



SAINT TIMOTHY  
CATHOLIC CHURCH



## General Art and Christine Lichte *Service and Sacrifice*

One of the most beautiful things about our Catholic faith is our tradition of service to others. No act of service is too big or too small, and Pope Benedict often said that God’s gift of freedom – true freedom meant for everyone on earth – is ultimately achieved through service. Perhaps no clearer example of service and freedom can be found than with the men and women who



*General Art and Christine Lichte have five children and seven grandchildren.*

serve in the United States Armed Forces. This month, as the nation celebrates Veterans Day, we turn to General Art and Christine Lichte, who demonstrate how a service that springs from a foundation of faith and family can keep us grounded on the important things in life.

For both the General and Christine, that foundation began in New York City, where they both grew up in The Bronx – General Lichte from the south side, in the shadows of Yankee Stadium, and Christine on the north side – and

where their parents gave them the gift of faith, of which Catholic education played an important role. Christine came from a large family – she was the second out of nine children – whose faith revolved around Church and the school. In fact, they often invited the priests over for dinner. Interestingly, although General Lichte’s father was not Catholic, he made sure that the family

was up and ready for Mass every Sunday.

“I remember in grammar school, the students would take turns bringing home a statue of the Blessed Mother for a week at a time,” General Lichte says. “Inside the statue was a rosary, and while we would pray with my mother around the kitchen table, my father sat listening in the living room. He may not have been Catholic, but he supported my mother’s faith and he made sure we were raised in the Church.”

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## Service and Sacrifice *continued from front cover*

When the General and Christine met at CYO – she was playing basketball and he was a college student running the gym – and started dating, they both entered the relationship with a strong sense of family and with a knowledge of who they were as Catholics. They married, and due to General Lichte’s career as a pilot in the USAF, began living the life of a military family with transfers to different Air Force bases across the United States and Europe.

Texas, California, New York, Nebraska, Washington D.C., Illinois, Germany – in the 46 years the General and Christine have been married, they moved a total of 29 times, forcing their families back home to constantly update their address books. As exciting as it sounds, each time they moved meant starting over in a new environment, meeting new friends, enrolling in a new school for their five children and, most importantly, attending a new church. But one of the most beautiful things about our Catholic faith is that the prayers, the Mass, and the traditions are the same all over the world – the General and Christine knew that in whichever new city or country they lived, the Catholic chapels on each and every Air Force base provided a home of all that was familiar.

“We learned early on that moving to a new place could get lonely unless we jumped right in and got to know people right away,” Christine says. “And the Catholic chapels helped us do that. No matter where we were, the Mass was always the same, which was a comfort and, especially for the children, provided stability.”

In fact, just as Christine’s family had priests over for dinner when she was growing up in the Bronx, while in the Air Force, the General and Christine always made it a point to reach out to the Catholic chaplain on whatever base they were stationed, often inviting him over for dinner and to come hang out with the family.

“I can’t say enough good things about the Catholic chaplains who serve the role of a parish priest back home,” General Lichte says. “A Catholic chaplain baptized our children and celebrated their First Communion. Being in the military, their vocation is two-fold – not only are they a priest serving God, but they are also serving the military – and while they face many challenges, they do a lot of good work.”

With faith such an important part of their home life, what role did it have during the almost four decades General Lichte served in the Air Force? Did his Catholic faith give meaning to the service and sacrifice offered by those who served their country?

“Faith has definitely played a role in my military career,” General Lichte says. “I don’t know how to separate the two. Service in the military is about doing things for others. In fact, one of the core values of airmen is ‘service before self.’ Isn’t that what being a Catholic means? And there is definitely sacrifice – you see it every day in the military: soldiers serving for each other, for the team, for the nation; soldiers away from home and missing birthdays and little league games. But when you’re in the military, that’s what you sign up for. And it’s the same with faith – it’s what you sign up for and it is who you are.”

