Stewardship is the grateful response of a Christian disciple who recognizes and receives God's gifts and shares these gifts in love of God and neighbor.

WHAT ARE YOUR UNIQUE GIFTS AND TALENTS? Take the Spiritual Gifts Inventory

Stewardship: a grateful response to God's love.

How do we know how God is calling us to respond? Our first priority is spending time in prayer. As we deepen our relationship with God through the habit of daily prayer, we become more adept at understanding God's will in our lives. Discovering our gifts and talents help us identify how God is calling each of us to a unique purpose. These gifts are to be shared with others. A steward's personal response as a disciple is to share what one has received with a generous, grateful and loving heart.

Prayerful Discernment

As you begin your spiritual gifts inventory, pray for Jesus' guidance and help in discovering your unique gifts. If you need some starters:

Lord, I stand in awe of the many gifts you have given me. I want to use them to serve you. Please guide and direct me in the discovery of my gifts. Help me find a place of joyful service that brings honor and glory to You.

God our Father, in Baptism You called me by name, as I begin this journey to discern your will for my life, help me to respond to these questions on the Spiritual Gifts Inventory.

Lord, as I prepare for this Spiritual Gifts Inventory, let your strength and your wisdom be my guide. May you, the author and creator of all things, enlighten me and open my mind and heart.

There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit; there are different forms of service but the same Lord; there are different workings but the same God who produces all of them in everyone. To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit." - 1 Corinthians 12:4-11

INSTRUCTIONS

This Spiritual Gifts Inventory will give you an introductory evaluation of your gifts and possible ministry categories for you to share your gifts in love of God and neighbor.

Please keep in mind that this is only a guide as you begin to discern the spiritual gifts/charisms that God has blessed you with and how you might use them to build His Kingdom. This Spiritual Gifts Inventory can help you pinpoint the best places to begin, but discerning our charisms is a process. If after taking this inventory you would like to further discern your charisms and gifts, consider attending a Called & Gifted Workshop.

It will take approximately 15-20 minutes to take the inventory. There are 115 questions that assess your gifts in 23 different areas. Once you've totaled your scores for each of the gifts using the self-scoring sheet, determine your top three spiritual gifts. Use the Spiritual Gifts descriptions, scripture references and patron saints to deepen your understanding of these gifts and how they might be shared.

Read each statement then rate it in terms of how true this is for you, not how you think you should behave or feel. Be as honest as possible. In most cases, your first thought on what the answer should be will be the most accurate.

Responses:

"4" if most always true | "3" if often true | "2" undecided | "1" if sometimes true | "0" if it is not true

THE SPIRITUAL GIFTS INVENTORY

Questions			(4) most always true	(3) often true	(2) undecided	(1) sometimes true	(0) not true	
	1.	I find great joy in leading people to accomplish goals						
	2.	I feel called to be a leader in the church.						
	3.	I look for opportunities to assist people who have trouble doing for themselves.						
	4.	I find that the repair and maintenance of things in my environment come easily to me.	′					
	5.	It seems easy to perceive whether what a person is doing is honest or dishonest.						

Questions cont.	(4) most always true	(3) often true	(2) undecided	(1) sometimes true	(0) not true	
6. I enjoy sharing about God with people who are not church-goers.						
7. I enjoy motivating people to a higher spiritual commitment.						
8. I try to do God's will, even when it's not the popular thing to do.						
9. It is very satisfying to me to give generously of my money for God's work.						
10. I enjoy the opportunity to pray with and for a person who is physically ill.						
11. I like having people in my home.						
12. I seem to recognize prayer needs instinctively.						
13. I enjoy learning new things of all kinds.						
14. I feel great compassion for the problems of others.						
15. I adapt easily in a culture different from mine.						
16. I like to sing hymns and songs either alone or with other people.						
17. I enjoy having the responsibility of leading other people in their spiritual life.						
18. I am ready to try the impossible, because I have great trust in God.	at 🔲					
19. I like to talk about spirituality with other Christians.						
20. I enjoy doing "chores" around the church.						
21. I'm excited in helping people discover important insights in the scriptures.						

