



B. Sample Letters

Sample Letter from the Pastor: Ask Letter

Dear <<Salutation>>,

One of the most inviting, and yet most difficult passages in the Gospel is Jesus' call to become like little children. In fact, he says "Whoever does not accept the kingdom of heaven like a child, will not enter it." (Mark 10:15) It is inviting, because who wouldn't like to go back to those carefree days? It is difficult, because each of us knows all too well the responsibilities each of us carries, and that life is not without its worries.

Stewardship means becoming more childlike. It is recognizing our radical dependence on God. It is a profound gratitude for seeing everything – everything – with a child's eyes, as God's gift to us.

<CONDITION A: ACTIVE GIVER> You have demonstrated your faithful stewardship to our parish, giving your time and talents. I know that you already make sacrifices to support our parish. I invite you to continue and, perhaps, increase your level of giving at this time.

<CONDITION B: ACTIVE NON-GIVER> You have demonstrated your willingness to be part of our parish life <school> in many ways. I invite you to prayerfully consider how you can help with a financial gift to the parish. Making a weekly commitment of any amount at this time would be an important difference in the lives of those we serve <example>.

<CONDITION C: Non ACTIVE NON-GIVER> Please let us know if we can be of assistance to you or your family in any way. You can find out more about our parish life, school and the sacraments on our parish website, <site URL>.

With your help, our parish will be better able to continue to proclaim our Catholic faith. Your support will help our <school and> parish reach out to more people in the community. More children and adults will be formed in our Catholic faith. We will be better prepared to make the love of Christ visible to those who are poor, vulnerable and on the margins of society.

Thank you for considering a gift. I have enclosed a response form and envelope and encourage you to make your commitment today.

In the name of Jesus Christ,

<Signed>



B. Sample Letters (continued)

Sample Letter from the Pastor: Thank You Letter

Dear <<Salutation>>,

It is out of a profound sense of gratitude for God's many gifts that we make the choice to return some of what we have. Stewardship is more than writing a check, or joining a committee, or helping out at an event. Stewardship is a way of looking at life.

You are among those who have this unique vantage point. It is a perspective unique to the Christian life. Thank you for your generosity. Because of you, we are better equipped to give back to our people and help our neighbors in so many ways. You help keep Catholic education and adult formation accessible. You make the love of Christ visible and tangible to those who are poor, vulnerable and on the margins of society. Your gift means more people will hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

As always, our resources are limited. I give you my pledge that we will be good stewards of your gift, and do our best to responsibly maximize what you have entrusted to us.

In the name of Jesus Christ,

<Signed>

<Name and Title>