And those same virtues of faith, service and sacrifice extend to the families of those who serve. While the Air Force wives kept things going at home when husbands were flying, they often found ways to serve the very soldiers who were serving for us. For example, during the war with Iraq, Christine and other Air Force wives spearheaded a clothing drive at Landstuhl Regional Hospital in Germany for the wounded soldiers who had been evacuated there for treatment.

“The wounded soldiers were flown to Germany directly from battle, so when they arrived, they had only the clothes they were wearing,” Christine says. “We put the word out, and soon boxes and boxes arrived with donations of shoes, clothing and other personal items. It was very moving to see how something like sweatpants or a pair of sneakers could make a difference for a soldier trying to recuperate, and it was moving to see the goodness and generosity of people.”

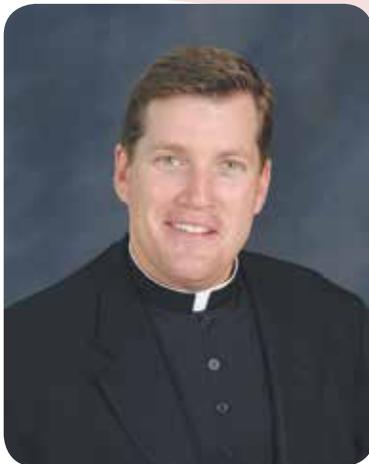
Finally, as the nation gathers this Nov. 11 to celebrate Veterans Day, we are reminded how service and sacrifice is very much about faith and family, which in the end becomes a legacy that is passed on to future generations.

“Veterans Day is a time to honor all who have served and to be reminded that we stand on the shoulders of those before us,” General Lichte says. “Ultimately, it’s not about one person, and I am proud to stand alongside all veterans from all branches of the military.”

## November: Time to Be Grateful

Dear Friends in Christ,

I thank God every day for my priesthood; I thank God every day for each one of you; I thank God when I say the Mass; I thank God for each and every day. There are so many ways that the Lord has blessed me that I cannot really mention them all. That is a lot of gratitude, I know, but it is that kind of attitude of appreciation for God's presence in our lives, and His many gifts to us, that we need to concentrate on — not just this month when Thanksgiving is so much on our minds, but throughout the year.



It has been said many times that people who are good stewards are grateful people and, as a result, are happy people. If we think about the good things in our lives — no matter how many challenges and sorrows there may be — and make them the center of our thoughts, it makes everything better.

As Catholics, we are thankful people by nature. We share the Eucharist regularly, and this is a gift from God on which we should always unite. You are probably aware that the word “Eucharist” itself comes from the Greek word eucharistia, which means, quite simply, “thanksgiving.” As a faith family, we share this meal of “thanksgiving” often, and certainly at every Holy Mass.

My thoughts of thanksgiving are not confined to one time of year, but every day of the year. That should be the goal for each of us. I heard someone say recently that our Thanksgiving holiday has Protestant roots, but there are Catholic roots to the tradition as well. Were you aware that in 1565 — 56 years before the Pilgrims celebrated their first Thanksgiving — Spanish Catholic settlers and Native Americans celebrated a Thanksgiving at a Holy Mass in St. Augustine, FL?

Thanksgiving is a way of life for us. Every time we gather to celebrate Mass, to pray, or to just enjoy one another's company, it is a time for that eternal gratitude. Everything we have is a gift from God. It may be something basic like fresh air and clean water. It may be food. It is certainly family, friends and our very parish. Let us thank God not just at this time of year, but always. You and I are blessed.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rev. Kenneth J. Malley".

Rev. Kenneth Malley

A close-up photograph of a hand holding a piece of white, torn-edged paper. The words "Be Grateful" are written on the paper in a green, cursive font.



# Basic Questions About C

## **What is a Stewardship Renewal?**

This isn't a parish fundraiser – far from it. Our annual Stewardship Renewal is the time when we ask each other to re-prioritize the way we use God's gifts in the Church. It is the time we write down how we will support St. Timothy Catholic Community.

