



Stewardship results when the need to give is greater than the need to have.



CONFERENCE ARTWORK — Artwork depicts a passage from Revelations, reflecting the theme of the 48th Annual International Catholic Stewardship Council Conference, "Making All Things New," to be held Sept. 19-22 at San Diego's Marriot Hotel. (ICR photo courtesy of ICSC)

Stewardship conference returns West; attendance encouraged

BOISE — Want to help your parish be a place where stewardship is truly a way of life? Here's an opportunity to learn how from the best experts in the country.

The preeminent conference for Catholic parish leaders to learn about stewardship is coming back to the West Coast. The 48th Annual International Catholic Stewardship Council Conference will be Sept. 19-22 at San Diego's Marriot Hotel.

"Talk to anyone who's attended an ICSC conference and they will tell you the same thing. They will say that they had their eyes opened to see the stewardship vision," said diocesan Stewardship and Development Director Jim Hughes. "Everyone, once in a while, needs to go to the mountaintop, to learn new things, get new ideas and bring them back to share them with others."

The last time the International Catholic Stewardship Council's annual conference was held in the western part of the country was in 2005 in San Francisco. That year, the diocese, recognizing that it must invest in launching its new stewardship effort, paid for 11 people to attend the conference. Seven were priests who

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were able to gather information to bring home to use in starting their own stewardship efforts. Another 10 people from several parishes also attended. The diocesan delegation of 21 was one of the largest groups to attend from outside California. With the conference returning west, the diocese is encouraging parishes to send representatives this year if possible.

The theme for the International Catholic Stewardship Council's 2010 conference is Making All Things New, from Rev. 21:5.

"Christian stewardship begins with the acknowledgement that only Jesus Christ can 'make all things new' in our lives, within our families, in our communion of faith and in the world," Hughes said. "From this foundation, embracing stewardship inspires us to ongoing conversion, resolving to make better choices, rethink our priorities and to do more to proclaim the Good News for the Lord and for others. The ICSC conference provides a host of opportunities to learn how stewardship encourages us to proclaim the Good News.

"Budget cutbacks for the last several years will not allow the diocese to resume sending priests and laity from around the diocese to the conference," he continued. "Still, we are encouraging parishes in Idaho to commit to sending a representative who can bring valuable information back to the parish. Even sending one person can make a huge difference if the parish is serious about becoming a true stewardship parish. Even though our economy has not recovered from this recession, an investment in stewardship education can help a parish begin or advance its efforts and pay for itself many times over."

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Stewardship effort goes high tech

By Michael Brown
Editor

Interested in getting more involved – or even better, helping to get your parish involved – in stewardship but laboring under tight budgets? The Office of Stewardship and Development has the program for you for a cost you can afford: it's free.

The Stewardship office has registered the Diocese of Boise for stewardship Webinars sponsored by Our Sunday Visitor, a national non-profit that began as a newspaper and has expanded its ministries to other forms of publishing and products, including programs that help parishes build their stewardship efforts. The Webinars are sponsored by OSV Offertory Solutions.

"This is a way for people to hear top-notch speakers without having to spend money on travel," said Stewardship and Development Director Jim Hughes May 24. "This is part of what our diocese is trying to do to share pertinent information to all our parishes."

All a person needs to do to attend the Webinar is to register online in advance at http://www.formstack.com/forms/osvoffertory-diocesanwide_webinar_registration_form. A link will be e-mailed and then the person clicks on the "Join" link when the Webinar begins. Each session lasts about an hour.

For places that have slow or spotty Internet access, the Webinar can be heard over the phone, with registration in advance with OSV's Diane Brumbaugh at (800) 348-2886 ext. 3892.

The next Webinar is set for

June 8 beginning at noon local time. The topic is "How to Maximize Your Offertory," and the presenter is Julie Kenny, Stewardship Services manager at OSV.

Debbie Gallegos, a member of the Diocesan Stewardship Council from Holy Spirit Catho-

partment in the Diocese of Charlotte, N.C.

- Sept. 14, noon-1 p.m. and 5-6 p.m.; "Forming People as Disciples and Stewards," with Anslinger.

- Oct. 12, noon-1 p.m. and 5-6 p.m.; "Working Together: How to Create/Join Min-

Because the diocese pays a per-Webinar fee, it's free for anyone in the diocese, whether they represent a parish, a school or just themselves, said Hughes.

lic Community in Pocatello, said she found it was easy to follow the May Webinar, "Key Elements for Establishing Stewardship as a Way of Life" by Leisa Anslinger, a national speaker on stewardship and catechesis. OSV provided a copy of Anslinger's PowerPoint presentation and a short biography of the presenter prior to the event, and also included a list of resources that viewers could use for follow up.

Gallegos said that viewers were able to type in questions during the event, which Anslinger was able to read and answer.

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Webinars available in the months to come include:

- July 13, noon-1 p.m.; "Blending Multiple Cultures in a Parish" with Sharon Hueckel, author of "The Disciple As Steward."

- Aug. 10, noon-1 p.m.; "Stewardship: Not for Adults Only" with Barbara Gaddy, from the Development De-

istries with a Nearby Parish," with Lorene Duquin, author of the book "When a Loved One Leaves the Church" and "Discerning Your Gifts."

- Nov. 9, noon-1 p.m. and 5-6 p.m.; "Stewardship Councils: Laying Foundations and Building Bridges," with Margo Truett, Stewardship director of St. Anne Parish in Columbus, Ga., and national stewardship presenter.

- Dec. 14, noon-1 p.m. and 5-6 p.m.; "Stewardship and Evangelization," with Duquin.

Hughes noted other new developments in his Stewardship office, including the dissemination of the e-newsletter "Stewardship News & Notes," an electronic posting to keep parishes and the diocesan Stewardship office in touch.

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