



Gifted

Participant Guide

Discernment of Gifts: A Spiritual Gifts Inventory

Purpose: A personal Spiritual Gifts inventory can assist us in identifying our gifts, but then what? Every person is needed in order to best equip chapel groups and parish ministries. Identifying the needs of the organization and matching them up with your personal gifts can not only be rewarding but sometimes surprising and even exciting!

Together, ask for the intercession of Our Lady of Good Counsel, patroness of MCCW.

Let us pray. Lord of heavenly wisdom, Who has given us your own Mother Mary to be our guide and Counselor in this our lives, Grant that in all things we may have the grace to seek maternal instruction and to profit by it in humility and love. O Mother of Good Counsel, Patroness of the Military Council of Catholic Women, help us to understand and fulfill the mind and will of your Divine Son, Jesus Christ.

Under the blessing of the Father, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, may we be responsible and intelligent daughters of the Church. May we labor in the spirit of renewal to realize more perfectly the Kingdom of God here below, as the only true preparation for our share in the Kingdom of Heaven.

Discovering Your Spiritual Gifts

Part I. Scripture References and Spiritual Gifts

The Apostle Paul addresses the presence of Spiritual Gifts in three main sections of scripture: Romans 12, I Corinthians 12, and Ephesians 4.

Peter also verifies their existence in I Peter 4:10.



We do not choose which Gifts we will receive.

Spiritual Gifts:

Administration: the Gift that enables a believer to formulate, direct, and carry out plans necessary to fulfill a purpose. Biblical References: I Corinthians 12:28, Acts 14:23.

Artistry: the Gift that gives the believer the skill of creating artistic expressions that produce a spiritual response of strength and inspiration. Biblical References: Ex 31:1-11, Ps 149:3a.

Discernment: the Gift that motivates a believer to seek God's will and purpose and apply that understanding to individual and congregational situations. Biblical References: John 16:6-15, Romans 9:1, I Corinthians 2:9-16.

Evangelism: the Gift that moves believers to reach nonbelievers in such a way that they are baptized and become active members of the Christian community. Biblical References: Matthew 28:16-20, Ephesians 4:11-16, Acts 2:36-40.

Exhortation: the Gift that moves the believer to reach out with Christian love and presence to people in personal conflict facing a spiritual void. Biblical References: Jn 14:1, II Tim 1:16-18, III Jn 5-8.

Faith: the Gift that gives a believer the eyes to see the Spirit at work and the ability to trust the Spirit's leading without indication of where it all might lead. Biblical References: Genesis 12:1-4a, Mark 5:25-34, I Thessalonians 1:8-10.

Giving: the Gift that enables a believer to recognize God's blessings and to respond to those blessings by generously and sacrificially giving of one's resources (time, talent, and treasure). Biblical References: II Corinthians 9:6-15, Luke 21:1-4.

Hospitality: the Gift that causes a believer to joyfully welcome and receive guests and those in need of food and lodging. Biblical References: Romans 12:13, Romans 16:23a, Luke 10:38.

Intercession: the Gift that enables a believer to pray with the certainty that prayer is heard and when requests are made, answers will come. Biblical References: Matthew 6:6-15, Luke 11:1-10, Ephesians 6:18.



Knowledge: the Gift that drives a person to learn, analyze and uncover new insights with regard to the Bible and faith. Biblical References: I Corinthians 12:8; I Corinthians 14:6, Romans 12:2.

Leadership: the Gift that gives a believer the confidence to step forward, give direction and provide motivation to fulfill a dream or complete a task. Biblical References: Romans 12:8, John 21:15-17, II Timothy 4:1-5.

Mercy: the Gift that motivates a believer to feel deeply for those in physical, spiritual, or emotional need and then act to meet that need. Biblical References: Luke 7:12-15, Luke 10:30-37, Matthew 25:34-36.

Music--Vocal: the Gift that gives a believer the capability and opportunity to present personal witness and inspiration to others through singing. Biblical References: Psalm 96:1-9, Psalm 100:1-2, Psalm 149:1-2.

