Prayer of the Faithful

Including Stewardship messages in the Prayer of the Faithful reinforces the understanding that Stewardship is a way of life which begins with our on-going dialogue with God.

According to *The General Instruction of the Roman Missal*, Chapter II, paragraph 70 the prayers should be in the following order:

1. for the needs of the church
2. for public authorities and the salvation of the world
3. for those oppressed by any need
4. for local community

Intercessions for Stewardship would generally fall under the category of the local community. They could be included once a month for a yearlong Stewardship reminder or just for the weeks of the parish Stewardship renewal.

The following are simple guidelines to keep in mind when writing intercessions. They should be:

- tied to the readings
- concise and to the point
- consistent and begin with the same wording. For example:

  For those….

  That….

  May…
Prayer of the Faithful for a Four Week Stewardship Renewal

Week #1
That a deeper faith is realized by the members of (name of parish) who, out of gratitude for God’s abundant gifts, share their talents with others, we pray to the Lord…

Week #2
For all members of (name of parish) who, through their Stewardship of time, talent, and treasure, are eager to share their gifts with their parish and diocese, that their faith is deepened and their lives become further enriched, we pray to the Lord…

Week #3
For all members of (name of parish), that through our Stewardship of time and talent and service to God on earth, we will realize greater personal and community faith we pray to the Lord…

Week #4
For all (name of parish) parishioners, that our Stewardship of treasure to our parish and diocese will be an expression of gratitude for what God has given to us, we pray to the Lord…
Prayer of the Faithful for the Parish Family

Lord, you are the giver of every gift, including the most precious and holy gift of your son, Jesus Christ. Help us to remember how important it is for us to also be a generous giver of gifts, so that we can carry out Christ’s mission for His Church on earth, we pray to the Lord.

Lord, instill in our heart a spirit of charity and compassion. Help us to be open to ways that can make a difference in our parish and community, by being generous with our abilities and treasure, we pray to the Lord.

Lord, grant us the ability to honestly evaluate our lifestyle that it might reflect a desire to walk closer with you, we pray to the Lord.

Lord, help us to wisely use the gifts you’ve entrusted us to steward, we pray to the Lord.

Lord, give our parish family the desire to do your will, giving generously of ourselves and our gifts for the mission of the Church, we pray to the Lord.

Lord, we offer up a prayer of thanksgiving for the abundance of treasure and abilities with which you have blessed us. Give us the desire to joyfully share our gifts for the good of our Catholic community, we pray to the Lord.

Lord make us trustworthy stewards of your abundant blessings. Show us ways that will enable us to fully embrace your teachings of charity, we pray to the Lord.

Lord, help us to have the courage to be good stewards of God’s many blessings, we pray to the Lord.
Prayer of the Faithful Corresponding to the Months of the Year

January
May we resolve during this year to share more generously than ever our time, talents, and treasure with our parish community and others…We pray to the Lord.

February
That our actions will continue to build up our parish community as we live our call to be good stewards of God’s many gifts…We pray to the Lord.

March
During this season of Lent, may we open our hearts to the needs of the poor and oppressed…We pray to the Lord.

April
That our actions will demonstrate our gratitude to God for the gift of salvation and eternal life…We pray to the Lord.

May
May we follow the example of the Blessed Mother and open our hearts to follow the message of God without measuring the personal cost…We pray to the Lord.

June
May we become better stewards of our time, especially the time that we spend with God…We pray to the Lord.

July
May we open our hearts to return to God, the first fruits – giving from our substance rather than our surplus…We pray to the Lord.

August
That we may always seek to see the face of God in all people we encounter…We pray to the Lord.

September
May we always remember – “all that we are” and “all that we have” are gifts from God…We pray to the Lord.

October
That all members of our parish community will be united in our common faith journey…We pray to the Lord.

November
During this season of giving thanks, may we always remember that God is the source of all the blessings in our lives…We pray to the Lord.

December
As we prepare during this season of Advent to receive God’s greatest gift, His son, may we reflect on our need to share with others…We pray to the Lord.

Used with permission from the Diocese of St. Louis
Prayer of the Faithful Focusing on People as Stewards

That as conscious stewards, we may open our minds and hearts to hear God’s call as we prepare for our upcoming Stewardship renewal, we pray to the Lord…

That as aware stewards, we will reflect upon what it means to be the hands of Christ as we begin our Stewardship renewal, we pray to the Lord…

That as gifted stewards, we may use and share our God-given gifts in loving service to help build God’s kingdom, we pray to the Lord…

That as committed stewards, we may receive the gift of the Eucharist to help us move from faith to action as the hands of Christ, we pray to the Lord…

That as the hands of Christ, we may have the perseverance to follow Jesus and his teachings in all aspects of our lives, we pray to the Lord…

That all of us as Christian stewards may live a life that gives witness to the fact that we are the hands of Christ, we pray to the Lord…

Used with permission from the Diocese of Rockville Centre, NY
Prayer of the Faithful Focusing on the Elements in
Stewardship – A Disciple’s Response

May our loving Creator and Giver of all good gifts, bless our parish, strengthen our faith, and grant us the spirit of Christian Stewardship so we may give generously of our time, talent, and treasure to spread Your Kingdom here in our parish. For this, we pray to the Lord.

May the gifts, talents, and abilities given to each of us by our Lord enable us more effectively to carry out the mission of the parish. For this, we pray to the Lord.

That we may take time to enjoy God’s gifts to us, appreciate them, and share them with others. For this, we pray to the Lord.

That we may remember to be grateful to God for all of our successes and accomplishments, for without Him we could do nothing. For this, we pray to the Lord.

For all those who so generously support the work of our parish and the greater Church, that they may know the joy God promised to those who do His work. For this, we pray to the Lord.

*Used with permission from the Diocese of Winona, Minnesota*
Prayer of the Faithful Compatible with the Six Themes of Stewardship used in Sunday Homilies – Forming Communities in the Spirit of Stewardship

Theme I
For the human family all over the world. May we grow as nations, peoples, and communities in the likeness of God, recognizing the preciousness of life and sharing all our gifts in love. Let us pray to the Lord.

Theme II
For the Church in every age. May the members of the Body of Christ affirm, acknowledge and strengthen each other as gift and then proclaim good news by generously sharing the Gift of God with the world. Let us pray to the Lord.

Theme III
For the members of our parish and our community. May we see in one another and in our own lives the blessings and gifts that God has showered upon us. May we live grateful lives.
Let us pray to the Lord.

Theme IV
For all the broken-hearted, the poor, the oppressed, and those forgotten. May we reveal the love of God in our hearts by our generosity to the poor and our dedication to justice. Let us pray to the Lord.

Theme V
For the Body of Christ, especially among our parish community. May we grow our gifts for the sake of the Gospel through our generous participation in the life and ministry of the Church. Let us pray to the Lord.

Theme VI
For the conversion of heart among all the people of God. May the members of Christ’s Body continuously grow into gifted and generous stewards of life emptying themselves for the sake of the Kingdom. Let us pray to the Lord.

Provided by the Diocese of Cleveland