Questions <i>cont.</i>	(4) most always true	(3) often true	(2) undecided	(1) sometimes true	(0) not true	
22. I communicate easily with people of a different culture or language background.						
23. People with spiritual problems have come to me for advice and counsel.						
24. People seem to enjoy following my leadership in undertaking an important task.						
25. I feel that God gives me wisdom in leading people in spiritual matters.						
26. I enjoy helping with the emergency tasks around the Church.						
27. I have enjoyed creating various kinds of arts and/or crafts.						
28. I seem to have a sense of the direction in which God is leading.						
29. I seem to be able to sense when the Spirit is leading a person to realize the Holy in their lives.						
30. I have a knack for bringing out the best in others.						
31. I'm willing to keep trying, even when a task is tedious and seems unending.	s 🔲					
32. I share my possessions with others willingly.						
33. I have prayed with a person who was in distress, and the person was comforted.						
34. I do not feel uncomfortable when people drop in unexpectedly.						
35. I pray for others often and for significant periods of time						
36. Through study I have learned many helpful insights.						

Questions <i>cont.</i>	(4) most always true	(3) often true	(2) undecided	(1) sometimes true	(0) not true	
37. Visiting people in retirement homes or the hospital gives me great satisfaction.						
38. It is easy for me to move into a new community and make friends.						
39. God has given me the ability to play a musical instrument, and I enjoy it.						
40. It is exciting to provide spiritual leadership for a congregation.						
41. I am often ready to believe God will lead us through a situation which others feel is impossible.	a 🔲					
42. I like to share Scripture to comfort or to encourage others.						
43. I enjoy doing routine tasks for the glory of God.						
44. I have enjoyed teaching individuals and/or classes.						
45. I derive spiritual meaning from music, art or nature.						
46. I enjoy helping another to find solutions to difficult problems in life.						
47. I like to organize people for more effective ministry.						
48. I have little fear in leading people in spiritual matters	а. 🔲					
49. I don't mind helping people who are sick or disabled.						
50. I like to create things with my hands.						
51. I seem to have a knack for sensing the difference between truth and error.						
52. I am drawn to share my faith in God with others.						

Questions <i>cont.</i>	(4) most always true	(3) often true	(2) undecided	(1) sometimes true	(0) not true	
53. I like to encourage inactive church members to become involved again.						
54. I am sure of God's loving presence, even when things go wrong.	3					
55. I appreciate the opportunity to give of my skills and energy in a critical situation.						
56. I feel called to be a part of the healing ministry of the church.	•					
57. People seem to feel very comfortable in my home.						
58. God consistently answers my prayers in tangible ways.						
59. I have learned much about God from Scripture, books and observing life.	s 🔲					
60. I sense joy in comforting people in difficult situations.						
61. I am able to relate to and communicate with people of different locations or cultures.						
62. I have enjoyed being involved with Church, school and/or local musical productions.						
63. I like to assist people with their spiritual problems.						
64. I believe that when I am doing God's will, God can and does work through me.	d 🔲					
65. I enjoy relating God's Word to the issues of the day and sharing this with others.						
66. When there is something to be done for the church, I'm glad to help, but I don't want to be in charge.						
67. It seems that people learn readily when I teach them						

Questions <i>cont.</i>	(4) most always true	(3) often true	(2) undecided	(1) sometimes true	(0) not true	
68. I can communicate well with people who are limited by a physical or mental handicap.						
69. I seem to be able to help people find the truths they seek						
70. I like the challenge of making important decisions.						
71. I appreciate the opportunity to share God's word with others.						
72. One of my ministries is helping other people to bear their burdens.						
73. I like to spend time and money improving and beautifying things in God's creation.						
74. I have helped people to discover God's will in their lives.						
75. I have sometimes shared spiritual experiences with a neighbor who doesn't attend church.						
76. People who are feeling perplexed often come to me for encouragement and comfort.						
77. When everyone is discouraged even me I still trust God.						
78. If I cannot give much money to support God's work, I give generously of my time.						
79. I feel peace when I am with a person who is sick or injured.						
80. When missionaries or church leaders come to our church I like (or would like) to have them come to my home.	n 🔲					
81. I faithfully pray for others recognizing that their effectiveness and total well-being depends on God.						
82. Knowledge of the Bible and of church teachings helps me to solve problems in daily life and in the life of the church.						

