

## THE SPIRITUAL GIFT OF **Service**

The spiritual gift of service, or ministering, refers to any act of service done in genuine love for the building up of the community. These services energize the church and neighbourhood, and they free up others to use their gifts to the fullest.

Servants look to the needs of others rather than focusing on their own needs. St. Paul puts it this way in his letter to the Galatians (6:2) “Bear one another’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.” In other words, to serve is to put faith into action. It is to treat others as if they were Jesus Christ. In this way, the gift of service extends our Christian love into the world, and is a gift all Christians are called to exercise.

### **People with this gift...**

- Are drawn to doing tangible, practical work
- Enjoy accomplishing tasks which help others
- Are satisfied with contributing “behind the scenes”
- Are dependable
- Look for what needs to be done and do it without needing to be asked
- Are humble, and aren’t concerned with how much glory or praise a task brings
- Understand that their service to others is a form of service to Christ

*And let our people learn to devote themselves to good works, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not be unfruitful.*

*- Titus 3:4*

### **Putting your gift into action...**

Those with the gift of service are often the people who wash the plate someone left in the sink, or sweep the floor after an event. They understand how important simple actions are for the wellbeing of a community, so they don’t hesitate to do them.

People with this gift can:

- Help elderly neighbours with raking leaves or snow shovelling
- Visit our volunteer fair and consider what contributions they can make to the church
- Assist with the church’s Sunday school
- Help with our outdoor work, like gardening
- Help with our coffee hour ministry
- Serve at our hospitality events like funeral receptions and parish suppers
- Take a greater share of housekeeping at home
- Join our Kanata Food Cupboard team to help serve the needy in our community
- Volunteer at a seniors’ centre or soup kitchen
- Coach a children’s sports team
- Join our altar guild
- Serve as a sidesperson during Sunday services
- Volunteer to run the service slides at a Sunday service

To get involved in using your spiritual gifts as part of our parish, or to learn more about spiritual gifts and stewardship in the life of the church, please talk to any member of the Stewardship Team: Mark Stalter, Tracy Albert, Francis Christensen, or Kristen VanderHoek; or email us at [stewardship@stpaulshk.org](mailto:stewardship@stpaulshk.org).