

A Grateful Response to God's Abundant Gifts: Stewardship in the Diocese of Wichita Weekend Formation Summit

*Friday, June 14 - Sunday, June 16, 2019
Spiritual Life Center
Bel Aire, KS
(The Heart of the Wichita Diocese)*



The Diocese of Wichita has successfully operated on the stewardship model for 38 years, a benefit of which is that all Catholic schools are funded through time, talent, and treasure. Many people look to Wichita to understand stewardship and how to implement it. This weekend will be a summary of stewardship formation documents in the diocese of Wichita. It will explain the spirituality of stewardship in its scriptural, magisterial, and pastoral elements. It intentionally explicates the relationship between discipleship, stewardship, and evangelization. It also explains stewardship in terms of the apostolate, especially the lay apostolate, as taught in the documents of Vatican II. Finally, it outlines the characteristics of a steward, a stewardship parish, and how accountability functions in the relation of the two.

*The weekend retreat will begin on Friday evening at 7:00 p.m. and end with lunch on Sunday. Fr. Jarrod Lies will be giving nine talks based on his book: *A Grateful Response to God's Abundant Gifts: Stewardship in the Diocese of Wichita*.*

*Fri. 7 P.M. - History and Fruits
Fri. 8:15 P.M. - The Textbook
Sat. 9:00 A.M. - The Magisterial Foundation
Sat. 10:15 A.M. - The Stewardship Way of Life
Sat. afternoon - Parish Visit*

*Sat. 4:00 P.M. - The Four Pillars
Sat. 7:00 P.M. - The Three Areas of Giving
Sat 8:15 P.M. - Accountability of a Christian Steward
Sun. 9:00 A.M. - Fundraising vs. Development
Sun. 10:15 A.M. - A Stewardship Parish*

*Weekend retreats at the SLC include five meals, all conferences, Mass and quiet prayer time.
Commuter - \$100.00 * Single Room - \$165.00 * Double Room - \$138.00*

*Retreat Registration will open late April
2019. Please check the
Spiritual Life Center website for
registration details.
www.slcwichita.org*

*Spiritual Life Center
7100 E. 45th St. N
Bel Aire, KS 67226
www.slcwichita.org*



Rev. C. Jarrod Lies
861 N. Socora
Wichita, KS 67212
316-722-4404 (work); 316-304-5291 (cell)
frlies@stfranciswichita.com

Title: *A Grateful Response to God's Abundant Gifts: Stewardship in the Diocese of Wichita*

A Brief Summary of the Message of the Formation Summit

The Diocese of Wichita defines stewardship as *the grateful response of a Christian disciple who recognizes and receives God's gifts and shares these gifts in love of God and neighbor*. As Msgr. Thomas McGread, stated, "A stewardship way of life is a thanksgiving way of life, living life as God intended it to be lived."¹ He repeatedly said, "It's not a program. It's a way of life. And this is really the biggest mistake many people make."² The mistake referred to is reducing the idea of stewardship to financial development. In the Diocese of Wichita the accent of stewardship is on gratitude for God's gifts, not on methods of increased financial giving. This accent includes subordinating stewardship to discipleship and making discipleship missionary in practice.

The goal of this formation summit is to summarize and explain the purpose and meaning of stewardship as practiced in the Diocese of Wichita. After an overview of its historical development within the diocese we will proceed through stewardship's scriptural, magisterial, and pastoral foundations and conclude with the identity and responsibilities of a steward. We will also elucidate the intrinsic relationship between stewardship, discipleship, and evangelization. This will be an academic and spiritual look at the concept of stewardship. It will not be a detailed description of the process by which it is implemented. The aim of this summit is to help people understand stewardship in terms of the Apostolate as set forth in the documents of Vatican II.

¹ Deacon Donald R. McArdle, *Grateful and Giving, Grateful and Giving: How Msgr. Thomas McGread's Stewardship Message has Impacted Catholic Parishes throughout the Country* (Evans, GA: Catholic Stewardship Consultants, 2011), 9.

² Msgr. Thomas McGread, "A Foundation for Stewardship," YouTube video, 8:31, posted by the Catholic Diocese of Wichita, January 27, 2017, accessed August 8, 2017. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jFdMyFRz3H8>.

Annotated Table of Contents

Session 1: The History and Fruits of Stewardship: After presenting an general introduction to the book this chapter then moves on to give a brief account of the history the diocese of Wichita. Then a discussion of the fruits of stewardship serve as a motivation to adopt this way of life. Finally, a brief comparison of stewardship, non-stewardship, and Wichita parishes shows visible benefits of this way of life.

Session 2: The Textbook of Stewardship: The textbook of stewardship is the bible. Stewardship is a biblically rooted concept. The spirituality and theology of stewardship is derived from Old Testament and New Testament narratives concerning this way of life. Ultimately, scriptural revelation shows that stewardship is a participation in the self-emptying of Christ on the cross and a participation in the mutual reciprocity of the Holy Trinity.

Session 3: The Magisterial Foundation of Stewardship: Stewardship within is the apostolate in practical action. After a discussion on the apostolate, and particularly the lay apostolate, the concepts of discipleship and evangelization are discussed. This section culminates on the Pope Francis' call to mission and his desire for parishes to be mission-oriented.

Session 4: The Stewardship Way of Life – Stewardship is a faith-based way of life arising from gratitude and resulting in spiritual joy. This chapter explains each part of the Wichita's definition of stewardship. The spirituality of stewardship is elucidated through this explanation.