Questions <i>cont.</i>	(4) most always true	(3) often true	(2) undecided	(1) sometimes true	(0) not true	
83. People seem to think I am a kind, compassionate person.						
84. The thought of beginning a new church in a new community is exciting to me.						
85. I feel secure that my musical ability will be of benefit to the people with whom I come in contact.						
86. People like to bring their troubles and concerns to me because they feel I care.	e 🔲					
87. People seem to think of me as one who believes that with God everything is possible.						
88. It is important for me to speak out against wrong when I see it in the world.						
89. I find more satisfaction in doing a job myself than in finding someone else to do it.						
90. One of the joys of my ministry is training people to be more effecting in living out their faith.	e 🔲					
91. I can make sense of specialized information (like computers, blueprints, accounting, or others).						
92. I feel that I have insight in selecting workable alternatives in difficult situations.						
93. When I am in a disorganized group, I tend to be the first one to step forward to get us organized.						
94. I enjoy training workers in the congregation.						
95. If a family is facing a serious crisis, I enjoy the opportunity to help them.						
96. I find pleasure in designing, creating or decorating things	s.					
97. I often look beneath the surface and discover richer meanings.						

Questions cont.	(4) most always true	(3) often true	(2) undecided	(1) sometimes true	(0) not true	
98. I feel a deep concern for the people in my community who have not been attracted by the church.	′					
99. I am sort of like a cheerleader, cheering others on when they are doing something well.						
100. Even when it seems that my prayer isn't answered, I keep praying.						
101. I give sacrificially of my time, talents and resources because I know that God will meet my needs.						
102. I feel strongly that my prayers for a sick person are important.						
103. I have opened my home to someone in need.						
104. I find myself praying even while I am doing other things.						
105. I find it an enjoyable challenge to read and study a difficult book of the Bible.						
106. I find great satisfaction in visiting people who are confined to their homes.						
107. I have a strong desire to meet people of other communities and countries and to talk about our respective understandings of God.						
108. I have a knack for selecting appropriate and inspiring music for worship services or for parish events.						
109. I enjoy a close relationship with people in a one to one situation.						
110. I will take on a difficult task for the church, because God will give me the ability to see it through.						
111. I feel called to stand up for what is right even if it irritates others.						

<u>Questi</u>	ons <i>cont.</i>	(4) most always true	(3) often true	(2) undecided	(1) sometimes true	(0) not true	
112.	I like to do things without attracting much attention.						
113. Bi	It is easy to organize materials for teaching a ble class.						
114.	I have a knack for foreign languages – ASL or Braille.						
115.	I have confidence in dealing with problems.						

SCORING YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS

Put your scores for each question into the following table, then compute the sum of each row. This provides your score for each spiritual gift. (The number at the top of the column that corresponds to each answer choice is the point value for that answer.)

24	47	70	93	=	Administration
25	48	71	94	=	Apostle
26	49	72	95	=	Caregiver
27	50	73	96	=	Craftsmanship
28	51	74	97	=	Discernment
29	52	75	98	=	Evangelist
30	53	76	99	=	Encouragement
31	54	77	100	=	Faith
32	55	78	101	=	Generosity
33	56	79	102	=	Healing
34	57	80	103	=	Hospitality
35	58	81	104	=	Intercession
36	59	82	105	=	Knowledge
37	60	83	106	=	Mercy
38	61	84	107	=	Missionary
39	62	85	108	=	Musician
40	63	86	109	=	Servant Leadership
41	64	87	110	=	Trust
42	65	88	111	=	Prophet
43	66	89	112	=	Serving
44	67	90	113	=	Teacher
45	68	91	114	=	Communication
46	69	92	115	=	Wisdom
	34. 35. 36. 37. 38. 39. 40. 41. 42. 43. 44. 45.	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	34. 57. 80. 35. 58. 81. 36. 59. 82. 37. 60. 83. 38. 61. 84. 39. 62. 85. 40. 63. 86. 41. 64. 87. 42. 65. 88. 43. 66. 89. 44. 67. 90. 45. 68. 91.	34. 57. 80. 103. 35. 58. 81. 104. 36. 59. 82. 105. 37. 60. 83. 106. 38. 61. 84. 107. 39. 62. 85. 108. 40. 63. 86. 109. 41. 64. 87. 110. 42. 65. 88. 111. 43. 66. 89. 112. 44. 67. 90. 113. 45. 68. 91. 114.	34. $57.$ $80.$ $103.$ $=$ $35.$ $58.$ $81.$ $104.$ $=$ $36.$ $59.$ $82.$ $105.$ $=$ $37.$ $60.$ $83.$ $106.$ $=$ $38.$ $61.$ $84.$ $107.$ $=$ $39.$ $62.$ $85.$ $108.$ $=$ $40.$ $63.$ $86.$ $109.$ $=$ $41.$ $64.$ $87.$ $110.$ $=$ $42.$ $65.$ $88.$ $111.$ $=$ $43.$ $66.$ $89.$ $112.$ $=$ $44.$ $67.$ $90.$ $113.$ $=$

UNDERSTANDING YOUR SCORE

Score What your gift score means

- 20-16 You are either doing this or you should be
- 15-11 You could easily do this if you want to
 - 10-6 You would have to work hard to do this gracefully
 - 5-0 You would probably not enjoy doing this.

