

# Stewardship Networking Group

## Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston

### July 2025 Stewardship Networking Group Meeting –NOTES

#### Packed Room at St. Bernadette Explores “Conversations in the Spirit” with Fr. Clint Ressler

St. Bernadette Church was alive with energy as a packed room gathered to hear Fr. Clint Ressler, pastor of St. Mary of the Miraculous Medal in Texas City, share his experience with *Conversations in the Spirit*. Fr. Clint had been invited by Pope Francis to take part in the Vatican Synod for parish priests, and he brought insights and practical examples from that experience to the Stewardship Networking Group.

Fr. Clint spoke passionately about the potential synodality holds for parishes, clarifying a common misconception: “It is not a democracy, but a ‘pneumocracy’ – the Holy Spirit leads the people to Christ.” Synodality, he explained, is a call to *be Church* together and build



genuine relationships.

He shared several ways using synodality can assist parishes including for conflict resolution and problem-solving: “Sometimes, we just need to hit the pause button and look at the situation.” Through communal discernment, Fr. Clint and his staff discovered next steps and creative solutions they would not have seen alone.

The presentation was interactive, with participants forming small groups to *practice* the Conversation in the Spirit model firsthand. Participants shared their reflections, listened deeply to one another, and then

prayerfully discerned where the Holy Spirit might be leading them as a group. Many found the process eye-opening, discovering the peace and clarity that can emerge when people take time to listen with both heart and faith.

“Conversations in the Spirit offer a model to discern and make decisions,” Fr. Clint encouraged, reminding everyone that the Holy Spirit is ready to guide us if we are willing to listen—together.

Here are links to the handouts.

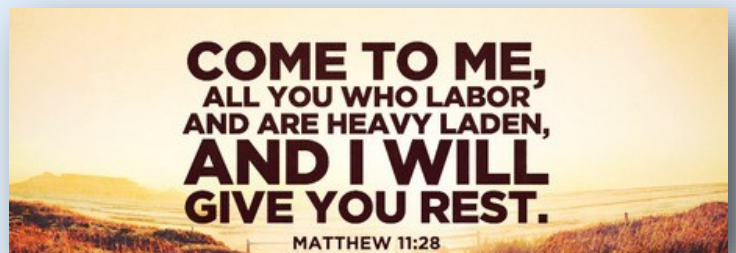
- [Outline](#)
- [PowerPoint](#)
- [Steps](#)

#### Next Meeting:

#### *Come to me all you who labor*

Presented by Kathleen Messina Director, Spiritual Direction Institute  
**Thursday, Sept. 11 at 10:00 a.m.**  
 at the Emmaus Spirituality Center, 2749 Hollister Rd, Houston, TX 77080  
 PAC Room D on the St. Jerome Campus.

Stewardship is work; holy work to spread the Kingdom of God. Our temptation, as good and faithful leader-workers in the vineyard, is to forget that it is our Lord who labors in and through and for us. Pause with me and the members of the Archdiocesan Stewardship Group on September 11<sup>th</sup> to remember this truth for ourselves, so that we can share it with others. We will also explore how we can remain connected with the One who carries the load. Invite others to attend with you!



DATE	TOPIC	SPEAKER	LOCATION
NOV 13	Best of ICSC/Plan 2026	Roundtable	St. Mary Magdelene, Humble Tx

To ask questions obtain resources on stewardship and to get on our email list, contact:  
 Suzanne Staron at [starons@stbchurch.org](mailto:starons@stbchurch.org) or Sharon Ehrenkranz at [sehrenkranz@icloud.com](mailto:sehrenkranz@icloud.com)