Session 5: The Four Pillars of Stewardship – The spirituality and theology of stewardship finds practical expression in the life of a parish. This expression is articulated in the four pillars as a program of action. A clear understanding of these four pillars helps implement a plan for the stewardship way of life.

Session 6: The Three Areas of Giving – Time, talent, and treasure are three areas in which one places their giftedness at the service of love of God and neighbor. However, these terms are to be seen in a spiritual sense, not merely in a temporal sense. Stewards are call to give of themselves in all three of these areas, not just one, although the way they give differs throughout the various seasons of life.

Session 7: Accountability of a Christian Steward – One of the blessings of the stewardship way of life is that it provides standards toward which people may strive. These standards are clear goals which foster a collaborative relationship between a parishioner and a parish. Parishioners, pastors, and parishes are all three accountability to the standards of the stewardship way of life.

Session 8: Fundraising vs. Development – The history of stewardship discourages indirect fundraisers but realizes that direct development in necessary to meet the fiscal and material needs of the parish. What is the difference between these too? Why is there such a preference? How does this look in the practical life of the parish?

Session 9: A Stewardship Parish – Of the many blessings that come from the stewardship way of life one the most visible blessings can be seen in the flourishing of diocesan and parish ministries. Understanding the structure and processes of a stewardship parish can help others implement them in their own parish. This chapter briefly touches on the identity of a stewardship parish, its support of tuition-free catholic schools, and its relation to the diocese as a whole.

Summary of Personal and Professional Background

Name: Reverend Christopher Jarrod Lies – (Rev. C. Jarrod Lies)



Parents: David and Patty Lies.

Siblings: Fr. David Lies Vicar General of the Diocese of Wichita, KS
Shane Lies married to Angie with four children: Mikaela, Andrew, Kaeden and Paige
Evan Lies married to Devonna: Cora, Damon, and Brynly
Ryan Lies married to Rachel: Jude, Clara, and Emmie

Seminary: Conception Seminary College, Conception, MO.
Degrees: Philosophy and Theology.
Pontifical College Josephinum, Columbus, OH
Degrees: Masters of Divinity, Masters in Scriptural Theology.
Sacred Heart Seminary, Detroit, MI
Degree: Licentiate in Sacred Theology with emphasis in the New Evangelization

Ordained: Deaconate in 2000
Priesthood, May 26th, 2001

Assignments:

'01 – '03	Associate Pastor at Our Lady of Lourdes, Pittsburg, KS.
'03 to May '11	Director of Pastoral Care, Bishop Carroll Catholic High School
'04 to '09	Celebrant and Liaison of Extraordinary Form at St. Anthony's, Wichita
'08 to '15	Pastor of St. John's Clonmel, Viola, KS
June '11 to '15	Director, Office of Faith Formation
July '13 to July '15	Board of Directors on National Federation of Catholic Youth Ministry
July '15 to present	Pastor, St. Francis of Assisi, Wichita

Biography

Fr. Jarrod Lies is the son of David and Patty Lies. He has four brothers, three sisters-in-law, and nine nieces and nephews with one on the way. On May 26th, 2001 he was ordained by Bishop Gerber to the Diocese of Wichita, Kansas. He holds undergraduate degrees in Philosophy and Theology from Conception Seminary College, Master's degrees in Scripture and Divinity from the Pontifical College Josephinum, and will soon finish a Licentiate in Sacred Theology with an emphasis in the New Evangelization through Sacred Heart Seminary in Detroit, MI.

Fr. Jarrod spent his first two years of priesthood as associate pastor in Pittsburg, Kansas, at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish where he performed parish and hospital ministry and assisted at St. Mary's-Colgan grade school and high school.

He then spent eight years as Director of Pastoral Care (chaplain) at Bishop Carroll Catholic High School. Besides preaching and teaching the name of Jesus his duties included directing Catholic formation, fostering Catholic culture, chairing the Religion Department, sitting the School council and administrative team, visiting classrooms and guest lecturing, youth counseling, educating in parent-child and family communication, and ministering to extracurricular activities (sports, band, theater etc.). He has also been involved in many youth evangelization programs including G.R.A.C.E. (Girls Responding Actively to Christ's Example), Knights of the Holy Queen, Angels, March for Life, Steubenville youth conferences, T.E.C., Project Freedom retreats, Sojourn Retreats, and a spiritual training program called God Squad.

From July 2008 – July 2015 he served as the Pastor of St. John's Clonmel, a small rural, and highly active, parish of 210 families. As pastor Fr. Jarrod was blessed to care for the sacramental needs of the community and cooperated with the parishioners to develop several approaches to Catholic Education for adults and children alike. And from June 2011 to June 2015 he served as the Director of the Office of Faith Formation for the Diocese of Wichita. During that time he also served on the Board of Directors of the National Federation of Catholic Youth Ministry (NFCYM). As Director he oversaw the programs and training for those involved in the formation of youth ages kindergarten through college. Fr. Jarrod is currently the pastor of St. Francis of Assisi parish, a large, and also highly active, parish of 2700 families. He has overseen the process of developing a parish strategic plan and as currently implementing a new parish vision derived from parishioner input.

Fr. Jarrod's priesthood finds its greatest fulfillment in *teaching and preaching the Eucharistic person of Jesus Christ so as to inspire and enlighten in the fire of the Holy Spirit to the glory of God the Father unto the salvation of souls.*