LIST OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS

A list of Spiritual Gifts/Charisms follows. Each description includes scripture references, a patron saint and possible ministry categories for you to serve in/with your family, parish and community. You are encouraged to read and pray over the scripture references and research the patron saints as you discern and learn about your gifts.

ADMINISTRATION:

The Holy Spirit enables some individuals to motivate, direct and inspire God's people in such a way that they work harmoniously together to do the Church's work effectively. The administrator typically accepts the goals set by others and devises and executes plans to accomplish these goals. They are very organized and detail oriented. They have a sense for delegating important tasks to the right people at the right time. **Key word:** planner, facilitator

Patron Saint: St. Vincent de Paul

Scriptures: Luke 14:28-30; Acts 6:1-7; 1 Corinthians 12:28; Titus 1:5.

Examples of Ministries: Parish Event Coordinator, Church Office Help, Religious Education, Stewardship Council, Pastoral Council, Finance Council, Adult Faith Formation, St. Vincent de Paul Society, Ushers/Greeters Captain, Committee Chairperson

APOSTLESHIP:

To exercise the gift of apostleship is to perceive and accept God's call to lead others in their spirituality, and to be instrumental in acknowledging God's grace and authority in the life of the Church. This gift involves being able to lead others wisely and compassionately and training others in spiritual matters.

Keywords: wisdom, discernment, teaching

Patron Saints: Apostles Peter & Paul

Scriptures: Matthew 4:18-22; Acts 14:21-23

Note: Many spiritual gifts inventories combine the gift of apostle with the gift of missionary because the Greek word is the same, meaning "sent one" (literally, one sent with authority or as an ambassador or representative). These gifts have been separated here with the distinction that the missionary gift is focused on cross-cultural work, where the apostle gift is focused on overseeing the expansion of the Church in a given area, regardless of culture.

Examples of Ministries: Welcome/Acts Retreats, ChristLife/Alpha, Religious Education, Adult Faith Formation, Stewardship Council, Pastoral Council, Finance Council, Small Groups, Young Adult Ministry, RCIA Leader/Sponsor

CAREGIVER:

The Holy Spirit empowers some persons to willingly bear the burdens of others and help them in such a way that they can do their tasks more effectively. To exercise the gift of caregiving or helping is to give assistance or relief from distress where it is needed. This gift involves a willingness to help others even when the jobs may be messy or involve getting into close proximity with people who are sick or distressed. **Key words:** helper, compassion

Patron Saint: Saint Damien of Molokai **Scripture:** Matthew 25:34-40, Acts 6:2-4

Volunteer, Hospitality Ministry, Youth Ministry, Spiritual Direction

Examples of Ministries: Funeral Ministry, Meals on Wheels, St. Vincent de Paul Society, Communion Outreach Ministry, Nursing Home Ministry, Outreach to the Homebound/Elderly, Nursery

CRAFTSMANSHIP:

To exercise the gift of craftsmanship one must have or develop a skill, be it a hobby or a vocation and must be willing to share this ability with others either in finished products or in teaching others the skill. This gift involves any art, craft or skill, from painting to pottery, to woodwork or weaving, computer skills or photography—any art or craft that can be used to the glory of God. **Key word:** creator **Patron Saint:** Saint Joseph **Scriptures:** Exodus 28:2-5, Sirach 38:27-34

Examples of Ministries: Church Office Help, Habitat for Humanity, St. Vincent de Paul Society, Altar/Sacristy Ministers, Technology or Communication Committee, Art and Environment, Landscape/gardening

DISCERNMENT:

The Holy Spirit enables some of us to discover the will of God. To exercise the gift of discernment is to distinguish between truth and error, to identify whether something is of God. **Key word:** wisdom, prayerfulness **Patron Saint:** St. Ignatius of Loyola **Scriptures:** 1 Corinthians 12: 4-11; 1 John 4:1-6