## **Why should I fill out a commitment card?**

Your Commitment Card allows you to make commitments to prayer, parish ministries, and offertory giving, or what we at St. Timothy call “time, talent, and treasure.” There's a two-fold reason to complete your card. First, it is an excellent opportunity to move forward spiritually and personally. Second, when you fill out a card, our parish is much better able to manage our many volunteers and make budgeting decisions.

## **How many parish ministries are there at St. Timothy?**

“Ministry” is a general term for any parish group, organization, or regular activity. There are dozens of ministries in our parish. You can sign up for certain ministries, or re-commit yourself if you're already involved.

## **What if I sign up for a ministry, but later find I'm not very interested?**

You are not making a solemn promise to participate in a particular ministry when you mark it on your commitment card. If you find that the parish group is different than you thought, or simply that their meeting time doesn't fit your schedule, you can change your mind. There are plenty of other ministries to consider.

## **I'm hesitant to make a firm financial pledge. What if I lose my job?**

Your commitment card isn't a legal contract. If your circumstances change, your gift will change. In Scripture, we are asked to “give according to our means.” So, if you lose your job, you may be unable to give at the level you pledged. Likewise, if you get a promotion, you may be

able to give more. That is why at St. Timothy, our standard of giving is based upon a percentage of income.

## **What happens if I don't fill out a commitment card?**

Returning a card is an important part of being an active member of St. Timothy. If for some reason you lose your card, we'll send you a reminder letter with an extra commitment card. Please make every effort to return it!

## **Time, Talent & Treasure**

Please bring your Commitment Card to Mass on Commitment Sunday, November 14-15. How will you use your time, talent & treasure in our parish?

## **DISCIPLESHIP THROUGH STEWARDSHIP** 2015 STEWARDSHIP RENEWAL



  
SAINT TIMOTHY  
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# Our Stewardship Renewal

## Stewardship of Time

**Our definition of Stewardship of Time:** Using my time on earth wisely; making time for personal prayer, family prayer, and quality time with friends and loved ones.

**The bottom line about prayer:** Without prayer, we cannot thrive spiritually. As Catholic Christians, it is a necessity to spend time each day speaking to God. This includes reading Scripture and saying prayers such as the Our Father and Hail Mary, but even more importantly, it should include a heart-to-heart conversation with Jesus. He wants us to bring him all our fears, longings, needs, and desires.

**What kind of Time commitments should I make?** Your commitment card lists several suggestions for how to spend time with God in prayer. Review your current prayer life and take a step forward. For instance, start having daily prayers with your children or spouse. Commit to praying the rosary on the way to work or reading Scripture before bed each night.

## Stewardship of Talent

**Our definition of Stewardship of Talent:** Using my God-given abilities to strengthen the Church and help others, especially through parish ministries and activities.

**The bottom line about parish ministry:** No Catholic Christian exists in a vacuum. Scripture makes it clear that we must function within the wider faith community, putting our gifts in the service of others. It's not enough to go to Sunday Mass; we need to be involved in parish life and ministry.

