**Date for Bulletin/Web Site/Pastor/Adult Faith Formation Team**

Name of Parish—The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Team at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(Name of Parish) marked the celebration of Pentecost by focusing on the gifts of the Holy Spirit. As part of the celebration, the team shared about the results of the Formed to Live Joyfully Retreat Our Time Talent and Treasure sponsored by the Offices of Spirituality and Formation for Ministry and Stewardship and Mission Advancement of the Diocese of Charleston.

The opened the retreat with a prayer to the Holy Spirit. The intent for the attendees was to discover their gifts, or charisms, and explore new ways to develop those talents inside and outside the Church.

Charisms are spiritual gifts given by God to each person at baptism and strengthened by the sacraments. In his teaching document, “Joy of the Gospel”, Pope Francis wrote that talents can be “channeled into an evangelizing impulse.”

Generally, a person experiences a yearning and satisfaction when actively using their gifts. The Team provided a variety of tools to recognize charisms. Using the Catholic Spirituality Inventory from the book, “Uniquely His”, by Sheila Mellick, the group went through an exercise to identify their top five gifts from a list of 20, including lead­ership, hospitality, teaching, service, creative ability, and more.

“Everywhere one goes, one has the ability to witness in one’s life. The team shared that “We are all joyfully gifted. There are everyday things we can do to evangelize and bring Jesus’ message of love to the world. Because of one’s charisms, one may change another person’s life.”

An exercise called “Spiritstorm” is designed to produce ideas and solve problems. Teams used this tech­nique to develop better ways to com­municate and improve the parish’s annual family picnic.

There is also the “holy no”, which teaches that it’s OK to say “no” when people have too much on their plates, or when a ministry is not the right fit.

Parents are also encouraged to take note of and encourage their children’s spiritual gifts as a way to help them on their Christian path.

Here name some of the parishioners that participated in the event. Each affirmed her charisms and said she learned more.

“We all evolve into our ministries and charisms and can improve everyday in our spiritual lives,” \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_shared.

We are thankful to the Diocese of Cleveland and Terry Baldwin for sharing this program with us. It took three years for their diocese to develop the Joyfully Gifted program.

It is a way for people to share their spiritual gifts and spread the Gospel.

This retreat was a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ period of time in the making, and organizers said the event was made possible thanks to funding from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_name of groups such as an anonymous donor.

At the end of the meeting, members of Stewardship and Adult Faith Formation, explained that each retreatant will be tallied so the parish can begin to better understand new pos­sibilities of working together.