

MARIAN COLLEGE CENTER FOR CATHOLIC STEWARDSHIP

Promoting stewardship as a way of life

What is Stewardship?

How sad it is that many believe stewardship to be nothing more than a euphemism for fundraising. In their 1992 pastoral letter, *Stewardship: A Disciple's Response*, the U.S. Bishops teach that a good steward is one who receives God's gifts with **gratitude**; cherishes those gifts with **responsibility**; shares those gifts **generously**, from a sense of justice and love; and **makes a return to the Lord**, with increase. The Marian College Center for Catholic Stewardship is committed to promoting stewardship as a way of life, a way of holiness, and as a means of renewal within the church.

About the Center

The center is located on the campus of Marian College, a Catholic college dedicated to excellent teaching and learning in the Franciscan and liberal arts traditions. The center seeks to enhance the campus-wide understanding of the value of responsible stewardship, which, along with the dignity of the individual, peace and justice, and reconciliation, is one of the four core values of Marian College.

Father Daniel J. Mahan is the executive director of the center. He served 15

years as a pastor throughout central and southern Indiana and has worked directly with the spirituality and practice of stewardship. He travels the globe motivating diocesan and parish leaders to live the vision of stewardship articulated by the U.S. Bishops in *Stewardship: A Disciple's Response*.

The Marian College Center for Catholic Stewardship is dedicated to forming leaders for the Catholic stewardship movement through:

- Parish and diocesan stewardship days
- Parish missions, retreats, and days of recollection
- Formation programs for stewardship leaders in which clergy, parish staff, and stewardship committee members become more firmly rooted in the spirituality of stewardship and sound practices for calling forth resources of time, talent, and treasure
- StrengthsFinder and the ME²⁵ (Member Engagement) programs for Catholic parishes. Working with the esteemed Gallup Organization, the center works with parish leaders to identify their talents, use those talents to serve God and others, and work to improve the spiritual health of their parishes.



When contacted by a representative of a parish, diocese, or other group interested in stewardship education, the center staff engages in extensive dialogue with that contact person in order to:

- Gather information by means of a systematic needs assessment.
- Formulate clear, specific program goals.
- Present the variety of program options to meet those goals.
- Design a customized program to meet the needs of the group and to maximize the spiritual and practical content of the program.
- Collaborate with the group to implement the program by scheduling speakers, providing written educational materials, and other ongoing support.

The center is committed to developing:

- The Seminarian Stewardship Institute, forming future leaders of the church in the spirituality and practice of stewardship.
- Spanish language resources, including expertise and speakers in the important area of stewardship in the Hispanic communities.

"The promotion of the practice of stewardship is important for the mission of the Church and for the spiritual well-being of each individual Christian. Everyone benefits from the sacrificial gift one makes of his time, talent, and treasure."

-Pope Benedict XVI



The Perfect Example of Stewardship

The Blessed Virgin Mary, patroness of Marian College, offers us a most perfect example of the meaning of stewardship. In her life we see a model of one who was called by God to a life of service for the Kingdom. In Mary we see someone who responds generously to that call, regarding her whole life in terms of service and fidelity. Mary's stewardship consists in her love and care for Jesus throughout His entire life, faithfully standing by Him all the way to the cross. At Calvary, she not only returns Him to the Father, but also accepts Our Lord's invitation to be the Mother of the Church. Through her example and intercession, the Blessed Virgin Mary gives us a model of stewardship and help along the way.

For More Information

For more information about the center, contact Father Daniel Mahan at dmahan@marian.edu or 317.955.6152.

Strong Foundations. Remarkable Futures.

MARIAN COLLEGE

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Quotes from Other Stewardship Movement Leaders

"Marian College is the ideal setting for a center for Catholic stewardship. The spirituality of stewardship is closely linked to Marian College's Franciscan roots and to the tradition of stewardship education that has grown up in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis since the publication of the U.S. bishops' pastoral letter, *Stewardship: A Disciple's Response*, in 1992. And Father Mahan is the ideal leader for this new center. An Indiana native and a priest of this archdiocese, he is also an internationally known and respected teacher on stewardship as a way of life." – Daniel Conway, author of many books and articles on the spirituality of stewardship and president of RSI Catholic Stewardship Group, a national consulting firm that serves the stewardship education and capital fundraising needs of Catholic organizations.

"Father Dan Mahan is the perfect person to lead the Marian College Center for Catholic Stewardship. His business and leadership skills, knowledge as a priest and former pastor, deep spirituality, and steward's heart all blend together perfectly in this position. I highly recommend Father Dan and the MCCC as an excellent stewardship resource for seminaries, dioceses, and parishes: 1) needing stewardship education, 2) desiring to hold a mission or retreat, and/or 3) wanting to consult with someone about the stewardship efforts in their parish." – Julie Kenny, marketing manager of the Offering Envelope Division of *Our Sunday Visitor, Inc.*

The Marian College Center for Catholic Stewardship is proud to be a member of the International Catholic Stewardship Council.



The College

Marian College is a Catholic college dedicated to excellent teaching and learning in the Franciscan and liberal arts traditions. We welcome students of all faiths who seek an educational experience framed within the context of our Franciscan values of dignity of the individual, peace and justice, reconciliation, and responsible stewardship. Marian College grew out of the dedication and vision of Sister Theresa Hackelmeier and the Sisters of Saint Francis, who established a school in Oldenburg, Indiana, in 1851. Marian College moved to Indianapolis in 1937.

Our Location

Marian College is located in the heart of Indianapolis, Indiana—one of America's largest and most vibrant metropolitan areas. Although we're only 10 minutes from downtown, our safe, beautiful campus is also perfect for people who enjoy peace and quiet.

Programs and Accreditation

Our liberal arts curriculum is enhanced by several Centers of Learning: Business Creation and Development Program; Center for Ethics in Business and the Professions; Franciscan Center for Global Studies; Honors Program; Peace and Justice Studies; Prelaw Studies; and "Rebuild My Church" Program. Marian College confers associates, bachelors, and masters level degrees. 34 majors, 34 minors, 15 associates, and 16 concentrations are offered. We are accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools (30 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2400, Chicago, Illinois 60602; 312-263-7462), the National Council for Teacher Education, and the National League of Nursing Accreditation Commission. Specific academic programs are approved by the Indiana Professional Standards Board, the Indiana State Board of Nurses' Registration and Nursing Education, and the International Assembly for Collegiate Business Education.

Academic Excellence

Marian College is ideal for students who are looking for personalized instruction from an outstanding faculty of 76 full-time professors and 63 part-time professors. Nearly 1,800 full- and part-time students from 20 states and 9 countries attend Marian College. Classes average 17 students, and student-faculty ratio is 13.5:1.

Tuition and Financial Assistance

Marian College's comprehensive financial aid packages make a Marian education affordable. Grants, scholarships, work-study, and loans are available. For current tuition and room and board figures, see our website at www.marian.edu.

Campus Life

Talk about a place where everybody knows your name! Marian College is a close-knit community focused on the needs of students and committed to their education, safety, social well-being, and success. Our three residence halls and student apartments provide a safe, wholesome, and fun community life. You'll always find plenty to do on and around campus.

Your Leadership Potential

A close-knit community means more opportunities to get involved and develop your leadership skills. You'll have more chances to lead in the areas that really interest you...and more chances to explore new interests, too!

Success...For Life

Other schools may prepare you for a career. At Marian College, we also prepare you for life.

Marian College does not discriminate in enrolling students on the basis of age, race, sexual orientation, creed, national or ethnic origin, or disability.