

Stewardship Bulletin Inserts for September / October 2008

September 7, 2008 (23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

Am I my brother's keeper? All three readings today suggest that for the Christian steward the answer is "Yes!"

September 21, 2008 (25th Sunday in Ordinary Time)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

In today's Gospel, the vineyard owner says, "Am I not free to do as I wish with my own money?" We are likewise free. Is a generous return to the Lord in thanksgiving for His many blessings among the choices we have made?

October 5, 2008 (27th Sunday in Ordinary Time)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

In today's Gospel, the owner of the vineyard sent servants to collect his share of the harvest from the tenant farmers; but there was not a single good steward on the property! God is the owner, we are the tenants. What sort of stewards are we?

October 19, 2008 (29th Sunday in Ordinary Time)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

Each year at tax time, we conscientiously give "to Caesar what belongs to Caesar." Does my stewardship indicate that I am as faithful about giving "to God what belongs to God"?

September 14, 2008 (Exaltation of the Holy Cross)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

In today's second reading, St. Paul writes to the Philippians about Jesus' self-sacrificial love. Christian stewards know that as our Lord's disciples we are also expected to make sacrifices for others and His Church.

September 28, 2008 (26th Sunday in Ordinary Time)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

The first son in today's Gospel said he would do his father's bidding, but did not. The second son balked at first, but then repented and did as he was asked. What service is God calling me to do? Which son am I most like?

October 12, 2008 (28th Sunday in Ordinary Time)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

In today's second reading, St. Paul thanks the Philippians for being willing to share in his distress and promises that God, in turn, will fully supply all their needs. Our God truly cannot be outdone in Generosity!

October 26th, 2008 (30th Sunday in Ordinary Time)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

We fulfill the commandment to love our neighbor when we exercise good stewardship – joyfully sharing our gifts of life, abilities, and resources to meet our neighbor's needs.

Respect Life Bulletin Quotes
September 2008
USCCB Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities

Sept 7th TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Some claim that scientists who kill embryos for their stem cells are not actually depriving anyone of life, because they are using “spare” or unwanted embryos who will die anyway. This argument is simply invalid. Ultimately each of us will die, but that gives no one a right to kill us. Our society does not permit lethal experiments on terminally ill patients or condemned prisoners on the pretext that they will soon die anyway.

USCCB, On Embryonic Stem Cell Research (June 13, 2008)

Sept 14th THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

Human cloning is intrinsically evil because it reduces human procreation to a mere manufacturing process, producing new human beings in the laboratory to predetermined specifications as though they were commodities. It shows disrespect for human life in the very act of generating it. This is especially clear when human embryos are produced by cloning for research purposes, because new human lives are generated solely in order to be destroyed.

USCCB, On Embryonic Stem Cell Research (June 13, 2008)

Sept 21st TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

It now seems undeniable that once we cross the fundamental moral line that prevents us from treating any fellow human being as a mere object of research, there is no stopping point. The only moral stance that affirms the human dignity of all of us is to reject the first step down this path. We therefore urge Catholics and all people of good will to join us in reaffirming, precisely in this context of embryonic stem cell research, that “the killing of innocent human creatures, even if carried out to help others, constitutes an absolutely unacceptable act”

Pope John Paul II, The Gospel of Life [Evangelium Vitae], no. 63

Sept 28th TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Stem cells from adult tissues and umbilical cord blood are now known to be much more versatile than once thought. These cells are now in widespread use to treat many kinds of cancer and other illnesses, and in clinical trials they have already benefited patients suffering from heart disease, corneal damage, sickle-cell anemia, multiple sclerosis, and many other devastating conditions.

USCCB, On Embryonic Stem Cell Research (June 13, 2008)

**Office of Pro-Life, Marriage and Family
Diocese of Youngstown
Natural Family Planning Bulletin Quotes**

Sept 7th TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“We don’t just like natural family planning, we love it. It isn’t just achieving or avoiding pregnancy. It is really the way we live our life.”

NFP User

Sept 14th THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

“We like NFP because it’s medically safe, natural, and keeps us close to each other.”

NFP User

Sept 21st TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“It’s because of Natural Family Planning that we’re having a baby. It was so important with the medical problems we had.”

From a woman now pregnant who had experienced difficulty achieving pregnancy:

Sept 28th TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

We found that using NFP has given us the balance that we desired by giving control to God and giving us the choice of using our self control to grow closer to each other and to Christ.

Douglas & Sharon Hale