

**CATHOLIC CHARITIES**  
Voice of Hope Award Nomination Form 2006

**\*\* Please refer to the "Guidelines for Selection" Sheet for more information \*\***

All entries must include the following:

- completed nomination form
- 500-word typed essay

**Section 1 -- Nominee Information**

Award Category (circle one only):                      Individual                      Parish                      Institution

Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Section 2 -- Nominator Information**

Nominated by: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Section 3 -- The Essay**

Please describe in 500 words (about 2-3 paragraphs) or less why your nominee should receive a Voice of Hope Award. Your essay should provide examples of how the nominee's talents, skills and dedication in the areas of charity and/or justice have made a difference in the Diocese of Youngstown. Preference will be given to nominees who interface with the ministries and/or agencies of Catholic Charities.

*Please direct any questions to Shellie Sabel at 330-744-8451, ext. 322 or*

*ssabel@youngstowndiocese.org*

**Deadline for nominations: April 3, 2006**

## Catholic Charities Voice of Hope Awards 2006

### **GUIDELINES FOR SELECTION**

**Award Mission:** To recognize an individual, a parish and a Catholic institution demonstrating excellence, creativity and leadership in charity and justice on behalf of disadvantaged people.

**Eligibility/Guidelines:** All nominees (individual, parish or institution) must be located in and affiliated with the Catholic Diocese of Youngstown.

- Individual nominees must serve in a volunteer capacity. They cannot be paid employees of a parish or institution.
- Parish or institution nominees must demonstrate the involvement of a “group effort” in meeting a need or challenge in their community.
- Former Voice of Hope Award nominees *are* eligible for re-nomination.
- Former Voice of Hope Award winners *are not* eligible for subsequent awards *unless* the individual, parish or institution is nominated for an effort unrelated to their previous award.

**Standards for Selection:** One winner will be chosen from each of the three categories (individual, parish, institution). Award recipients will be selected according to the following criteria:

- nominee’s achievements and leadership
- nominee’s efforts to support and/or assist the ministries/agencies of Catholic Charities in the Diocese of Youngstown
- nominee’s dedication to his/her/their cause
- impact of the nominee’s efforts on his/her/their community and/or the Diocese of Youngstown

**Selection:** Nominees will be individuals, parishes and institutions connected to the Catholic Church who exhibit excellence, creativity and leadership in charity and justice on behalf of disadvantaged people. An ad hoc committee will review the nomination materials and rank each nominee according to the Standards for Selection listed above. Top recommendations from each category will be submitted to the Executive Director of Catholic Charities for his consideration. The Executive Director will then forward the final choices to the Bishop/Administrator for review and approval.

**All completed Voice of Hope Award nomination forms are due by Monday, April 3, 2006.  
Mail, fax, or e-mail completed nomination forms and essays to:**

**Ms. Shellie Sabel  
ATTN: Voice of Hope Awards 2005  
Catholic Charities  
144 West Wood St.  
Youngstown, OH 44503**

**Fax: 330-742-6447  
E-mail: [ssabel@youngstowndioocese.org](mailto:ssabel@youngstowndioocese.org)**

**Questions? Call 330-744-8451, ext. 322**

## Suggested Stewardship Bulletin Inserts for February / March

February 5, 2006 (5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time)  
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

Like St. Paul in the second reading today, the good steward can say, "I do all that I do for the sake of the gospel in the hope of having a share in its blessings."

February 19, 2006 (7<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time)  
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

Forgiveness, too, is a gift from God. Freed from the paralysis of sin, the man in today's Gospel was able to stand and give witness to the power of God. How do I let sin cripple me? Am I a good steward of the gift of God's forgiveness?

March 5, 2006 (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent)  
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

The waters of Baptism make us part of the new covenant in Christ. But the bishops' pastoral letter on stewardship reminds us that "there is a fundamental obligation arising from the sacrament of baptism...that the people place their gifts, their resources – their selves – at God's service in and through the Church.

