November 11, 2012
Thirty-second Sunday of Ordinary Time

"… she has contributed all she has…" Mark 12:44

Dear Friends,

Stewardship – the responsible planning and management of resources.

A widow with a young son gives her last bit of food to the prophet Elijah. A widow drops her last two coins in the collection basket. Both giving not out of their excess but giving all they have. This kind of behavior we would consider irresponsible planning and management of resources. But God looks at it as the norm, the way we are to be on a daily basis.

We are to give of ourselves and the giving should cause us to stop and think; it should not be easy. It should be a giving that allows us, helps us, or maybe even forces to trust in God.

Some of you may remember the phrase – time, talent and treasure. That is what God asks of us, to give of our time, talent and treasure so we are able to live out the Gospel message, to help bring about the kingdom of God.

Next weekend at St. Anne we will all have the opportunity to sign our St. Anne Covenant. Our covenant asks us to give of our time, talent and treasure to help further the mission of St. Anne which ultimately furthers the kingdom of God.

Our St. Anne mission statement says "We are a Christ centered community called to Worship, Connect, Grow and Serve." Our St. Anne Covenant helps us live out our mission statement by allowing us to make a commitment to the community in the areas of worship, connection, growth and service.

In the bulletin you will find a copy of our covenant. I ask you to read it over during the week and prayerfully consider your commitment to the kingdom of God and the community of St. Anne.

How will you Worship, Connect, Grow and Serve? How will you give of your time, talent and treasure?

Worship: Will you come to Mass even when the 49ers or Raiders are playing? Will you attend Las Posadas after you have worked all day and are tired? Will you celebrate Triduum – and attend Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Vigil of Easter?

Connect: Will you stay after Mass on a Hospitality Sunday and meet new people? Will you attend Friday Fish Fry's during lent or the Wine in the Bay in August?

Grow: Will you join a Small Christian Community? Will you attend a lecture series? Will you read a book on Christian living? Will you read your bible and pray daily?

Serve: Will you help with the Fall Festival? Will you buy food for the Giving Wreath? Will you give a few more dollars in the collection basket each week? Will you help your child's Faith Formation teacher? Will you join a new ministry?

Our covenant is not just for adults. We have one for our children too. As parents we set examples for our children. They are always watching us to see if we "practice what we preach." This week as you prayerfully consider your commitment, please help your children consider theirs too.

You are never too young or too old to give of your time, talent and treasure to further the Gospel.

Peace,
Lisa