Music--Instrumental: the Gift that inspires a believer to express personal faith and provide inspiration and comfort through the playing of a musical instrument. Biblical References: Psalm 33:1-5, Psalm 150, I Samuel 16:14-23.

Pastoring (Shepherding): the Gift that gives a believer the confidence, capability and compassion to provide spiritual leadership and direction for individuals or groups of believers. Biblical References: I Timothy 4:12-16, I Timothy 3:1-13, II Timothy 4:1-2.

Service (Helps): the Gift that enables a believer to work gladly behind the scenes in order that God's work is fulfilled. Biblical References: Luke 23:50-54, Romans 16:1-16, Philippians 2:19-23.

Skilled Craft: the Gift that enables a believer to create, build, maintain or repair items used within the church. Biblical References: Exodus 30:1-6, Exodus 31:3-5, Ezekiel 27:4-11.

Teaching: the Gift that enables a believer to communicate a personal understanding of the Bible and faith in such a way that it becomes clear and understood by others. Biblical References: I Corinthians 12:28, Matthew 5:1-12, Acts 18:24-48.

Wisdom: the Gift that allows the believer to sort through opinions, facts and thoughts in order to determine what solution would be best for the individual believer or the community of believers.



Biblical References: I Corinthians 2:6-13, James 3:13-18, II Chronicles 1:7-11.

Writing: the Gift that gives a believer the ability to express truth in a written form; a form that can edify, instruct and strengthen the community of believers. Biblical References: I John 2:1-6, 12-14, I Timothy 3:14-15, Jude 3.



Part II. Self-Assessment Inventory

This inventory complements Catholic teaching and is adapted for MCCW/CWOC from:

<https://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Congregations-and-Synods/Faith-Practices/Spiritual-Renewal/Assessment-Tools>.

Instructions:

First pray, asking the Holy Spirit for guidance. Then for each of the following 60 questions, circle the number that corresponds with the response that most closely matches how you perceive yourself. The first answer that comes to mind may be best.

4 consistently true, **3** frequently true, **2** occasionally true, **1** infrequently true, **0** rarely true

(You might also ask a person who is close to you to score the inventory with, and for, you. Their perception of your strengths may be useful in identifying the Gifts with which you have been truly blessed.)

After responding to the questions, go to the scoring grid to analyze your results.

1. When presented a goal, I immediately think of steps that need to be taken in order to achieve the desired results. **4 3 2 1 0**

2. I express myself through artistic means. **4 3 2 1 0**

3. My faith requires me to seek out God's will and purpose in all circumstances that arise in my life. **4 3 2 1 0**

4. I am able to convey the Gospel message to non-believers in ways that they are able to easily understand. **4 3 2 1 0**

5. I am moved by those who through conflict or sorrow are wavering in faith. **4 3 2 1 0**

6. I am certain of the Spirit's presence in my life and the lives of others. **4 3 2 1 0**

7. I am blessed by God each day and gladly respond to these blessings by giving liberally of my time and money. **4 3 2 1 0**

8. I enjoy meeting new people and becoming acquainted with them. **4 3 2 1 0**



- 9. I know that God hears and responds to my daily prayers. 4 3 2 1 0**
- 10. I feel compelled to learn as much as I can about Sacred Scripture, Tradition and faith. 4 3 2 1 0**
- 11. I am a take charge person. When others follow my direction, the goal or task will be completed. 4 3 2 1 0**
- 12. When I see a person in need, I am moved to assist them. 4 3 2 1 0**
- 13. I love to sing and enjoy inspiring others through song. 4 3 2 1 0**
- 14. I find joy and express myself by playing a musical instrument. 4 3 2 1 0**
- 15. I am motivated to provide spiritual leadership to those who are on a faith journey. 4 3 2 1 0**
- 16. I like working behind the scenes to ensure projects are successful. 4 3 2 1 0**
- 17. I enjoy working with my hands in a trade or skill that requires considerable experience to perfect. 4 3 2 1 0**
- 18. My great joy is to communicate biblical truth in such a way that it becomes real and understood by others. 4 3 2 1 0**
- 19. When a challenge is presented, I am usually able to identify an appropriate solution. 4 3 2 1 0**
- 20. I am able to take a thought or idea and put it into a clear and inspiring written form. 4 3 2 1 0**
- 21. I enjoy organizing thoughts, ideas, hopes and dreams into a specific plan of action. 4 3 2 1 0**
- 22. I can translate into artistic form what I first see in my imagination. 4 3 2 1 0**
- 23. I have assisted others as they sought to discern whether or not their personal decisions were helpful and in accord with God's will for their lives. 4 3 2 1 0**



