PASTOR'S COLUMN

"DIG DEEP INTO YOUR SOULS!"

As we continue to journey through this month of November, we reflect upon Stewardship as a way of Life – the giving of the biblical tithe, the 10% of time, talent, and treasure as the way in which we show gratitude to our Creator, and the manner in which we act responsibly as God's stewards.

As we journey through this life, we become evermore conscious that we are pilgrims. Earth is not our home. We are immigrants in a foreign land! We walk this way only once, and only for a short time.

In our time on Planet Earth, we are called to tend to the Lord's Garden. It is not our Garden. It was here before we arrived. It will be here after we leave.

Are we acting responsibly? How are we caring for the Lord's Garden? What kind of Stewards are we? Are we mindful that one day we will be held accountable before the Lord? The Parables of Jesus remind us of this over and over again.

This weekend at all the Masses we are privileged to hear from the Schanzenbach's – Bret & Jolene, and their children, Kyle, Zachary, Kolbe, Gabrielle, and Caleb.

The Schanzenbach's are active members of our Parish Family who have, over the years, chosen consciously and deliberately to make the Lord the center of their family and their lives

When that decision is made, specific choices must be followed in terms of the giving of time, talent, and treasure as external signs of the internal decision that has been made.

I am grateful that Bret and Jolene are willing to come forward, to share their story with us, as a way of encouraging us to choose for Christ more deliberately.

After all the Masses this weekend, there will be volunteers on the plaza, under the tent, to assist you in responding to your stewardship commitments, and to the new Capital Campaign, "Our Journey Into The Future . . . Together."

Hopefully, you have taken time to become familiar with the Stewardship Booklet that was mailed to you this past week, and you are ready to make your faith-filled response.

Volunteers will be available this weekend and next weekend on the plaza to assist you. Your response can be given at those times or any time throughout the month of November. Your "commitment form" and your "response envelope" can be returned on the plaza, in the offertory basket, or mailed to/dropped off at the parish office.

All Parish Households will be contacted. Your willingness to come forward will be helpful to our volunteers and make their work much easier.

You are a grateful people. You are a generous people. You are a faith-filled people. I know that you will respond accordingly!