

What are your gifts and talents?

Being a disciple of Jesus calls us to be a good steward of the gifts God has given us, especially our time and talent. To do this we must first recognize our gifts/talents and give thanks to God for them. The following assessment helps us recognize our gifts in several areas. Once we recognize our gifts/talents, it is important that we follow Jesus calling to us to use our gifts in building God's Kingdom--a Kingdom of justice, compassion and peace.

How to use the following assessment:

- Answer each of the questions
- Score your answers
- Identify those gifts with the highest scores
- Review the Gifts Discernment Summary for a definition of the gifts and suggested ministries that can best use your gifts
- Review the options on the Ministry Inventory to identify which ministries you think can best use your gifts.
- Feel free to talk to Maureen, Dr. Peg, your Catechist, Peer Ministers and other teens you might know who are part of the various ministries you might be interested in!

Gifts Discernment

The following "Gifts Discernment" is designed to help you discover what your gifts might be. This is not a test! There are no right or wrong answers. Each statement has 3 possibilities. As you read each statement, reflect for a moment as to how it describes you, and then check the appropriate column.

		Yes, I have positive feelings and much enjoyment Value: 4	Sometimes, I have neutral feelings and modest enjoyment Value: 2	No, I have negative feelings and no enjoyment, or DOES NOT APPLY Value: 0
1	I am able to organize ideas, things, times and people for more effective results			
2	I receive much joy from working with my hands at various arts and crafts.			
3	I find that my skills in building or repairing objects benefit others.			
4	I like sharing with other people how God has changed my life.			
5	There have been times when I have felt sure I knew God's specific will for the future, even when others have not been so sure.			
6	I am so confident that God will meet my needs that I give to God sacrificially and consistently			
7	I find joy in being a help to someone who can utilize my help and concern.			
8	I am comfortable with meeting new people in the parish.			

9	I am able to motivate people into getting things done.			
10	I enjoy doing things to comfort people during sickness or times of problems and/or anxiety			
11	When I am singing, I feel a great sense of joy			
12	I would enjoy being involved in an instrumental music presentation			
13	I appreciate being called on to do things for others.			
14	I have enjoyed relating to a certain group of people over a long period of time, sharing personally in their success and failures			
15	I feel that I can communicate the Good News of Jesus to others so that they are helped.			
16	When important decisions need to be made I sense a confidence in God's guidance.			
17	When I use my ability to write, I know others will learn and grow from it.			
18	I am able to create engaging digital media presentations			
19	I am able to plan and administer programs which will be of benefit to others.			
20	I enjoy the times that I am able to create beautiful items with my hands.			
21	I enjoy the work necessary for gardening, landscaping, and other projects.			
22	I feel comfortable telling others how God has changed my life.			
23	When in a group, I am the one others often look to for vision and direction.			
24	I am ready to forgo certain privileges in order to give money to God's work.			
25	When I serve the Lord, I really don't care who gets the credit.			
26	I enjoy inviting visitors and guests in the parish to become involved in parish ministry.			
27	I enjoy inviting visitors and guests in the parish to become involved in parish ministry.			
28	I enjoy helping and working with those people who are ignored by others.			
29	In the area of vocal music, I enjoy performing alone and/or in a group of singers.			
30	When playing an instrument, I intuitively sense where the music is flowing, rather than relying completely on a written music score.			
31	When other people ask me to lend a helping hand, I feel special.			
32	I feel comfortable in leading a small group Bible study.			
33	I find it rewarding to reach more people about the Lord.			

