

Spiritual Gifts

A list of Spiritual Gifts follows. Each description includes a scripture reference and a partial list of ministries that need people with these gifts. Keep in mind, these are only suggested ministries. The Holy Spirit may inspire you to use your gifts in various ways within your parish community. This inventory and list is provided with the hope that it will serve as one small step toward helping you recognize, embrace and use the gifts with which God has blessed you. You are encouraged to read and pray over the scripture references as you discern your gifts.

Administration—The Holy Spirit enables some individuals to motivate, direct and inspire God's people in such a way that they voluntarily and harmoniously work together to do the Church's work effectively. This gift involves being able to put things together, tie up all the "loose ends" and get things done and setting a pattern for others to follow. Adeptness at financing, planning, organizing, delegating responsibilities and problem-solving can be indications of the gift of administration. **Hebrews 13:7, Judges 3:10, Exodus 18:13-16**

Examples of Parish Ministries: Parish Office Volunteer, Weekend Collection Counter, Advent by Candlelight Planning Team, Christmas Family Liturgy Leader, Stewardship Commission Member, St. Vincent de Paul Society Member, Collection Poster, Check Processor

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. Apostleship includes a combination of wisdom, discernment, leadership and teaching. **Matthew 4:18-22, Acts 14:21-23**

Examples of Parish Ministries: Advent by Candlelight Planning Team, Adult Formation Facilitator, Book Club Facilitator, Bible Study Facilitator, Catechist, Catechist Aide, Education Commission, RCIA Facilitator, RCIA Parish Mentor, RCIA Sponsor, SMYG Assistant, Ministers of Care, Evangelization Committee

Caregiving—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. **Matthew 25:34-40, Acts 6:2-4**

Examples of Parish Ministries: St. Vincent de Paul Society Member, Stephen Minister, Christian Service Commission, Outreach Work Group, SOS Week Team, Funeral Lunch Ministry

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. **Acts 2:5-11, Psalm 104:2b-35**

Examples of Parish Ministries: Pastoral Council, Lector, Marriage Mentor Couple, Prayers of the Faithful Writer, Usher, Greeter

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 or 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. **Exodus 28:3-4, Jeremiah 18:1-6, Exodus 35:35**

Examples of Parish Ministries: Arts and Environment Team, Baptismal Garment Sewer, Hospitality Bakers, Gardening Ministry, Church Photographer, Funeral Gift Basket Team

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. This gift involves wisdom and prayerfulness. **Proverbs 17:24, Hosea 14:8-9, Acts 5:3-6**

Examples of Parish Ministries: Pastoral Council, Commission Member, Charitable Giving Committee, Bible Study Facilitator, Catechist, RCIA Facilitator

Encouragement—Empowered by the Holy Spirit, some persons are called to stand beside other people who are in need and bring comfort, counsel and encouragement so they feel helped. To exercise the gift of encouragement is to call forth the best from others. This gift involves helping others to be more dedicated in living out their faith, bolstering them up when they are discouraged or downhearted and challenging them to see the goals to which God calls them. **Acts 11:23-24, Acts 14:21-22**

Examples of Parish Ministries: Stephen Ministry, Marriage Mentor Couple, Outreach Work Group, SOS Week Team, RCIA Parish Mentor

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. **Acts 8:26-40, II Timothy 4:5**

Examples of Parish Ministries: Evangelization Committee Member, Commission Member, Lector, Greeter, Usher, RCIA Sponsor, RCIA Parish Mentor, Minister of Care, RCIA Facilitator, Adult Formation Facilitator, Bible Study Facilitator, Catechist

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. **Hebrews 11**

Examples of Parish Ministries: Lector, Pro-Life Ministry, Social Justice Ministry, St. Vincent

de Paul Society, Bible Study Facilitator, Prayers of the Faithful Writer, Prayer Chain Member, Advent by Candlelight Team Member, Knights of Columbus, Catechist, Worship Commission Member

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. This gift involves offering one's time, talent and treasure. **2 Corinthians 8: 1-5, Matthew 6: 1-4**

Examples of Parish Ministries: St. Vincent de Paul Society, Communion Outreach Ministry, Knights of Columbus, RCIA Hospitality, Funeral Lunch Ministry, Stewardship Commission, Giving Tree Ministry, Hospitality Ministry, John R Rd Clean Up Leader, St. Michael's Food Pantry Team

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, that something of good may come out of the distress. 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. **James 5: 13-16, Luke 9: 1-2 , II Kings 5: 1-3, 9-14**

Examples of Parish Ministries: Communion Outreach Ministry; Stephen Minister, Prayer Chain Member
Ministers of Care