24. I enjoy being with non-believers and like having the opportunity to encourage them to faith and commitment. **4 3 2 1 0**
25. When I know someone is facing a crisis, I feel compelled to provide support and care. **4 3 2 1 0**
26. My trust in the Spirit's presence, when I encounter times of personal crisis, is a source of strength for others. **4 3 2 1 0**
27. I manage my time and money so that I am able to give much of it to the work of the church or other organizations. **4 3 2 1 0**
28. I am often asked to open my home for small group gatherings or social occasions. **4 3 2 1 0**
29. I often become so absorbed in my prayer life that the doorbell or phone can ring and I will not hear it. **4 3 2 1 0**
30. Not one day would be complete without biblical study and thought. **4 3 2 1 0**
31. When I am in a group, others will often look to me for direction. **4 3 2 1 0**
32. I feel an urgency to provide housing for the homeless, food for the starving, comfort for those in distress. **4 3 2 1 0**
33. I have sung before groups and felt a real sense of God's presence. **4 3 2 1 0**
34. By my playing a musical instrument, inspiration has been provided for both myself and others. **4 3 2 1 0**
35. I have responsibility for providing spiritual guidance to an individual believer or group of believers. **4 3 2 1 0**
36. People tell me that without my willingness to do the unnoticed jobs, their work would be more difficult. **4 3 2 1 0**
37. I am good at building, repairing, or restoring things and find satisfaction in doing so.



4 3 2 1 0

38. I want to express my faith by assisting others to discover the truths contained in the Bible.

4 3 2 1 0

39. People come to me for help in applying Christian faith and values to personal situations. 4 3 2 1 0

40. I often feel moved to write about my thoughts and feelings so others may benefit from them.

4 3 2 1 0

41. I have been successful in organizing, directing and motivating people to achieve a goal. 4 3 2 1 0

42. My artistic work has given spiritual strength to both believer and non-believer. 4 3 2 1 0

43. In my chapel group/parish, I am often asked if a direction being discussed is in accord with God's will and purpose. 4 3 2 1 0

44. I do not find it difficult to share what Jesus means to me with non-believers. 4 3 2 1 0

45. Those who are struggling with life questions have come to me for guidance and help. 4 3 2 1 0

46. I can see great things happening in my chapel group/parish and am not derailed by the pessimism of others. 4 3 2 1 0

47. When I receive money unexpectedly, one of my first thoughts is to share this Gift through the church. 4 3 2 1 0

48. I enjoy welcoming guests and helping them to feel at ease. 4 3 2 1 0

49. Believers have asked me to pray for healing in their lives, and have evidenced God's healing power. 4 3 2 1 0

50. My study of the Bible has proven helpful to others in their faith journey. 4 3 2 1 0



51. People have said they like to work with me because the task will be successfully completed.

4 3 2 1 0

52. People have been surprised by how at ease I am while working with those who are suffering in mind, body or spirit.

4 3 2 1 0

53. I am grateful and humbled that my singing has provided inspiration and hope for others on their faith journey.

4 3 2 1 0

54. Others have told me they were moved by my playing a musical instrument.

4 3 2 1 0

55. People have come to me for spiritual help and it has developed into a long-term relationship.

4 3 2 1 0

56. When I turn out the lights, take tables down, work in the kitchen or put chairs away, I feel that I have served the Lord.

