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A Gift Discovery Advertisement

 Do you know your proper place in the Body of Christ? Has stewardship become a "way of life” for you? Has identifying your spiritual gifts helped you to discern your personal vocation call? These are some of the questions Catholic Christians are starting to ask themselves, not only in terms of their Church ministries and service, but regarding their careers and suited work. The times are truly ripe for promoting and discerning the Second Vatican Council’s concept of personal vocation as linked with one's spiritual gifts or charisms. By identifying the spiritual gifts, the call becomes clearer because the gifts serve the vocation -- both the state-in-life vocation as well as the "...personal and unrepeatable life project which the Father entrusts..." to each of us (I Will Give You Shepherds, 38). "Uniquely His," a 33-page booklet authored by Sheila Mellick, is an excellent resource to assist Catholic individuals, study groups and parishes through this process. The booklet includes a spiritual gifts inventory, S c r i p t u r e references, suited ministries for each of the 20 spiritual gifts included, w h i l e a l s o highlighting the Church teaching on charisms and personal vocation. Sheila is also available for “You(Continued from page 1) “A GIFT DISCOVERY ADVERTISEMENT” Are Called & Gifted” workshops which cover the "call beyond the gifts,” including tips for this vocational call discernment. With Catholic youth she uses a Motivational Gift Inventory (seven of the spiritual gifts) which is linked to 180 job occupations. Be assured that living this Church teaching is not "another program." It's responding to the Holy Spirit's request over thirty years ago! As Christifideles Laici states: "The fundamental objective of the formation of the lay faithful is an ever-clearer discovery of one's vocation and the ever-greater willingness to live it so as to fulfill one's mission" (To Discover and Live One's Vocation and Mission, 58). Also, "...the church fulfills her mission when she guides every member of the faithful to discover and live his or her own vocation in freedom and to bring it to fulfillment in charity" (I Will Give You Shepherds, 40).

Opening Prayer

Opening Comments

Talk #1:  Joy of the Gospel and the Role of the Laity

Talk #2:  Spiritual Gift Discernment Process

Individuals take the Uniquely His Spiritual Gift Inventory

Talk #3:  Charisms and the Sacraments

Video:  Celebrate what’s Right with the World

Table Discussions

Talk #4:  Abilities, Skills and Talents – Meaningful Life Activities

Personal Reflection Time

Small Group Sharing

Break/Lunch

Talk #5:  Definitions and Types of Charisms

Personal Reflection Time – “Where is the Holy Spirit leading me?”

Talk #6:  Charisms and Witness

Similar Charisms Activity

Talk #7:  Charisms, Church and Community

Differing Charisms Activity

Talk #8:  Missionary Disciples in Evangelizing Churches

Mission and Closing Prayer

**The following are guidelines for parishes or organizations hosting a Joyfully Gifted retreat:**

• Allow for 5 – 6 hours in length
•Saturday morning or Sunday afternoons are optimal
•Begin or conclude with Eucharistic Liturgy or Prayer Service
•Can be led by 1 or 2 trained facilitators
•Consider local parish or organization partnerships

(Continued from page 1) “A GIFT DISCOVERY ADVERTISEMENT” Are Called & Gifted” workshops which cover the "call beyond the gifts,” including tips for this vocational call discernment. With Catholic youth she uses a Motivational Gift Inventory (seven of the spiritual gifts) which is linked to 180 job occupations. Be assured that living this Church teaching is not "another program." It's responding to the Holy Spirit's request over thirty years ago! As Christifideles Laici states: "The fundamental objective of the formation of the lay faithful is an ever-clearer discovery of one's vocation and the ever-greater willingness to live it so as to fulfill one's mission" (To Discover and Live One's Vocation and Mission, 58). Also, "...the church fulfills her mission when she guides every member of the faithful to discover and live his or her own vocation in freedom and to bring it to fulfillment in charity" (I Will Give You Shepherds, 40).

For further information or to purchase Sheila's booklet ($8.00), please write her at: P. O. Box 4208, Utica, NY 13504-4208, samellick@aol.com, or call 315-793-9525.