March 19, 2006 (3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent)  
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

"You shall not covet" is perhaps a difficult commandment to keep in our consumer society, but as Christian stewards, we know that we are the recipients and caretakers of God's many gifts. May this understanding that *all* is gift help us be less resentful of the gifts of others.

March 26, 2006 (4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent)  
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

All that we have and all that we are comes from the Lord. "We are truly his handiwork," says St. Paul in the second reading, "created in Christ Jesus to lead the life of good deeds which God prepared for us in advance.

February 12, 2006 (6<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time)  
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

In today's second reading, St. Paul urges the Corinthians to "do all for the glory of God." If we follow that advice in everything we do, we cannot help but be good stewards!

February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2006 (8<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time)  
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

St. Paul tells the Corinthians that they are living letters, "known and read by all." What does the letter of *my* life reveal to those who read it? Can they tell by the way I live that I belong to Christ and that all I am and have is His?

March 12, 2006 (2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent)  
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

Abraham was prepared to sacrifice his only son, Isaac. St. Paul reminds us that God Himself "did not spare his own Son." Are *my* gifts to the Lord – of my resources, of my time, of myself – also sacrificial?

OR March 19, 2006 (3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent YEAR A)  
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

When Jesus asked the Samaritan woman for a drink of water, He opened the door for a life-changing relationship with Him. Scripture says her testimony drew many others to Him as well. We, too, must be ready to respond whenever and wherever the Lord speaks to us and be prepared for it to change our lives.

OR March 26, 2006 (4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent YEAR A)  
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

The blind man in today's Gospel was willing to let Jesus minister to him and willingly did all Jesus asked of him. The Pharisees were more resistant to His message. Spending their time and energy to disprove the miracle. Which am I more like, the man born blind or the Pharisees?

# Intercessions for Life

Feb 2006

- Feb 5th**      **FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
For all who are homeless, forgotten, or abandoned:  
that we might come to see Christ present in their lives  
and rejoice at the gifts they bring to us;  
We pray to the Lord:
- Feb 12th**     **SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
For every child born this day,  
that God might give us the grace  
to love and support them;  
We pray to the Lord:
- Feb 19th**     **SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
For all who are engaged in medical research,  
that they might be guided by the Church's love for the truth;  
We pray to the Lord:
- Feb 26th**     **EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
For all who teach young children:  
that by their lives and by their words  
they might teach the beauty and value of life  
from conception to natural death;  
We pray to the Lord:

We must continue to search for helpful and effective means of appreciating the dignity of all of human life. We must find more and better ways of being in greater solidarity with one another on this human journey. Especially, we must look deep into our own hearts to identify those attitudes which are contrary to Jesus command to love neighbor as ourselves.

Bishop William Skylstad (October 26, 2005)

## FEBRUARY 2006: BULLETIN BRIEFS

Prepared by the USCCB Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities

*In today's social context, family groups with numerous children are a witness of faith, courage and optimism, because without children there is no future.*

Pope Benedict XVI, Address at Wednesday audience, November 2, 2005

*To stand with others and keep vigil while they suffer and die is the greatest gift of love a human being can experience. It also provides the greatest opportunity to learn. Those who suffer and those preparing to die have much to teach the healthy and the living about the mystery of our humanity and the dignity that is ours through our relationship with God.*

Archbishop John J. Myers, Pastoral Letter "Whether in Life or in Death, We Are the Lord's," September 8, 2005

Justice Harry Blackmun did more inadvertent damage to our democracy than any other 20<sup>th</sup> century American. ... When Blackmun wrote the *Roe* decision, it took the abortion issue out of the legislatures and put it into the courts. ... Blackmun and his concurring colleagues invented a right to abortion, and imposed a solution more extreme than the policies of just about any other comparable nation.

Pro-choice *New York Times* columnist David Brooks, "Roe's Birth, and Death," *New York Times*, April 21, 2005

*Roe v. Wade* sparked public opposition and academic criticism, in part, I believe, because the Court ventured too far in the change it ordered and presented an incomplete justification for its action.

Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, "Some Thoughts on Autonomy and Equality in Relation to *Roe v. Wade*," *North Carolina Law Review* 63 (1985): 375-386, at 376