

Cultivating your Spiritual Gifts

A message from the Stewardship Team

As part of our ongoing Stewardship Education Program, we will be looking at the various Spiritual Gifts that God has given to His people. We encourage you to follow along with us as we journey through this subject to see if God may be calling you to a new or expanded way of serving Him and your community. Questions or comments to the Stewardship Team are welcome at any time.

The Gift of Hospitality

Individuals blessed with the gift of hospitality freely, joyfully, and with a gentle spirit invite others into their midst and take care of them as family with no expectation of gratitude, repayment, or any return favour or benefit.

People with this gift..

- Give of their time to welcome others into their homes, church, community, and social groups
- Share what they have to provide for those in need
- Look for opportunities to be of service and comfort to others, especially to those who are in need
- Create safe, warm, and open places for genuine relationships to grow

Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.

1 Peter 4:9-10

Putting your gift into action

True hospitality costs only you, not the recipient. That warm feeling of having accomplished something joyful by being hospitable to someone may come from your spiritual gift of hospitality. Here are a few ways to exercise your gift within the church, your home, and your community.

In our Parish, people with this gift can:

- Assist with warmly greeting and assisting newcomers, not just at the door but in the pews as well
- Invite or visit with someone who is lonely, or in need of company
- Encourage visitors to come to coffee hour, then talk to them and introduce them to others
- Host coffee hours; prepare and assist at funerals, wedding and baptisms
- Host interfaith events such as potluck meals to bridge different faith communities
- Volunteer at or help organize special community events such as Robbie Burns, St Patrick's Day, Oktoberfest, or an Open Table
- Provide transportation to church, medical appointments, and other errands for those with mobility issues

The Gift of Mercy, or Compassion

Individuals blessed with the gift of compassion and mercy feel exceptional empathy and compassion for those who are suffering and take practical steps to help and support them.

People with this gift..

- Focus on easing the sources of pain or discomfort
- Address the needs of the lonely or forgotten
- Express non-judgmental love, grace, and dignity to those facing crises or difficulties
- Are often concerned about issues of individual/social justice

If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill,” and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that?

James 2:15-16

Putting your gift into action

What you considered part of your personality may actually be a spiritual gift that God uses to share His love with those around you. Here are a few ways to exercise this gift within the church, at home, and in the community:

- Provide babysitting to allow parents to take a break
- Visit the sick, lonely, or shut in. Have you considered our Pastoral Care ministry?
- Get involved with the Primate’s World Relief and Development Fund (PWRDF) or another organisation
- Random acts of kindness to help brighten someone’s day

GET INVOLVED

There are lots of opportunities for you to share your gifts with the St. Paul’s community. To find out more about how you can get involved, please address any questions to the Stewardship Team at stewardship@stpaulshk.org.

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