Examples of Ministries: Outreach to the Homebound and Elderly,

Welcome/ACTS Retreats, Pastoral Council, Stewardship Council, Pastoral Council, Finance Council, Bible Study, intercessory prayer, ChristLife

ENCOURAGEMENT:

The Holy Spirit empowers some persons to willingly bear the burdens of others and help them in such a way that they can do their tasks more effectively. This gift of comfort, counsel and encouragement gives assistance or relief from distress where it is needed. This gift involves a willingness to help others even when the jobs may be messy or involve getting into close proximity with people who are sick or distressed. **Key word:** motivate

Patron Saint: Saint Barnabas **Scriptures:** Matthew 25:34-40; 1 Corinthians 12: 8,9; 1 Thessalonians 2:11-12

Examples of Ministries: Funeral Ministry, Meals on Wheels, St. Vincent de Paul Society, Nursing Home Ministry, Outreach to the Homebound/Elderly, Nursery Volunteer, Hospitality Ministry, Youth Ministry, Spiritual Direction, St. Dismas Ministry to the Incarcerated, ChristLife

EVANGELIZATION:

The Holy Spirit enables individuals to share the Gospel with others in such a way that they come to know God. To exercise the gift of evangelism is to share one's faith within and beyond the parish. This gift involves an unabashed willingness to share the Good News and one's personal faith journey. God gifts certain members with an ability to have unusual sensitivity to when someone is ready to accept Christ, or may be wavering in their faith. People with this gift should be active in training others to share their faith. **Key words:** sharer of Good News

Patron Saint: Saint Pope John Paul II

Scriptures: Acts 5:27-32, 42; Ephesians 4:11-13; 2 Timothy 4:1-5

Examples of Ministries: Religious Education, Adult Faith Formation, Youth Ministry, Welcome/Acts Retreats, Christ Life/Alpha, Small Groups, Young Adult Ministry, RCIA Leader/Sponsor, Eucharist Ministers, Lectors, Bible Study, Community Outreach, St. Vincent de Paul Society, ChristLife, St. Dismas Ministry to the Incarcerated

FAITH:

The Holy Spirit provides individuals with extraordinary confidence in God's promises, power, and presence so that they can take heroic stands for the future of God's work in the church and faith community. This gift involves a healthy prayer life, sensitivity to the will of God and a firm trust that God will come through, even when there is no concrete evidence.

Key word: to step out **Patron Saint:** Saint Teresa of Avila **Scriptures:** Mark 5:25-34; 1 Corinthians 12:9; Hebrews 11

Examples of Ministries: Lector, Spiritual Direction, Small Christian Communities, Pro-Life Ministry, Social Justice Ministry, St. Vincent de Paul Society, Welcome/ACTS Retreat, Bible Study, intercessory prayer, ChristLife

GENEROSITY:

The Holy Spirit enables people to offer energies, abilities and material resources for the work of the church with exceptional willingness, cheerfulness and generosity. To exercise the gift of giving one operates out of a spirit of selflessness, requiring no recognition or reward for their giving. These people have an acute awareness that all they have belongs to the Lord and they are merely stewards, therefore they know that God will supply their needs and richly bless them in their giving. **Key words:** liberally gives away

Patron Saint: Saint Katherine Drexel **Scriptures:** Luke 6:30; Romans 12:8; 2 Corinthians 8:1-15

Examples of Ministries: St. Vincent de Paul Society, Nursing Home Ministry, Communion/Outreach to Homebound/Elderly, Knights of Columbus, RCIA Leader/Sponsor, Funeral Ministry, Meals on Wheels, Habitat for Humanity, Nursery Volunteer, Youth Ministry, food pantry, The Lord's Diner

HEALING:

The Holy Spirit leads some individuals to aid in restoring people who are sick. To exercise the gift of healing is to pray not necessarily for a cure but for God's help for the sufferer and that something of good may come out of the distress. Those who have this gift must use it knowing that the healing only occurs within the limits of God's will, and therefore miraculous healing will not always occur. This gift involves a healthy prayer life, confidence in God's power to provide courage in suffering, and wellness of spirit regardless of the condition of the body or mind.

Keyword: healer

Patron Saint: Saint Francis Xavier

Scriptures: Sirach 38:1-15; Acts 3:1-10; 5:12-16; 9:32-35; 1 Corinthians 12:9, 28.

Note: on Healing and Miracles: The gifts of healing and miracles are often combined, since they both involve the occurrence of events beyond natural means. However, one is focused on the healing of the human body, while the other is focused on other miraculous events that alter the ordinary course of nature. These may in fact be two separate manifestations of the same gift.

