

Discovering Your Spiritual Gifts

You have just begun a process of discovering your spiritual gifts. As you reflect on the gifts you have tentatively identified through the questionnaire, try to discern which ones truly are, or are not, your gifts. To do so, follow this five-step approach.

1. **EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITIES:** Pray and reflect on each of the ministries. Learn what is expected from each ministry and how your input is important to the life of the Church.
2. **EXPERIMENT WITH AS MANY GIFTS AS POSSIBLE:** The spiritual gifts analysis that you have just completed has helped you experiment with different gifts. Your feelings, reactions, and general outlook on the gifts were measured as you worked through the discovery questionnaire. Now you need to experiment further with the gifts you pinpointed in the analysis. Unless you try the gifts this analysis has revealed, you will have a hard time knowing whether you really have them or not. Get involved in a ministry activity that will let you try out these gifts.
3. **EXAMINE YOUR FEELINGS:** Since God calls all of us to serve Him, you will feel fulfilled when functioning in the proper area. Thus, if you enjoy your attempts to use a particular gift, that is a good sign that you possess it. If, however, you dislike the service activities associated with a particular gift, that is a fairly good sign that you do not have it.
4. **EVALUATE YOUR EFFECTIVENESS:** Since spiritual gifts are designed to benefit others, you should see positive results as you use your gift(s). If you see no results as you experiment with a particular gift, you probably do not have that gift. But, it could be that you did not give it a fair try or that it will simply take time for you to learn to use the gift effectively. As you evaluate, pray for the courage to be honest with yourself and with God.
5. **EXPECT CONFIRMATION FROM THE CHURCH:** You cannot discover, develop, and use a gift all on your own. Gifts are given to build up other members of the Church. If you have a gift, other Christians will recognize it and confirm it. If you feel that you have a particular gift but no one else agrees with you, then you should take a closer look at yourself and re-evaluate.

Remember, in all of these five steps, the key is prayer. God will lead you to accurate discoveries of your gift(s) if you allow Him to guide and direct you in all your endeavors.

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Holy Family Parish; 2515 Palatine Road; Iverness, IL 60067

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GIFTS KEY

- A. Helper
- B. Leadership
- C. Hospitality/Usher/Greeter
- D. Christian Service
- E. Administration
- F. Good Judgment — Pastoral Council/Committees
- G. Parish Organization Skills
- H. Music/Choir
- I. Eucharistic Minister
- J. Lector
- K. Craftsmanship
- L. Prayer
- M. Giving
- N. Kindness — Home Visitor
- O. Wisdom — Council/Committee
- P. Vision
- Q. Counseling Skills
- R. Teaching/Catechetics
- S. Youth Ministry
- T. Small Group Leader
- U. Stewardship
- V. Office Skills
- W. Evangelization
- X. Prayer

SPIRITUAL MINISTRY INVENTORY

“UNWRAP YOUR SPIRITUAL SKILLS”

- Directions:**
- Pray to the Holy Spirit for guidance as you respond to the statements.
 - Record your response to statements 1-96 on the **Answer Sheet** (page 5) using the key to indicates your level of agreement with each statement.

1. I enjoy working behind the scenes, taking care of little details.
2. I usually step forward and assume leadership in a group where none exists.
3. When in a group, I tend to recognize and approach those who are sitting or standing alone.
4. I have the ability to recognize a need and to get the job done, no matter how trivial the task.
5. I have the ability to organize ideas, people, and projects to reach a specific goal.
6. I make solid decisions based on my morals and Christian beliefs.
7. I am confident in helping others.
8. I enjoy singing or playing a musical instrument.
9. The Eucharist is very important to me.
10. I enjoy reading, especially about others.
11. I have the ability to use my hands in a creative way to design and build things.
12. I have seen my prayers answered.
13. I enjoy giving money to those in serious financial need.
14. I enjoy ministering to people in hospitals, the home bound, or rest homes to comfort them.
15. I often have insights that offer practical solutions to difficult problems.
16. I have understood issues or problems in the church and seen answers when others didn't.
17. I enjoy encouraging and giving advice to those who are discouraged.
18. I have an ability to thoroughly study our faith, and then share it with others.
19. I enjoy life.
20. Other people respect me as an authority in spiritual matter.
21. I am good with money.
22. I enjoy talking with people.
23. I enjoy spending times with non-Christians, especially with hopes of telling them about my faith in God.

