**The following documents each contribute to the vision of Formed to Live Joyfully**

**Our Time, Talent and Treasure**

“The Church and all of its members is primarily designed to manifest Christ’s message by words and deeds and to communicate his grace to the world.” (6)  Read more in [Decree on the Apostolate of the Laity](http://www.vatican.va/archive/hist_councils/ii_vatican_council/documents/vat-ii_decree_19651118_apostolicam-actuositatem_en.html).

“Churches must communicate the importance of the laity’s witness and service within the family and within the professional, social,  
political, and cultural life of society. An effective parish will help its members make the connection between worship and work, liturgy and life in the family, community and workplace.”  Read more in [Called and Gifted for the Third Millennium](http://www.usccb.org/about/laity-marriage-family-life-and-youth/laity/called-and-gifted-for-the-third-millennium.cfm).

Each of us is sent to witness to the Good News of Jesus Christ.  Pope Benedict XVI wrote in Porta Fidei, “What the world is in particular need of today is the credible witness of people enlightened in mind and heart by the word of the Lord and capable of opening the minds and hearts of many to the desire for God and for true life, life without end.” (15)  Read more in [Porta Fidei](http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/benedict_xvi/motu_proprio/documents/hf_ben-xvi_motu-proprio_20111011_porta-fidei_en.html).

The Holy Spirit also enriches the entire evangelizing church with different charisms.  These gifts are meant to renew and build up the church. (130)

They (charisms) are not an inheritance, safely secured and entrusted to a small group for safekeeping; rather they are gifts of the Spirit integrated into the body of the Church, drawn to the  
center which is Christ and then channeled into an evangelizing impulse. (130)

A sure sign of the authenticity of a charism is its ecclesial character, its ability to be integrated harmoniously into the life of God’s holy and faithful people for the good of all. (130)

Imagine a parish community where all of the laity have discovered and are using their spiritual gifts and direct them authentically to the heart of the Gospel. We might find that we will have parish communities guided by the Holy Spirit, living in communion, to be mysteriously fruitful. (130)  Read more in Paragraphs 130 – 131 in [Joy of the Gospel](http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost_exhortations/documents/papa-francesco_esortazione-ap_20131124_evangelii-gaudium.html).

The Uniquely His spiritual gifts inventory also contains information to assist individuals begin the discovery process of discerning the unique charisms God gifted each with in Baptism.  Click on the link below to read more.

We thank the Diocese of Cleveland for being willing to share their resources with our Diocese of Charleston, SC.