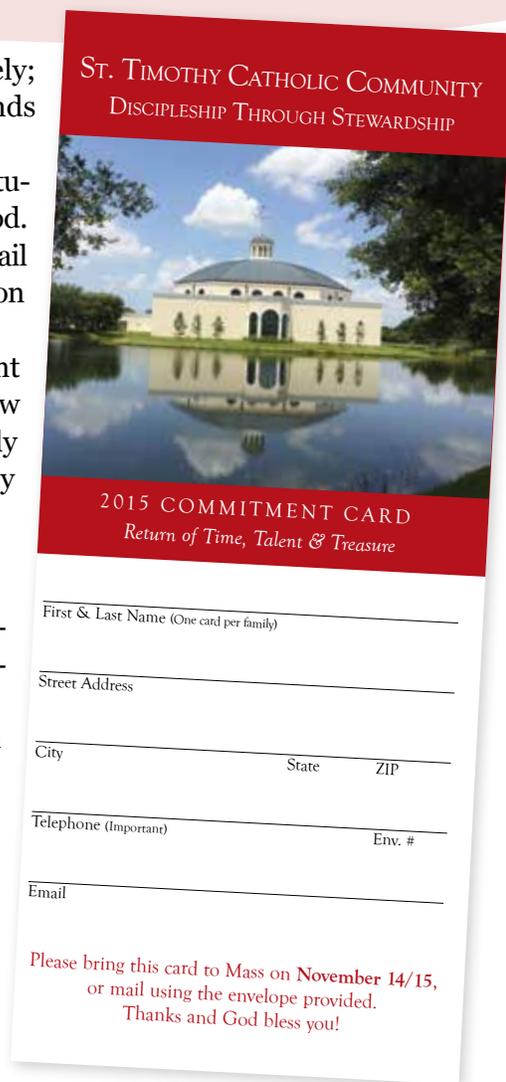
**What kind of Talent commitments should I make?** If you're not involved in anything in our parish, now is the perfect opportunity to take a step forward. Check out our commitment card for a list of ministries. If you're already involved, re-commit yourself to the important work you do. And if you feel God is calling you forward – sign up for something new!

## Stewardship of Treasure

**Our definition of Stewardship of Treasure:** The wise and just management of my financial resources; giving a proportionate amount of my income to the parish.

**The bottom line about financial support:** We need to take seriously the Biblical concept of the tithe, and start giving based on a percentage of income. It's our responsibility to support the Church with our personal involvement and our financial support.

**What kind of Treasure commitments should I make?** Our goal at St. Timothy is to give five percent of income to the offertory. Grab a calculator and figure out your target gift based on your total household income. Then make a plan for increasing your gift incrementally to reach five percent. During our Stewardship Renewal, choose a weekly or monthly gift to the parish, and be faithful to it for the next year.





## Technology Provides Essential Assistance to Members of Our Parish Community

### *A Hearing Loop at St. Timothy*

One of the basic aspects of stewardship is people sharing their gifts to benefit others. Here at St. Timothy, we are blessed with people who have unique abilities and the desire as good stewards to share those gifts. Dr. Judith Reese is an audiologist, treating those with hearing loss and proactively preventing related damage. Judith is also an active and involved parishioner in our community.

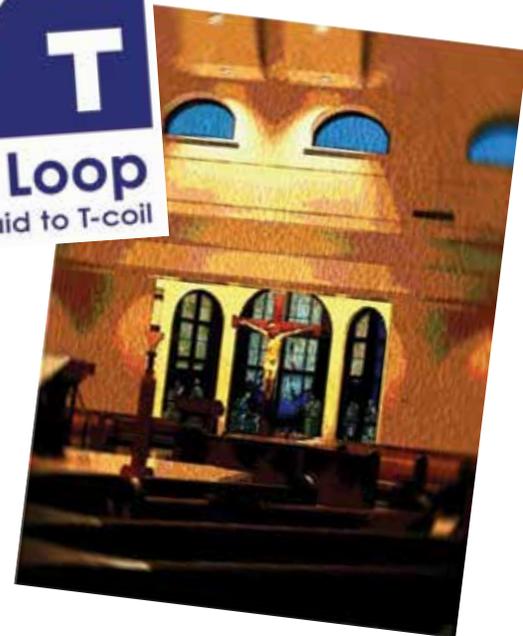
When she and her husband, Charlie, became involved with our new church, they wanted to make sure that the most up-to-date technology was in the church structure. They oversaw the installation of a Hearing Loop, a remarkable device that assists those with hearing loss. However, this Hearing Loop is still relatively rare in the United States.

