

## *Baptized to Give!*

**Are you a parent or Sponsor (Godparent – same thing) of a baptized child?**

If so, you promised

**To see that the child you present is nurtured in the faith and life of the Christian community** (BAS p. 153)

- and that includes ensuring there is a Church to nurture that child for the rest of his or her life!

**Have you witnessed a baptism in Church?**

If so, you promised

**to do all in your power to support the person baptized, in his or her life in Christ.** (BAS p. 155)

- and that includes doing everything you can to be sure there is a vibrant Church to support that person's life!

**Have you been baptized yourself, or renewed your baptismal vows in the last 25 years?**

If so, you promised (amongst other things!)

**To continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers** (BAS p. 159)

- and that includes giving as you are able, as the apostles taught; continuing with the community at worship as the apostles did, offering your gifts at the altar along with the bread and wine, and praying each day.



**Stewardship is the living out of the Baptized Life.**

Because there have been faithful and generous people since the apostles, we have had Churches to gather in.

For 2000 years, giving in love has made the Church.

Because there were generous givers in the past, evangelists were able to take the message of the love of Jesus all over the world – including to Vancouver Island

Because there were generous givers in the past, our Churches were built – St. Stephen's, and St. Mary's

Because there are generous givers now, we continue to gather in worship, to learn, and to grow in our mission to God's world; and to live our covenant of baptism

- ❖ to nurture people in the faith and life of the Christian community
- ❖ to support the baptized in their life in Christ
- ❖ to continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers.

**Giving, as part of our stewardship,**

- flows from our baptismal life;
- as part of our baptismal life, is a spiritual matter
- as a spiritual matter, is a source of wellness and joy

## *Giving is Spiritual Medicine!*

Next Week: DIY Guide for Givers

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