

# So-o-o Many Gifts



There was once a young man named Gordon Oscar Dewar. When attending camp all campers were told to put their initials on everything. Well, when your name is Gordon Oscar Dewar your initials are rather interesting: G.O.D. He took a lot of razzing about being God or about this or that item belonging to God. At the same time, Gordon said it was kind of nice to have his initials remind him that he belonged to God through his baptism.

Baptism is a gift God gives us. As baptized persons it is our responsibility to do all we can to nurture the seed of faith that has been planted in us and to bear the fruits of faith.

Money is another gift. We may think we never have enough money, but of the 6 billion people in the world, 3.5 billion people live on less than \$760 per year. Certainly there are those who are more wealthy than we are, but we too have been given so much.

Holy Communion is a gift; the Bible is a gift; the Holy Spirit is a gift; music is a gift; prayer is a gift...

The need to give to God is a gift. God is a giver and we are created in the image of God. God has given us baptism, communion, the written and spoken word, prayer, music, talents, time and money. We are called to share of what we have out of gratitude for God's gifts to us. But unless we make giving a priority, unless we practice the spiritual discipline of giving of our first fruits, too often our needs - or more accurately, our greed - takes a bite out of our giving.

Jesus asks us to fulfill our need to give even as he has given to us. He gave his life for us. Jesus tells us where our treasure is, there our heart will be also. Each of us should ask ourselves where our heart is.



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