



Stewardship

a way of life

10 IDEAS TO CONNECT WITH PARISHIONERS

Reaffirm your mission and impact: Share personal stories of how the parish has/is serving the needs of others.

Increase or create a virtual presence: Share links for daily Mass, Devotional Prayers, Rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet, Novenas, 40 Day Consecration to Mary, etc.

Schedule regular messages/updates: Send a daily/weekly note of encouragement, love, hope, etc., via email to parishioners; post on website. Ask for prayer intentions. Facilitate a daily check-in from pastor.

Make phone calls: Create a phone tree and organize volunteers to set aside an hour a day to make 10-20 calls to parishioners checking in, letting them know you are praying and offering hope and comfort.

Write hand-written notes: Position our circumstances as a blessed time or opportunity to start or increase correspondence; people want/need to feel connected to their church, especially when they can't physically be there. Share Catholic podcasts and other resources: Research quality, uplifting and faith enriching websites. Make connections with virtual tours of great cathedrals around the world, live streaming Masses from monasteries, and beautiful Gregorian chant by religious sisters, etc.

Become a virtual host: Host a virtual holy movie night through the parish, i.e., FATIMA, Two Suitcases: St. Bakhita, The Scarlet and the Black, The Mission, etc. Host virtual bible studies, prayer chains, etc.

Inform and guide: Educate parishioners how they can continue their critical financial support and do not be afraid of "No." Understand, if parishioners cannot give due to circumstances, it is certainly okay; most people respond to personal asks and appreciate the personal invitation.

Encourage weekly offertory: Remind people that this too shall pass, and the community will be stronger for enduring this time of hardship; the weekly offertory is critical to the sustainability of the parish through crisis.

Show gratitude: Thank people for their stewardship commitment to the parish, including their support of prayers and financial giving.