34	When a person has a problem, as a Christian I can frequently see what is best to do.			
35	I find pleasure in composing and writing I find pleasure in composing and writing paragraphs and stories for the growth of others.			
36	I am familiar with various social media platforms and am comfortable using them			
37	I can easily delegate important responsibilities to other people			
38	I find joy in having a beautiful lawn, flowers, and shrubs which are properly placed and cared for.			
39	The repair and maintenance of things comes easily to me.			
40	It is easy for me to talk to other people about life and/or spiritual matters			
41	I am able to trust in the reliability of God when all else looks dim.			
42	I am content to maintain a lower standard of living in order to financially benefit God's work.			
43	When I do things behind the scenes and others are helped, I am joyful.			
44	I am able to provide food and/or lodging graciously and willingly to people who are in need.			
45	When a group I am in is lacking organization, I tend to step in and fill the gap.			
46	Sometimes when I help people out, I know they may not even say "thank you," but I still enjoy helping them.			
47	I enjoy singing with a group			
48	I know my performance of instrumental music has been a blessing to others.			
49	I respond cheerfully when asked to do a job, even if it seems menial.			
50	I enjoy leading small groups of people, especially when I am able to show genuine care and concern.			
51	I enjoy helping others learn things about Scripture which aid in building them up			
52	I enjoy learning to use various AV devices and am often called on to trouble shoot technical difficulties at home and school.			
53	I can intuitively arrive at solutions to fairly complicated problems.			
54	I am able to put my thoughts and ideas into positive, written form.			
55	I am able to set goals and objectives, and then make plans to reach them			
56	I find joy in painting pictures or in making handcrafted objects.			

57	I find joy in lawn care and other outside maintenance.			
58	When I share my faith with others, I see positive results in their lives.			
59	I really believe that God will not let me down, even though everything around me seems to be falling apart.			
60	I really enjoy giving my time and treasures to God's work.			
61	I am able to assist key leaders to relieve them of detail work, so they can get back to their main jobs.			
62	I am comfortable in greeting people I don't know			
63	People look to me as a leader when things need to be done.			
64	I enjoy working with those less fortunate than me.			
65	I am able to lead others in singing.			
66	I enjoy using my instrumental music talents for the appreciation of my friends and to the glory of God.			
67	I enjoy being a follower more than a leader.			
68	I have brought friends or relatives back to faith			
69	I enjoy teaching children or adults about God			
70	If one of my friends is faced with a problem, I am able to sort out what God's will is for them			
71	I enjoy writing words that will be of benefit to those who read them.			
72	Others have said I have a good eye for visual design			

Gifts Discernment Tally

You have now finished responding to the statements in your "Gifts Inventory." The next step is to tally your results. Record the numerical value of each statement on the grid below.

- Any statement where you have checked the YES column is given the value of 4.
- Any statement where you have checked the SOMETIMES column is given the value of 2.
- Any statement where you checked the NO column is given the value of 0.

Statements 1 through 68				Total Value of Each Row	Gift
1	19	37	55		Administration
2	20	38	56		Craftsmanship
3	21	39	57		Craftsmanship (Manual)
4	22	40	58		Evangelism
5	23	41	59		Faith
6	24	42	60		Giving
7	25	43	61		Helps
8	26	44	62		Hospitality
9	27	45	63		Leadership
10	28	46	64		Mercy
11	29	47	65		Music (vocal)
12	30	48	66		Music (instrumental)
13	31	49	67		Serving
14	32	50	68		Shepherding
15	33	51	69		Teaching
16	34	52	70		Wisdom
17	35	53	71		Writing
18	36	54	72		Technology

Summary of Gifts Discernment

This inventory has given you a tentative evaluation of your gifts. This is only a guideline as you discern the gifts that God has blessed you with and how you might use them to build his kingdom.

ADMINISTRATION: This gift of administration will benefit you in understanding and setting goals for various groups and organizations. It will give you direction in making plans to achieve those goals. You will be able to plan programming, work with facts and/or figures, and see that goals and ideas are accomplished.

Possible ministries: Parish Council Rep, Fundraising, Planning Team, Drop-in Nights, Retreat Ministry, Office Steward, Front Desk Receptionist

Possible vocational paths: Administrative Assistant, Program Director, Executive Director, Administrative Service Manager, Foreign Service Officer, Case Manager, Research Associate, HR Manager, Sales

CRAFTSMANSHIP - ARTS/CRAFTS: This talent will give you the ability to use your hands, thoughts, and mind to further God's Kingdom through artistic, creative means. You may also serve as a trainer for others to develop their abilities in this area.

Possible ministries: Art and Environment; Passion Play, Marketing

Possible vocational paths: Graphic designer, Marketing, Florist, Photographer, Arts Administrator, Animator

Summary of Gifts Discernment, Continued

CRAFTMANSHIP - MANUAL: This talent will give you the ability to use your hands and ideas in the areas of maintenance and upkeep of the parish's physical plant.