“Almost 50 million people in this country have hearing loss in one or both ears,” Charlie says. “A Hearing Loop involves installing a coil of wire around the area to be covered. Sound is magnetically transmitted from the speaker system to telecoils in hearing aids. Many parishes provide ‘assistive listening’ devices, but this goes a step beyond that.”

“With this system, the sound goes directly into the ears of those using it,” Judith says. “We have signs posted in the church which say, ‘Please switch your hearing aid or cochlear device to the T, T-coil, or telephone position.’ The clarity of the sound allows them to hear and understand better than the normal person.”

As Charlie notes, our parish is “ahead of the curve” in providing assistance to those with hearing disabilities.

“I recently was visiting with a woman who uses this technology at Mass, and she said, ‘It felt like God was talking directly to me,’” he says. “If we are going to be a stewardship parish, we have to think of all the ways we can serve and help people.”



*“I recently was visiting with a woman who uses this technology at Mass, and she said, ‘It felt like God was talking directly to me,’” he says. “If we are going to be a stewardship parish, we have to think of all the ways we can serve and help people.” – Charlie Reese*

## Sharing the Bread of Life *Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion*

As essential as it is to help those in need of food around the world, there's another kind of hunger that is often ignored. Loneliness. Feeling worthless or unloved. Anger, bitterness, hurt. These things are also signs of hunger, but not hunger that can be satisfied by any natural food. These are examples of spiritual hunger, and they can only be satisfied by spiritual food.

Eric Kase, and other parishioners who serve as Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion or EMHCs, recognize that hunger, and choose to serve the parish by helping bring nourishment to those in need of spiritual food – the Eucharist, the “Bread of Life.”

“When I share the Eucharist with others, I have the glorious opportunity to share the Bread of Life,” says Eric, who has served as an EMHC for the past year. “The Eucharist is the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. Taking part in this glorious celebration is an honor for me. I feel like I am doing something very special for Jesus in sharing the Eucharist with others.”

For Eric, it is not only meaningful to be able to share the Eucharist with others, but serving in this way has also helped him deepen his relationship with God, especially through the Mass.



*Eric Kase serves our parish as an  
Extraordinary Minister of Holy  
Communion*

“I have always been close to God, but serving Him as an EMHC makes me feel even closer to Him,” Eric says. “My experience at Mass is more genuine since I became a EMHC. My appreciation for the Eucharist has grown tremendously. Consuming and sharing the Eucharist has taken me to a higher level during Mass.”

He encourages other parishioners to consider serving in this way, as it's been such a blessing in his life.

“I would love if everyone in our parish had the opportunity to become an EMHC and see their lives change in a positive way like I have,” Eric says. “I am much happier in life since I have become an EMHC. It has brought me closer to God, our priests, deacons, other EMHCs, and the whole St. Timothy's community.”

Eric notes how he is impacted each time he shares the Eucharist

with others at Mass.

“I look into everyone's eyes, just like Jesus did,” he says. “I see happiness, I see sorrow, I see the sick, the poor, and I see the faithful.”

Each and every person in the Communion line steps forward with some need. Eric has the privilege of bringing nourishment to those he sees starving. He has the honor to bring the food that can satisfy a spiritual emptiness, a hunger that can only be filled by Spiritual Food, the Bread of Life Himself, in Holy Communion.

*If you'd like to learn more about serving our parish as an EMHC,  
please contact Deacon Peter J. Burns at [deaconpeter@sainttims.org](mailto:deaconpeter@sainttims.org) or 813-968-1077.*



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## A Look Back on Recent Parish Events and Activities

From the Anointing Mass and Parish Work Day, to forming our youth in faith, fellowship and sportsmanship, this autumn has certainly been a busy time in our St. Timothy parish community!



### • *Mass Schedule* •

Saturday Vigil: 5:30 p.m. • Sunday: 7:30, 9, 11 a.m. & 5:30 p.m. • Daily: Mon-Sat 9 a.m., Wed 6:15 p.m. • Holy Days: 9 a.m. & 7 p.m. Vigil: 7 p.m.