



30 YEARS OF  
INSPIRING  
GENEROSITY



The  
Diocese of Huron

## Living the Gift: Stewardship in Word and Practice

### Session One: Narrative Budget Breakout Session

Choose one ministry area from the fictional budget. Then answer:

1. What resources support this ministry?
2. What relationships are strengthened through this ministry?
3. What responses are invited by this ministry?
4. What story, example, or impact statement could help people understand it?
5. How would you describe this ministry in two or three sentences?

By the end of the breakout, your group should have:

- one ministry category
- a short description
- one example of impact
- one invitation to the congregation
- one question you still have

You are practicing the ministry of translation.



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### Fictional Parish Budget: St. Brigid's Anglican Church

Annual Operating Budget:	\$252,000
Clergy Stipend & Benefits	\$50,000
Housing	\$24,000
Parish Administrator	\$24,000
Music Ministry	\$18,000
Building Utilities	\$14,000
Insurance	\$12,000
Property Maintenance	\$28,000
Worship Supplies	\$5,000
Christian Formation	\$7,500
Children & Youth Ministry	\$6,500
Outreach & Community Partnerships	\$18,000
Diocesan Apportionment	\$31,000
Communications & Technology	\$7,000
Office & Administration	\$7,000



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## Fictional Parish Context

St. Brigid's is a small-to-mid-sized parish in the Diocese of Huron.

- Sunday attendance of about 85
- a strong pastoral care team
- an aging but well-used building
- a weekly community meal
- several young families
- a small but committed choir
- a growing livestream congregation
- concerns about rising building costs
- deep affection for the parish's neighbourhood ministry

You may reorganize the budget into categories such as:

*One helpful tip: ask your clergy to give a percentage of their time for each of these ministry areas as applicable, and apply that much of the salary and benefits to that expense area.*

Ministry Area	Possible Related Expenses
Worship & Music	Clergy, music, worship supplies, technology
Pastoral Care & Parish Life	Clergy, administrator, communications
Formation & Discipleship	Christian formation, children and youth, clergy
Outreach & Neighbourhood Ministry	Clergy, outreach, building, utilities, staff support
Buildings as Mission	Utilities, insurance, maintenance, staff
Wider Church Partnership	Diocesan apportionment
Administration & Leadership	Administrator, office, technology, clergy

**There is more than one right way to organize the story.**



## Sample Narrative Budget Entry

### *Buildings as Mission*

St. Brigid's invests in its building not only because it is our historic church home, but because it is a living place of ministry. Each week, our building holds worship, pastoral conversations, choir rehearsal, children's formation, community meals, and neighbourhood gatherings.

When we care for our building, we are caring for the people who enter it. This year's investment in utilities, insurance, and maintenance helps keep our parish safe, welcoming, accessible, and ready for ministry.

### *Invitation:*

Your giving helps keep sacred space open for prayer, service, welcome, and community care.

## Another Sample Narrative Budget Entry

### *Formation & Discipleship*

St. Brigid's forms disciples across generations. Through children's ministry, youth gatherings, adult study, baptismal preparation, and seasonal formation, we help people ask honest questions, grow in faith, and practice following Jesus in daily life.

This ministry depends on curriculum, supplies, trained leaders, clergy support, safe space, and the time and wisdom of volunteers.

### *Invitation:*

Your generosity helps children, youth, adults, and newcomers discover that faith is not only something we believe, but something we live.



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