Possible ministries: Mission Trip; Passion Play; Habitat for Humanity; Maintenance projects, Landscape maintenance, Art and Environment

Possible vocational paths: Mechanical Engineer, Tradesperson, Industrial design, Manufacturing, IT, Contractor, Tool and Dye Maker, Machinist, Mechanic, Construction Manager, Architect, Landscaper

EVANGELISM: The gift of evangelism will give you the power to share the Good News.

Possible ministries: Peer Ministry, Retreat Leader, Lector, Aid for a special needs child, bible study, RCIC team member, Spirit Camp, NCYC, Social Media ministry, outreach and recruitment of others

Possible vocational paths: Special Events Coordinator, Web Design, Lobbyist, Public Relations, Sales, Social Media Consultant, Media Director, Public Affairs Manager, Publicist, Copy Writer

FAITH: The gift of faith will allow you to see with confidence what God's will is for your life and, more importantly, for the parish community. You will have no fear of moving ahead, even though everything around you seems to be holding you back.

Possible ministries : RCIC, RCIA sponsor, Religious Education, bible study, lector, Eucharistic Minister, gospel Reflector, NCYC, Peer Ministry, Journey's, Spirit Camp, Social Justice outreach, Faith on Fire, Retreat ministry (participant and leader)

Possible vocational paths: Membership and Marketing Associate, Resource Development, Director of Development, Customer Service Rep, Recruiter, Community Organizer, Ministry, Program Director, Brand Manager, Sales

GIVING: The gift of giving will allow you to give liberally of your treasures and time. As you give, you will experience much joy and satisfaction.

Possible ministries: Social Justice outreach, Fundraising, Coordinating the collection of resources for PADS, Spirit Camp, Food drives, Environmental outreach projects, Advocacy for others, Social Media ministry,

Possible vocational paths: Fundraising, Finance, Director of Development, Civil Service, Consumer Advocate, Labor Relations Specialist, Public Policy Analyst

SERVING: The gift of serving will allow you to see things that need to be done. Often these are tasks overlooked by others, especially those in leadership positions. Assuming the role of the servant will bring you much joy and will build the Body of Christ.

Possible ministries: All parish ministries, Mission Trip, Service Projects, Retreat leader,

Possible vocational paths: International Aid Worker, Immigration Officer, Social Worker, Translator, Human Rights Advocate, NGO Director, Non-profit Administrator, Lawyer, Journalist

HELPS: The gift of helps will give you the opportunity to help other members of the community grow in their service. You will feel needed as you relieve others of tasks that are burdening them.

Possible Ministries: All parish ministries, Office Steward, Social media ministry, Drop-in Nights, Assist Family Faith kids with service projects, Spirit Camp

Possible vocational paths: Human Relations, Institutional Researcher, Public Policy Analyst, Mediator, Administration, Legislative Aid, Labor Relations Specialist, Personal Coach, Health Policy Planner, Quality Control

Summary of Gifts Discernment, Continued

SHEPHERDING: The gift of shepherding will give you the ability to reach out and care in a spiritual manner for an individual or for a group. You will serve as one who is a counselor, encouraging others - you will see that God's Word is fed to those in your care and you will also feel a responsibility for the general well being of the individual or group.

Possible ministries: Peer Ministry, Catechist's Aid, Retreat Leader, Drop-in Nights, Spirit Camp, Bible Study, Journey's (coordinating and participating)

Possible vocational paths: Ministry, Social Work, Community Organizer, Public Affairs Consultant, Human Relations Professional, Coaching, Physician, Therapist, Teaching, Educational Administration, Health Care Professionals, Counseling, Student activities coordinator, Residential Life Coordinator

TEACHING: The gift of teaching will give you the ability to share knowledge with others that will serve in building them up in Christ. Your teaching will aid the growth and spiritual well-being of the community.