Examples of Ministries: Funeral Ministry, Nursing Home Ministry, Communion/Outreach to the Homebound/Elderly, Meals on Wheels, Spiritual Direction, healing prayer ministry.

HOSPITALITY:

A concern for the comfort of others may be a manifestation of the gift of hospitality. This gift involves having a knack for making people at ease, enjoying being in the presence of strangers and a welcoming spirit. Those with this gift have an acute awareness of visitors and have a desire to make all people feel welcome. They are a key to helping new people become a part of the group.

Keywords: openness, welcoming

Patron Saint: Saint Benedict

Scriptures: Matthew 25:34-45; Romans 12:13; Hebrews 13:1-2; 1 Peter 4:8:11

Examples of Ministries: St. Vincent de Paul Society, RCIA Sponsor, Bereavement Ministry, Ushers/Greeters, Hospitality Ministry, New Parishioner Ministry, Bible Studies, ChristLife, Funeral dinners, Nursery Volunteer, Parish Suppers, Religious Education, Social Activities, coffee & donuts, The Lord's Diner

INTERCESSION:

Those with this gift often feel compelled to pray for specific requests when they are made known. Gifted intercessors have a much greater occurrence of specific answers to prayer than most Christians. Intercessors often have an acute understanding that prayer is genuinely a conversation with God, and when left alone, find themselves engaged in prayer. Many intercessors experience times when God *continued on next page*

moves them to pray for situations when they are not entirely sure what they are praying for. To those who get to know intercessors well, prayer becomes contagious. Those with this gift should help others learn how to pray more effectively.

Key words: prayer warrior **Patron Saint:** Saint Thérèse of Lisieux **Scriptures:** Matthew 6:6-15; 2 Corinthians 1:8-11; 1 Timothy 2:1-4; James 5:14-16

Examples of Ministries: Welcome/ACTS Retreats, Small Christian Communities,

Communion Outreach Ministry, Healing Prayer team, Nursing Home Ministry, Eucharistic Minister, Lector, Prayer Chain or Prayer Group, RCIA, spiritual direction, Seven Sisters Apostolate

KNOWLEDGE:

To exercise the gift of knowledge, one enjoys learning, probably from childhood and on into adulthood. This gift may include knowledge of facts and relationships, of scripture and of the tradition of the church and knowledge of the ways of sharing this learning gracefully. These people are interested in ideas and problem solving through gathering information and studying.

Key word: scholar **Patron Saint:** Saint Thomas More **Scriptures:** Proverbs 2:1-11; Sirach; Luke 1:1-4; 2 Corinthians 11:6; Colossians 2:2-3

Examples of Ministries: RCIA Leader/Sponsor, Social Justice Ministry, Religious Education, Adult Faith Formation, Stewardship Council, Pastoral Council, Finance Council, Bible Study, Technology Committee, Youth Ministry, ChristLife

LEADERSHIP:

The gift of leadership allows individuals to assume responsibility for the leadership and guidance of a group. These people set goals in accordance with God's purpose and His glory. They are able to share a compelling vision to get people excited about that vision and then direct movement toward that vision. People with this gift are good at leading, delegating, facilitating, and counseling. **Key words:** orchestrate, motivate

Patron Saint: Saint Maximilian Kolbe or Father Emil Kapaun

Scriptures: 1 Samuel 10:1; Mark 9:33-35; Acts 1:5-26, 6:1-6; Hebrews 13:17

Examples of Ministries: Stewardship Council, Pastoral Council, Finance Council, Welcome/ACTS Retreats, Parish Leadership Team, Small Christian Communities, Knights of Columbus, Youth Ministry, Young Adult Ministry, Social Justice Ministry, Technology Committee

MERCY:

The gift of mercy is a God-given ability to sympathize with and minister to people who are suffering physically, spiritually or emotionally in an extraordinary way. Mercy gives people who have this gift special vision; they see people in need that most of us miss. To exercise the gift of mercy is to relate to others in kindness and compassion. This gift involves continual readiness to forgive those who have

erred, comfort the bereaved, help those who face a crisis, minister to the sick, become a peacemaker or offer assistance to those in need.

