

"Woe unto them that join house to house.."

# RESURRECTION UNIVERSITY CATHOLIC PARISH

## Land Stewardship Committee

### RECK THE ROD

In 1877 Gerard Manley Hopkins penned *God's Grandeur*. The opening stanza reads as well now as it did 139 years past:

*"The world is charged with the grandeur of God.  
It will flame out, like shining from shook foil;  
It gathers to a greatness, like the ooze of oil  
Crushed. Why do men then now not reckon  
his rod?"*

Indeed, I ponder that thought this day as I did yesterday while driving to a friends' house in a new subdivision, Ryen Glenn. By commercial standards the project is a success, sold out before construction and filled with hundreds of people anxious to move to the west where there is openness and freedom. Then, with few exceptions, they surround their houses with fences—a tribute to and recognition of the priority in their lives with their dogs. You can age the occupancy of the houses by the warp and discoloration of the cedar fences. Iron rich water marks them fore and aft and freezing temperatures splits the grain with the certainty of the laws of science. To a one, these people ought be in downtown Miami. The fences are armor against the pleasure of wildlife movement and cobwebs to home invasion protection. The gray partridge, the deer, the elk will all avoid the area. The fox, the coyote, will disappear. And the people will stand as Aztecs before great canoes with white sails asking "what has become of this land?"

The Bozeman Valley area is charged with the grandeur of God but these new people will not see much of it. They will see a rapidly graying, warping and splitting cedar fence connected row upon row down the block. And in the manner of the Portuguese warrior-slave trader ( featured in the movie *The Mission*) remarking to the Bishop after the slaughter of the Amazonian natives and Jesuit priests—"Thus is the world." The bishop powerless and appalled at the dead bodies, many still holding communion wafers in their innocent hands, accurately assesses the situation " No, Hidalgo, thus you have made the world.

But the dogs will be contained.

### THUS SAITH THE LORD

*"WOE UNTO THEM THAT JOIN HOUSE TO HOUSE,  
THAT LAY FIELD TO FIELD, TILL THERE BE NO  
PLACE, THAT THEY MAY BE PLACED ALONE IN  
THE MIDST OF THE EARTH!"* *Isaiah 5:8*



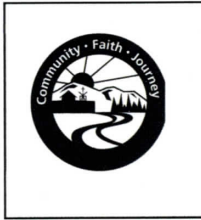
The Lenten evening of reflection scheduled for March and impetuously cancelled by Covid-19 will be rescheduled sometime this Fall. The reflection evening will be titled, "*You Are Standing Upon Holy Ground*".

### Where is my Holy Ground?

**All parishioners and MSU students will be invited to "Come and See." For further details call Paul A. Gore at 587-2001, or Ellie Weber at 954-609-5612**

#### GOT PRINTERS' INK IN YOUR BLOOD?

The Greenleaf is a publication of the Land Stewardship Committee of Resurrection University Catholic Parish. It is privately funded by parishioners and friends of RUC Parish. The editors are Paul A. Gore and Ellie F. Weber and they can be reached at 406-587-2001. All ideas and suggestions are welcome and we encourage students in high school and college to explore writing for the GreenLeaf.



**LAND STEWARDSHIP  
AT  
RESURRECTION UNIVERSITY CATHOLIC PARISH**

**WHAT IS LAND STEWARDSHIP?**

- Land Stewardship is the practice of carefully managing land usage to ensure natural systems are maintained or enhanced for future generations.
- Land stewardship is about re-connecting with our dependence on earth, air, water and sunshine and the abundance of life it supports.
- Land stewardship is about re-discovering our natural ‘instincts’ of awe and respect for nature.
- Land stewardship is about preserving “the capacity of the land for self-renewal”.

**HOW CAN LAND STEWARDSHIP BE PRACTICED AT OUR PARISH?**

The Creation Care Committee is joining with the Land Stewardship Committee to revamp the north, west, and south side of the western parking lot to create a "A New Look" that will feature meditation pathways and sitting areas as well as habitats to enhance the flora and fauna of the parish. In addition a "Community Vegetable Garden" will be initiated so parishioners and families can practice "home grown." The entire project (projects) will be cultivated and maintained in a manner that complements the liturgical and social use of the grounds while at the same time adding to the environmental habitat. As in bird feeders, but, sorry, no deer allowed!

**WHAT CAN YOU DO?**

- Prayerfully ponder the gifts and talents you have been given and consider how you can use them to enhance the parish’s Creation Care Land Stewardship program. We trust the Lord will show you the way.
- Volunteer to serve on one or both of the Committees.

**Little time, some time, lot’s of time, Summer time, Fall only, during school semester, when your PPP comes in?**



**We are not particular — just volunteer. We promise to adhere to Social Distancing.**

**LAND STEWARDSHIP: SPIRITUALITY FROM THE GROUND UP.**