funding from the government, the Vatican or the diocese.

What you give is personal to you. If you haven't reviewed your giving for some time then this is your opportunity, remembering that over time inflation will have reduced the value of your giving.

How and what you decide to give has to suit your circumstances. It will depend on your level of income and the costs of running your household and meeting your other commitments. One approach suggested by the late Cardinal Basil Hume was to look at your income and offer to God an amount which would equate to a first hour's pay for the week.

Next week there will be further information about the parish's finances. In the meantime please reflect prayerfully on how your giving can help the parish meet to its costs and plan ahead.

God will not be outdone in generosity. When we are generous to Him with our time, our effort, our money – He is even more generous to us.