Keywords: show compassion

Patron Saint: Saint Teresa of Calcutta

Scriptures: Isaiah 58:5-10; Micah 6:8; Matthew 25:34-45; John 8:3-11; Romans 12:8

Note: The gifts of Helps, Mercy, and Service are often confused. Helps focuses on Christian works and freeing others to accomplish their God-given ministries. Mercy focuses on people in distress and reflects God's love and compassion. Service focuses on accomplishing little tasks that may otherwise go undone in order to move the greater goal of the ministry or church toward completion.

Examples of Ministries: Social Justice Ministry, Meals on Wheels, St. Vincent de Paul Society, Nursing Home Ministry, Communion/Outreach to Homebound/Elderly, Funeral Ministry, Hospitality Ministry, Spiritual Direction, Bereavement Ministry, St. Dismas Ministry to the Incarcerated, The Lord's Diner

MISSIONARY:

To exercise the gift of mission is to faithfully and mutually share what one has learned about God. This gift involves a willingness to be with and share with people of different heritage, customs, economic background, experience, or manner of speaking, as much a willingness to listen as to speak and awareness that God loves all people. Those with this gift have a stronger-than-average desire to be a part of the fulfillment of the Great Commission around the world.

Keyword: intercultural

Patron Saint: Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini

Scriptures: Matthew 28:16-20; Acts 8:26-39; Romans 10:14-15; 1 Corinthians 9:19-23

Note: Many spiritual gifts inventories combine the gift of apostle with the gift of missionary because the Greek word is the same, meaning "sent one" (literally, one sent with authority or as an ambassador or representative). These gifts have been separated here with the distinction that the missionary gift is focused on cross-cultural work, where the apostle gift is focused on overseeing the expansion of the Church in a given area, regardless of culture.

Examples of Ministries: St. Vincent de Paul Society, Meals on Wheels, Nursing Home Ministry, Communion/Outreach to Homebound/Elderly, Meals on Wheels, Religious Education, Adult Faith Formation, Communication or Technology Volunteers, Young Adult Ministry, St. Dismas Ministry to the Incarcerated.

MUSICIANSHIP:

The Holy Spirit enables some to praise God and present personal witness through various forms of music and enhance the worship experience of the parish community. To exercise the gift of music may involve some skill in singing or in playing an instrument but may also include the ability to select appropriate music for a worship service or parish event or program.

Keyword: musician

Patron Saint: Saint Cecilia

Scriptures: Exodus 15:1,2; Psalm 96:1-3, 100:1-2, 150; Ephesians 5:19-20; James 5:13

Examples of Ministries: Liturgy Commission, Cantors, Parish Choirs, Instrumentalist for Masses or celebrations/receptions

TRUST:

The Holy Spirit empowers some individuals to accomplish much toward achieving God's will in our church and community. In some versions of Scripture this gift is called the working of miracles. This gift involves a firm and faithful relationship with God, courage in the face of adversity and a willingness to trust in the power of God. Those with the gift of trust often have a heightened sensitivity to the presence and power of God through His Holy Spirit. They do not claim power themselves, but always give credit and glory to God.

Key word: surrender Patron Saint: Saint Padre Pio Scriptures: John 14:11-14; Acts 1:8; 2 Timothy 1:5-7

Examples of Ministries: St. Vincent de Paul Society, Social Justice Ministry, Funeral Ministry, Pro-Life Ministry, Outreach to Homebound/Elderly, Meals on Wheels, Spiritual Direction, Prayer Ministry

PROPHET/PROPHECY:

The Holy Spirit empowers some individuals to interpret and apply God's revelation in a given situation. This gift involves a keen sense of the dignity of all people, a sense of call, a sense of timing and some knowledge of Scripture and church teachings.

Key words: perceiver, authority **Patron Saint:** Saint Philip Neri **Scriptures:** Luke 3:1-8; 1 Corinthians 12:10, 14:1-5, 14:37-40; Ephesians 4:11-16

Note: Exhortation, Prophecy, and Teaching are considered the communication gifts. The distinctions for each gift are often confused. Often, gifted communicators have a mix of these gifts. Exhortation focuses on personal and practical application of the message or truth being communicated. Prophecy focuses purely on the message or truth to be communicated. Teaching focuses on bringing thorough or adequate understanding of the message or truth being communicated.

Examples of Ministries: Small Christian Communities, RCIA Sponsor, Religious Education, Adult Faith Formation, Youth and Young Adult Ministry, Social Justice Ministry, Eucharistic Minister, Lector

SERVICE:

To exercise the gift of service is to identify closely with the needs and problems of others, not providing answers or solutions, but being willing to work with them, no matter how small or how big the task may be. This gift involves a willingness to "pitch in" and do whatever is needed, no matter how detailed or tedious the task. Make use of available resources to meet those needs and help accomplish the desired results. Service-oriented people would rather take orders than give them.

