

WHAT ARE YOUR GIFTS AND TALENTS?

This assessment tool is designed to help you identify your unique gifts and talents and figure out how to put them to use serving the parish or community in a way that you find fulfilling.

Part 1: Talent Survey

Discovering the natural and spiritual gifts that God has uniquely bestowed upon you.

Please answer the questions honestly; there are no right answers. When you have completed the questions, total your answers in each category and list the three talents that are strongest within you. A total of 10-12 in any category is a strong indication of a talent. Oftentimes people have more than one talent and it is in this combination of talents that a ministry is found.

Answers:

5: Yes, very much

4: Often

3: Somewhat

2: Not usually

1: On rare occasions

0: Never

- _____ 1A. I can take available resources and people and organize them to do a job.
- _____ 1B. I would rather use song or dance, instead of words, to express my faith.
- _____ 1C. People consider me a "good communicator."
- _____ 1D. If someone is neglected, I am often the person who tries to help them.
- _____ 1E. People have told me I've helped them work through their problems.
- _____ 1F. If no one is talking to a person, I'll try to make him or her feel comfortable.
- _____ 1G. I sometimes feel God's presence when I pray.
- _____ 1H. I would feel comfortable leading a small group exploring their faith.
- _____ 1I. I like jobs like stuffing envelopes, working in the kitchen, basically helping wherever I'm needed.
- _____ 1J. I feel I can explain religious truths reasonably well and in an interesting way.
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- _____ 2A. I can make a decision and follow through.
- _____ 2B. When I attend a liturgy, I can imagine ways to make it more creative.
- _____ 2C. I'm not shy talking about my beliefs, even around others outside the Church.
- _____ 2D. I don't just see a person's problems, even if they put me off; I see the person within.
- _____ 2E. Even when I see what is wrong in a person's life, I am gentle about telling them about it.
- _____ 2F. People think of me as a good host or hostess.
- _____ 2G. I can see that prayer really does work; prayers are answered.
- _____ 2H. I would enjoy taking the Eucharist to shut-ins or those in the hospital.
- _____ 2I. Even if a person isn't considered "deserving," I still am ready to help them
- _____ 2J. When I talk, I'm aware of my audience and adapt my style and words so they will understand me.
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- _____ 3A. When a difficult or confusing situation arises, others turn to me for help with organization.
- _____ 3B. I feel that drama, dance, and music can open a soul to God.
- _____ 3C. when I speak, I sense that people listen to me.
- _____ 3D. People say I'm good with others who are down or depressed.
- _____ 3E. I am a person others can confide in.
- _____ 3F. I go out of my way to make other people feel comfortable, regardless of where I am.
- _____ 3G. I enjoy praying as a way to speak to God.
- _____ 3H. I have patience and will stick with a person who is having difficulties.
- _____ 3I. I will do whatever job needs doing, whether or not I have that special skill.
- _____ 3J. I feel I understand Christ and can explain His life and ways to others.

Talent Tally Sheet

Fill in your answers from questions 1A-3J. Then total up the columns. Look below for a key to the talent signified by each letter. The highest scores indicate the spiritual and natural talents most evident in your life.

- A = Administration**
- B = Artistic Expression**
- C = Communicating/Spreading the Word**
- D = Compassion/Mercy**
- E = Counseling**
- F = Hospitality**
- G = Intercession/Prayer**
- H = Mentoring**
- I = Service**
- J = Teaching**

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
1.										
2.										
3.										
Total										

My major talent:

My other talents:

Explanation of Talents

A—Administration: Organizing events, rounding up volunteers to accomplish a task, seeing goals and being able to organize to meet those goals.

B—Artistic Expression: Music, art, singing in liturgy, concerts, painting, crafts that may or may not be parish-related.

C—Communicating/Spreading the Word: Through a parish or other newsletter, website, sending relevant faith material to parish family, talking about faith to groups.

D—Compassion/Mercy: Visiting the sick, hospitalized, shut-ins, bereavement groups; assistance to those in need, whether emotional, physical or spiritual.

E—Counseling: Talking with those who have a burden, spiritual direction, advising various groups on life direction (i.e., engaged, newly married, widowed, newly retired, etc.).

F—Hospitality: Welcoming at parish events or liturgies, welcoming newcomers. Providing food for parish events. Providing food, fellowship, and/or shelter in the community.

G—Intercession/Prayer: Pray alone or with a group for the needs of parish, parishioners and community.

H—Mentoring: Being a small group leader, visiting in a home or hospital or jail and providing a religious presence by leading them closer to God; helping others to deepen their faith.

I—Service: Being available to serve in whatever capacity the situation requires. Assisting whoever needs help, be it in the office, in the kitchen, special ministries, or babysitting.

J—Teaching: Teaching in religious education classes or in other capacities outside a normal parish curriculum so that others might know and have a relationship with God.

Part 2: Discipleship

Discerning, based on your talents (Part 1), where God is pointing you to serve in your unique ministry.

The parish is a spiritual and supportive “platform” from which you can do God’s work. Within the parish, every member has talents, is a minister, and is needed in God’s community. But each person must find their own ministry—the right fit for them. Where do your talents and aptitudes intersect in Holy Spirit’s ministries?

Ministries at Holy Spirit Church	Talent Categories (“Explanation of Talents” from above descriptions)									
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament							X			
Adult Choir		X	X						X	
Altar Servers						X	X		X	
Baptismal Preparation			X							X
Bereavement				X	X	X	X		X	
Bible Study (Adult)										X
Blood Drive				X						
Blood Pressure Checks				X	X					
Cenacle of Mary Prayer Group							X			
Children’s Choir			X	X					X	
Contemporary Music Group			X	X					X	
Extraordinary Ministers of Communion						X	X		X	
Family Centered Catechesis				X				X		X
Funeral Reception Committee				X	X	X	X		X	
Greeters							X	X	X	
Human Concerns					X	X	X	X	X	
Italian Catholic Federation							X			
Legion of Mary							X			
LifeTeen Band		X	X						X	
Liturgical Auxiliaries						X	X		X	
Liturgical Environment			X			X			X	
Marriage Encounter					X	X		X		X
Marriage Preparation					X	X		X		X
Married Couples						X				
Matthew 25 Detention Ministry				X			X		X	
Men’s Club						X			X	
Military Family Support Group			X		X		X			
Ministry to the Sick			X	X		X	X		X	
Parish Nurse				X	X	X	X		X	
Prayer Chain							X			
Pro-Life			X	X	X		X		X	X
Quinceañera			X				X	X		X
Readers			X				X		X	
Religious Education—Adults				X					X	X
Religious Education—Children			X					X		X
Saint Vincent de Paul				X					X	
Seniors Group						X				
Social Justice			X	X	X		X	X	X	X
Spiritual Formation			X			X	X	X		
Stephen Ministry			X	X	X		X			
Ushers						X	X		X	
Vacation Bible School		X	X					X		X
Vocations Awareness Committee				X		X	X	X		
Women’s Guild						X			X	
Young Adult (18-25) Group				X			X	X	X	X
Youth Ministry										
Confirmation 1 and 2			X							X
Edge Middle School			X		X	X				X
LifeTeen High School			X		X	X				X