Possible ministries: Catechist, Catechist Aid, Aid for a special needs child, Peer Ministry, Retreat Leader, Gospel Reflector, Family Faith Faith-in Leader, Faith on Fire, Children's Liturgy of the Word, Adam's Apple, RCIC Team member,

Possible vocational paths: Corporate Trainer, Curriculum Design, Career Counseling, Juvenile Corrections Officer, Life Coach, After-school program/youth organization director, Camp director, Educational Director, Admissions Counselor/Recruiter, Textbook author or editor, Educational Researcher, Think-tank Associate

MUSIC - INSTRUMENTAL: This talent will allow you to play an instrument in such a manner that it will be praise to God and build up those around you.

Possible ministries: Teen Band and choir; Adult Band and choir

Possible vocational paths: Live performer, Band Manager, Studio/Session Musician, Music Teacher, Band Director, Song writer, Music Production, Music Transcriber, Film/Video Game Scoring

MUSIC - VOCAL: This talent will allow you to use your voice to sing praise to the Lord in such a manner that those around you will feel strengthened and built up.

Possible ministries: Teen Band and choir, Adult band and choir, cantor, Passion Play, Catechist's Aid, Children's Liturgy of the Word, Adam's Apple

Possible vocational paths: Live Performer, Freelance vocalist, Music Therapist, Music Festival and Concert Organizer, Music educator, Vocal coach, Composer/Song writer, Music Critic

HOSPITALITY: The gift of hospitality will give you the opportunity to be open and caring to those in need. You will enjoy making people feel at home and will feel good as you see people relax and become more comfortable in the community.

Possible ministries: Hospitality, usher (greeter), Peer Ministry, Welcoming Committee, PADS, Wedding Rehearsal Ministry

Possible vocational paths: Restaurant management, Travel agent, Spa Manager, Hotel Management, Chef, Wedding Planner, Event and Conference Organizer, Brand Manager, Tour Operator, Property Manager, Food and Beverage Director, Retail, Director of Patient Services, Recreational Guide, Parks management, Facilities Management, Corporate Events Planner

LEADERSHIP: The gift of leadership will allow you to be a goal-setter and leader of God's people. They will look to you for guidance and direction. Your leadership will bring glory to God and growth to His church.

Possible ministries: Parish council, Journey's Planning Group, Fundraising, Drop-in Nights, Spirit Camp Leadership Team, NCYC, Faith on Fire, Retreat Planning,

Possible vocational paths: Strategic Planner, Consultant, Project Manager, Executive Director, Military Service, Social Service Administrator, Organizational Trainer, Entrepreneur, Community Development Specialist

MERCY: The gift of mercy allows you to reach out to people who are in need. Your words of care and concern, your actions, will aid in building up those who may have physical, mental or emotional problems. The things you will do will allow those who you serve to see the love of Christ in you through you.

Possible ministries: All social outreach ministries, hospitality ministry, Journey's, Peer Ministry, Eucharistic Minister, RCIC team member, Children's Liturgy of the Word, Kid Church helper, Retreat Ministry, Aid for a special needs child, Adam's Apple

Possible vocational paths: Physician, Nursing, Social Worker, Therapist, Early Childhood Education, Youth Ministry, Community Activist, Public Policy Advisor, City Planner, HR professional, Foreign Service Officer, International Aid Worker, Fair Trade Advocate, Lawyer

WISDOM: The gift of wisdom will allow you to have a special understanding of situations which arise in people's lives. You will be able to offer counsel and advice. As you do this, your faith community will become healthier and grow.

Possible ministries: Confirmation Sponsor, aid for special needs child, Peer Ministry, Retreat ministry, Drop-in Nights, PADS, Spirit Camp

Possible vocational paths: Community Development Specialist, Environmental Sciences, Bio-medical ethics, Personal Development Specialist, Political Advisor, City Planning, Nature conservation officer, Sustainability consultant, Financial planning, Estate Management, Teaching, Educational Administration, Medical Research

WRITING: This talent will allow you to put your thoughts and ideas into words that will be meaningful and relevant to those who read them. As they are read, people will find guidance and knowledge.

Possible ministries: FTF newsletter, parish bulletin, designing marketing materials, Social media outreach, writing up training guides for AV materials, editing witness talk outlines, helping write or edit the Passion Play script

Possible vocational paths: Journalist, Author, Editor, Public relations specialist, Marketing communications specialist, Grant writer, Technical writer, Screenwriter, Advertising copywriter, social media specialist