



Twelve Gardens of Stewardship

Prayer Service

Garden of the Soul

Let us Pray:

Lord,

You are the sower and reaper, the planter and harvester. We are eager to cultivate the gifts in the fertile soil of hearts open to You.

Reading from Scripture:

“Finally, draw your strength from the Lord and from his mighty power.” *Eph 6: 10*

“With all prayer and supplication, pray at every opportunity in the Spirit.” *Eph 6: 18*

Meditation – How are we cultivating our gifts?

Do I regularly spend the time I want to with God in prayer? Do I take advantage of liturgies, retreats and other opportunities to grow in my spirituality? Do I use prayer, fasting, and almsgiving to cultivate my relationship with God? Do I allow myself quiet time to just listen to the ‘still, small voice’ of God?

Closing:

Lord,

The seed that fell on rich ground yielded a harvest of thirty, sixty, or one hundred fold. May the seeds that You have planted in our hearts, in all the gardens where we are called to be good stewards, produce a rich harvest for building up Your Kingdom. Amen.



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Reflections

*Thoughts on each of the Twelve Gardens within the Four Pillars of Stewardship:
Prayer, Formation, Hospitality and Service*

Garden of the Soul

“With all prayer and supplication, pray at every opportunity in the Spirit.” Eph 6: 18

When you think of your Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, ask yourself how much time and effort you have committed to your relationship to Him, so that it can be healthy and continue to grow.

Prayer

Think of when you devoted time to a prayer/ liturgical retreat or workshop, etc. How did that help you grow in spirituality? Do you plan to participate in a similar activity this year and next, to continue to grow as a disciple of the Lord?

Formation

What formation opportunities are available to you? Think of prayer forms, retreats, and devotions that are offered in your parish or parish school. Is there a spirituality or prayer form you would like to learn about that isn't being offered? Consider ways to research this interest and/or involve the appropriate person regarding offering this specific formation opportunity.

Hospitality

What are your unique talents and gifts? Think of the spiritual gifts the Lord has given you. How can you use those gifts to make sure that no other disciple that 'knocks' on the door of your church is left feeling unwelcome? How can you help your church to evangelize and bring souls to the Lord?

Service

Do you feel challenged to pray for others? Think of a time that you participated in a prayer offered by your parish. What other opportunities are available for you to pray for others - as a Christian, as a Catholic, as a parishioner?