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. Scripture references: **Hebrews 13:1-2, Genesis 18:1-8**

Examples of Parish Ministries: RCIA Hospitality, Ushers, Greeters, Hospitality Ministry, Weekend Office Volunteer, Couple's Anniversary Mass and Reception, Parish Picnic Planning Team; Christian Fellowship Commission, Blood Drive Volunteer, SOS Welcome Team, Funeral Lunch Ministry

Intercession—Evidences of the gift of intercession would be having the mindset for being instantly in prayer for a person or situation, having confidence that God acts in response to our prayers, being patient and persistent in prayer even when change is not evident and having a continuing sense of responsibility to pray for people and situations. **1 Thessalonians 3:10-13, 1 Timothy 2:1-2**

Examples of Parish Ministries: Prayer Chain Member, RCIA Sponsor, RCIA Parish Mentor, Evangelization Committee, Prayers of the Faithful Writer

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. **Ephesians 3: 14-19, Hosea 6:6**

Examples of Parish Ministries: RCIA Sponsor, Social Justice Ministry, Bible Study Facilitator, Prayers of the Faithful Writer, AV Tech, Education Commission Member, Advent by Candlelight Planning Team, Book Club Facilitator, Catechist, Catechist Aide; RCIA Facilitator, SMYG Assistant, Vacation Bible School Leader

Mercy—The Holy Spirit provides individuals with exceptional empathy and compassion for those who are weak or suffering so that they can devote large amounts of time and energy to alleviate these conditions. 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. **Luke 10:30-37, Micah 6:8**

Examples of Parish Ministries: Social Justice Ministry, St. Vincent de Paul Society, Communion Outreach Ministry, Funeral Lunch Ministry, Hospitality Ministry, Ministers of Care, Prayer Chain Team, Outreach Work Group

Mission—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 an awareness that God loves all people. **1 Corinthians 9: 19-23, Mark 16: 15-20**

Examples of Parish Ministries: St. Vincent de Paul Society, Communion Outreach, Evangelization Committee, Adult Faith Formation, Bible Study Facilitator, RCIA Sponsor, RCIA Parish Mentor, SMYG Assistant

Musicianship—The Holy Spirit enables some to praise God 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. **1 Corinthians 14:26, Psalm 98: 1, 4-6, Psalm 150:3-6**

Examples of Parish Ministries: Worship Commission, Cantors, Parish Choir, Instrumentalist for Masses or celebrations/receptions, Jesus Jam Children's Choir, Hand Bells

Prophet—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. **1 Corinthians 14:1-5, 1 Corinthians 14:30-33a, 1 Corinthians 14:37-40**

Examples of Parish Ministries: RCIA Sponsor, Catechist, Adult Formation Facilitator, Evangelization Committee

Servant Leadership—The gift of servant leadership allows individuals to assume responsibility for the leadership and guidance of a group within the church. It includes leading, facilitating, counseling and providing a pastoral presence for various parish programs. **1 Peter 5: 1-11**

Examples of Parish Ministries: Pastoral Council, Knights of Columbus, SMYG Assistant, Commission Member, RCIA Facilitator, Adult Formation Facilitator, Bible Study Facilitator, Catechist

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. **Galatians 6:1-2, Philippians 2:3-8**

Examples of Parish Ministries: Knights of Columbus, St. Vincent de Paul Society, Ushers, Greeters, Altar Servers, AV Tech, Parish Office Volunteer, Hospitality Ministry, Christian Service Commission, Communion Outreach, Outreach Work Group, Blood Drive, SOS Week, John R Rd Clean Up, Giving Tree, Graduation Mass and Reception, Couples Anniversary Mass and Reception, Funeral Lunch Ministry

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. **Hebrews 5:12-14, Isaiah 28:9-10**

Examples of Parish Ministries: Adult Formation Facilitator, Bible Study Facilitator, Book Club Facilitator, Catechist, Catechist Aide, Christmas Family Liturgy Leader, RCIA Facilitator, SMYG Assistant, Lector

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. **John 14:11-14, Micah 3:8, Acts 1:8, 2 Timothy 1:5-7**

Examples of Parish Ministries: St. Vincent de Paul Society, Social Justice Ministry, Funeral Lunch Ministry, Respect Life Ministry, Communion Outreach, Stephen Ministry

Wisdom—Some individuals have an understanding of God's will and work as it relates to the living of 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. **Sirach 1:14-19, James 3:13-17, Ecclesiastes 9:13-18**

Examples of Parish Ministries: RCIA Sponsor, Prayers of the Faithful Writer, Bible Study Facilitator, Pastoral Council, Commission Member, Catechist, Marriage Mentor Couple