4 3 2 1 0

57. My knowledge of building, maintenance or repair has been a special value to the church and others.

4 3 2 1 0

58. Students have told me that I can take the most difficult idea or concept and make it understandable.

4 3 2 1 0

59. When direction is needed at work or in the parish, I am generally asked for my opinion.

4 3 2 1 0

60. My written work has been helpful to others in understanding life's truths.

4 3 2 1 0



SCORING GRID For each set of three questions, fill in the number on the lines below, either 1, 2, 3, 4 or 0 that you answered for each and then add them together and fill in that number on the last line.

For example, in the category of Administration, if you circled 2, 4, and 3 for questions 1, 21 and 41, write those numbers on the lines and add 2+4+3 which totals 9; write 9 on the last line.

Your strongest Gift(s) will generally have a total score of "7" or more. If you have more than one Gift with a total of seven or more, then all of these Gifts can be referred to as your "Gift cluster." Notice how each Gift within the cluster has the potential to complement and support another. The Gifts within the cluster will need to be further explored to determine with which ones you have been truly blessed. This inventory is designed to begin your journey toward Spiritual Gifts discovery. Keep in mind that it is not a scientific instrument. Your perceptions will be validated by others and confirmed through prayer and by their use over time.

Administration Questions 1, 21, 41 _____ = _____

Artistry Questions 2, 22, 42 _____ = _____

Discernment Questions 3, 23, 43 _____ = _____

Evangelism Questions 4, 24, 44 _____ = _____

Exhortation Questions 5, 25, 45 _____ = _____

Faith Questions 6, 26, 46 _____ = _____

Giving Questions 7, 27, 47 _____ = _____

Hospitality Questions 8, 28, 48 _____ = _____

Intercession Questions 9, 29, 49 _____ = _____

Knowledge Questions 10, 30, 50 _____ = _____

Leadership Questions 11, 31, 51 _____ = _____

Mercy Questions 12, 32, 52 _____ = _____

Music-vocal Questions 13, 33, 53 _____ = _____

Music-instrumental Questions 14, 34, 54 _____ = _____

Pastoring Questions 15, 35, 55 _____ = _____

Service Questions 16, 36, 56 _____ = _____

Skilled Craft Questions 17, 37, 57 _____ = _____

Teaching Questions 18, 38, 58 _____ = _____

Wisdom Questions 19, 39, 59 _____ = _____

Writing Questions 20, 40, 60 _____ = _____



Now circle the top five totals (those with a total score of 7 or more). List the Spiritual Gifts on the lines below, listing the Gifts with higher totals first. In the event of a tie, select the Gift you feel you have used effectively in the past, or the one you think you might be most effective.

This group of Gifts is your Gift cluster.

With which Gifts have you been truly blessed? Discovering the answer to that question requires the following:

- 1. Prayer**
 - 2. Study**
 - 3. Self-Examination**
 - 4. Track Your Results**
 - 5. Listen For Affirmation**
 - 6. Putting Your Gifts To Use — How can you practically put your Gifts to use within your parish and in your community?**
- **Administration**
 - **Artistry**
 - **Discernment**
 - **Evangelism**
 - **Exhortation**
 - **Faith**
 - **Giving**
 - **Hospitality**
 - **Intercession**



- Knowledge
- Leadership
- Mercy
- Music-Instrumental
- Music-Vocal
- Pastoring (Shepherding)
- Service (Helps)
- Skilled Crafts
- Teaching
- Wisdom
- Writing

Part III. Exploration of Use

In the spaces provided, identify some of the ways your Gifts may be used in your daily life to bring glory to God and serve the needs of others. Specific contexts have been provided as thought starters.

At home, with family.

- (1) _____
- (2) _____
- (3) _____
- (4) _____
- (5) _____



At work, with colleagues.

- (1) _____
- (2) _____
- (3) _____
- (4) _____
- (5) _____

Within your community.

- (1) _____
- (2) _____
- (3) _____
- (4) _____
- (5) _____

Use this space to write how you would like to proceed with the results above.

- Are you “in the zone” utilizing your gifts?
- Do you need to cut back and spend more time in prayer or with loved ones whom God has entrusted to your care?
- Do you need to focus your gifts in some other area?
- Did you learn something new about yourself?