**Cover Letter for First Total Parish Mailing**

[*Date*]

Dear [*salutation*]:

Spiritual growth and renewal are a continuing part of the life of every Christian. They are also vital to the life of our parish. An important aspect of this spiritual growth is embodied in the principle of stewardship. Through stewardship, we thank God for all His blessings by returning to Him a portion of the time, talent, and treasure He has freely given to us.

During the next few weeks, you will be hearing more about stewardship and what it means as a spirituality. You will be asked to reflect on three areas of stewardship and how they are lived out in your life. Among the important questions are:

* How much **TIME** do you set aside each week in prayer and involvement in volunteer activities in your parish and in our community?
* How you are using your **TALENTS** for the betterment of our parish family and for the community as a whole?
* What percentage of your yearly income (**TREASURE**) do you presently give to support your church and community activities?

This weekend at all Masses, you will be hearing from me and from [*name/names of lay witnesses*] who will talk about their personal experiences with stewardship as a way of life. During the next several weeks, I suggest that you and members of your household spend time in prayerful thought about the spirituality of stewardship and your relationship with the Lord. The enclosed brochure will help you understand the true meaning of stewardship. Please take the time to read it prayerfully.

Finally, I would like to invite you to attend our parish Ministry Fair next weekend. We will be hosting a parish [*picnic, cookout, coffee and donuts*] to bring parishioners together for fellowship. This will be an opportunity to connect to one another, as well as to our parish family and ministries. During this next week, please prayerfully consider how you might take another step in engaging in your faith community.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

*Pastor’s Signature*

[Pastor’s Name]