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## SUNDAY BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS THAT CONTAIN STEWARDSHIP MESSAGES

### **December 3, 2017** (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent)

- We are servants of God, each with his or her own task. We will be judged good stewards if, at His coming, He finds us ready and conscientiously pursuing the tasks to which we have been called.
- Stewardship Thought: Whatever time we have is a gift from God and we are asked to use it wisely; to serve God and others.
- Who will take your place as a generous benefactor to (parish name)? A memorial gift in your Will could continue your generosity after death.

### **December 10, 2017** (2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent)

- John the Baptist's call to repentance is echoed in the US Bishops' pastoral letter on stewardship: "Christians must beg God for the grace of conversion: the grace to know who they are, to whom they belong, how they are to live – the grace to repent and change and grow, the grace to become good disciples and stewards."
- Stewardship Thought: We are all stewards – managers of the many gifts God has bestowed upon us. Our challenge as Christians is to make good use of those gifts.
- Your generosity during your lifetime has enabled (parish name) to serve the people of God in this community. Continue to be a part of the strength of this community by making a bequest in your Will to (parish name).

**December 17, 2017** (3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent)

- All of the people in today's readings – the prophet Isaiah, the Virgin Mary, St. Paul, St. John the Baptist – seemed to understand clearly and rejoice in what God was calling them to be and to do. Do I?
- Stewardship Thought: “Happiness lies more in giving than in receiving.” (Acts 20:35)
- A bequest in your Will is important for the future of (parish name). If everyone made a gift, we would be assured of being able to continue our services to the community.

**December 24, 2017** (4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent)

- In the first reading, God promises King David that his house and his kingdom will endure forever. It is through Mary's “Yes” – “I am the handmaid of the Lord. Let it be done to me as you say.” – that the promise finds fulfillment.
- Stewardship Thought: God will never be outdone in generosity. No one is ever poorer for giving to our God who is so rich in love, mercy and goodness.
- You need not redo your entire Will to make a provision for a charitable bequest to (parish name). Simply prepare a Codicil (a written change or addition), have it witnessed and attached to your Will. Add a gift to your parish in your Will.

**December 31, 2017** (Holy Family)

- “Whatever you do,” says St. Paul to the Colossians, “. . . do it in the name of the Lord Jesus. Give thanks to God the Father through him.” And so it is that we offer our gifts in the Eucharist “through Him, with Him and in Him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit . . .”
- Stewardship Thought: “Your light must shine before all so that they may see goodness in your acts.” (Matthew 5:16)
- You can avoid excess taxes by giving certain appreciated securities, art or coin/stamp collections to (parish). This is a very attractive and substantial way to make a memorial gift.