Key word: doer Patron Saint: St. Martin de Porres Scripture: Luke 22:24-27; John 13:3-5, 12-17; Acts 6:1-7; Romans 12:6-7 Note: The gifts of Helps, Mercy, and Service are often confused. Helps focuses on Christian works and freeing others to accomplish their God-given ministries. Mercy focuses on people in distress and reflects God's love and compassion. Service focuses on accomplishing little tasks that may otherwise go undone in order to move the greater goal of the ministry or church toward completion.

Examples of Ministries: Knights of Columbus, St. Vincent de Paul Society, Nursing Home Ministry, Meals on Wheels, Funeral Ministry, Student Suppers, Ushers/Greeters, Parish Suppers, Church Office Help, Parish Events, Habitat for Humanity, Nursing Home Ministry, Hospitality Ministry, Nursery Volunteer, Religious Education, Youth Ministry, Pastoral Council

TEACHER:

The Holy Spirit enables some individuals to communicate so that others can learn. To exercise the gift of teaching one effectively imparts information or proclaims precepts of our Catholic faith either orally, visually or by example. People with the gift of teaching enjoy studying the Bible and related materials in order to communicate what they have learned to other Christians. Those with this gift find it easy to organize vast amounts of information in such a way as to make it easy to communicate, understand, and remember.

Keyword: teaching, sharing knowledge

Patron Saint: Saint Thomas Aquinas

Scriptures: Matthew 28:19-20; Acts 18:24-26, 20; 1 Corinthians 12:28-31; Ephesians 4:11-14

Note: Exhortation, Prophecy, and Teaching are considered the communication gifts. The distinctions for each gift are often confused. Often, gifted communicators have a mix of these gifts. Exhortation focuses on personal and practical application of the message or truth being communicated. Prophecy focuses on the urgency and impact of the message or truth being communicated. Teaching focuses on bringing thorough or adequate understanding of the message or truth being communicated.

Examples of Ministries: Religious Education, Adult Faith Formation, RCIA Teacher/Sponsor, Social Justice Ministry, Lectors, Nursing Home Ministry, Bible Study, Youth Ministry

WRITING/COMMUNICATION:

The Holy Spirit enables some of us to communicate or to understand in forms or communication beyond the ordinary. To exercise the gift of communication be familiar with or understand a foreign language or anything (such as ASL, Braille, art, music and more) other than our own native language.

Keyword: writer, communicator

Patron Saint: Saint Francis de Sales

Scripture: Psalm 45:1; Acts 2:5-11; Philippians 3:1; 1 Peter 3:15-16; Jude 3

Examples of Ministries: Parish Choir, Instrumentalists, Youth Ministry, Religious Education, Communication or Technology Committee, Pastoral Council, Lectors, Communion Outreach, Nursing Home Ministry, Funeral Ministry, Bible Study, ALS Interpreter, Cultural Ministry,

WISDOM:

Some individuals have an understanding of God's will and work as it relates to everyday life. To exercise the gift of wisdom is to help others to discover the wisdom they have within them. This gift involves knowledge of God and of Scripture, discernment of God's will, and skill in analyzing the problems and dilemmas of life. Often, people in the church naturally seek out people with this gift when they are facing complicated spiritual problems. When a person with this gift considers past experience, they realize that they often make good and correct decisions and judgements.

Keyword: discerner

Patron Saint: Saint John of the Cross

Scriptures: 1 Kings 3:5-12; Wisdom chapters 7-10; Acts 6:3, 10; James 1:5,6

Examples of Ministries: RCIA Teacher/Sponsor, Outreach to Homebound/Elderly, Small Christian Communities, Bible Study, Stewardship Council, Pastoral Council, Finance Council, Religious Education, Youth Ministry, Church Office Help, long range planning team

***Adapted, curated and inspired by a variety of sources including: St. Austin – Austin TX, McGrath Institute for Church Life, St. Catherine of Siena Institute's Called & Gifted[™], Catholic Spiritual Gifts Inventory, The Siena Institute Press, Colorado Springs CO, © 1997 by Sherry Weddell, Diocese of Cleveland, Archdiocese of Atlanta, Lakeview Baptist Church