24. Whenever I hear reports on the news or in conversations about needy situations, I feel it's important that I pray for them.
25. I would like to assist the pastor or other parish leaders so they will have more time to accomplish their essential and priority ministries.
26. I don't mind asking others to accomplish an important ministry for the church.
27. I enjoy serving entertaining guests and making them feel "at home" when they visit.
28. I enjoy serving others, no matter how simple the task.
29. I am a very organized person who sets goals and makes plans to reach them.
30. I have good ideas and want to share them.
31. I often set out and start projects that other people won't attempt, and the projects are usually successful.
32. I believe I could sing well in the choir.
33. I believe that people can see that I am a good person and a practicing Christian.
34. I have a good speaking voice.
35. I enjoy doing things like woodworking, crocheting, sewing, metal work, stained glass, etc.
36. I enjoy praying for those who are physically and emotionally ill, for God to heal them.
37. I joyfully give money to the church well above most.
38. I feel compassion for people who are hurting and lonely, and I like to spend considerable time with them to cheer them up.
39. God has enabled me to choose correctly between several complex options in an important decision, when no one else knew what to do.
40. I enjoy studying difficult questions about our faith, and I am able to find answers more easily and more quickly than others.
41. People often tell me their problems, and I encourage them.
42. When a question arises about our faith, I am motivated to find an answer.
43. I like to give my own free time to meet other's needs.
44. I would be willing and excited to lead a parish project.
45. I can see the big picture and mobilize resources well.
46. I have good typing skills.
47. I find it easy to share my faith with others.
48. I believe that prayer is the most important thing a Christian can do.

49. I enjoy relieving others of routine tasks so others can get special projects done.
50. I can guide and manage a group of people toward achieving a specific goal.
51. I enjoy meeting new people and introducing them to others in a group.
52. I am very dependable for getting things done on time, and I don't need much praise and thanks.
53. I easily delegate significant responsibilities to other people.
54. People confide in me and share their concerns.
55. I trust in God's faithfulness for a bright future, even when everything looks bad.
56. I enjoy singing, and people say I have a good voice.
57. I enjoy serving others.
58. I am comfortable in front of many people.
59. I find satisfaction in meeting people's need by making something for them.
60. I believe that it is important to pray. (Prayers can include private prayer, devotions, novenas, fasting, rosary, Mass, etc.)
61. I wouldn't mind giving up some things to help the church and others in need.
62. I want to do what ever I can for the needy people around me, even if I have to give up something. (Time, finances, material goods, etc.)
63. People often seek my advice when they don't know what to do.
64. I have an ability to gather information from several sources to discover the answer to a question or learn more about a subject.
65. I feel the need to challenge others to better themselves, especially in their spiritual growth without condemning them.
66. Others listen and enjoy my teaching the faith.
67. I enjoy working with teens and desire to help them be the best people they can be.
68. I enjoy small group discussions.
69. I have a good sense with finances and establishing priorities.
70. I have computer skills, or I am willing to learn.
71. I like to tell others about my faith and invite them to parish events. (Mass, sacraments, workshops, etc.)
72. Many of my prayers for others have been answered.
73. I enjoy helping others get their work done and don't need a lot of public recognition.
74. People respect my opinion and follow my direction.

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75. I enjoy welcoming new people and visitors to our parish
76. I enjoy helping people in any type of need and feel a sense of satisfaction in meeting that need.
77. I am comfortable making important decisions even under pressure.
78. I enjoy shaping the future of our parish and working toward that goal.
79. I enjoy working with people.
80. I believe the Lord could use me in the choir to deliver a message through song.
81. I am comfortable in front of many people.
82. The Scriptures are important to me.
83. People say I am gifted with my hands.
84. People often seek me out to pray for them.
85. When I give money to someone, I don't expect anything in return and often give anonymously.
86. When I hear of people without jobs who can't pay their bills, I do what I can to help.
87. God enables me to make appropriate decisions based on Christian principles for practical solutions.
88. I understand complex issues and enjoy thinking about them.
89. People will tell me things they don't tell anyone else and say I am easy to talk to.
90. I enjoy being around people.
91. I like to help teens who struggle with life and help them find their way back to a growing relationship with God.
92. I would be excited to share my faith with others.
93. I have often encouraged others to share their gifts.
94. I present myself in a friendly and professional manner.
95. I have a strong desire to help non-Christians find faith in Jesus.
96. I enjoy praying, and I spend a great deal of time at it.

SPIRITUAL MINISTRY INVENTORY ANSWER SHEET FOR PERSON #1

Key:

- 0 = Not at all
- 1 = Little
- 2 = Moderately
- 3 = Considerably
- 4 = Strongly

- Directions:**
- Use this sheet to record your responses to statements on pages 3-6.
 - Total your scores across and circle the two highest scores.
 - Determine your two gifts from the letter values on page 2.

ANSWERS				TOTAL	ROW	GIFT
1.	25.	49.	73.		A.	
2.	26.	50.	74.		B.	
3.	27.	51.	75.		C.	
4.	28.	52.	76.		D.	
5.	29.	53.	77.		E.	
6.	30.	54.	78.		F.	
7.	31.	55.	79.		G.	
8.	32.	56.	80.		H.	
9.	33.	57.	81.		I.	
10.	34.	58.	82.		J.	
11.	35.	59.	83.		K.	
12.	36.	60.	84.		L.	
13.	37.	61.	85.		M.	
14.	38.	62.	86.		N.	
15.	39.	63.	87.		O.	
16.	40.	64.	88.		P.	
17.	41.	65.	89.		Q.	
18.	42.	66.	90.		R.	
19.	43.	67.	91.		S.	
20.	44.	68.	92.		T.	
21.	45.	69.	93.		U.	
22.	46.	70.	94.		V.	
23.	47.	71.	95.		W.	
24.	48.	72.	96.		X.	

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