



# STEWARDSHIP *Talent*

## A Guide to Stewardship of Talent

God doesn't create anyone empty-handed. Every person—no matter their age, background, or stage in life—has been entrusted with talents: natural abilities, spiritual gifts, creative skills, and life experiences that are meant to bless others.

Stewardship of talent is about recognizing those gifts, giving thanks for them, and offering them back to the Church and the world.

Your talent is not meant to sit on a shelf. Whether you sing, organize, build, teach, cook, listen, lead, or encourage—your unique combination of gifts is part of how God is building His Kingdom through you.

Stewardship of talent means:

- Time to discern and develop your gifts.
- Talent offered generously for God's work, not just personal gain.
- Treasure used to help others discover and use their gifts, too.

## Best Practices

- Take time to reflect or complete a spiritual gifts inventory to identify how your talents can serve your parish, family, or community.
- Volunteer for parish ministries (e.g., catechesis, music, technology, hospitality, finance) where your gifts can directly support the mission of the Church.
- Take a class, seek mentorship, or practice your craft—always offering your growth to God and others.

## TALENT OPPORTUNITIES



### Create

Use talents in art, writing, or event planning to enrich parish life. Design flyers, maintain the parish website, lead a prayer art workshop, or help organize parish events.



### Mentor

Share your professional skills or life experience through mentoring or tutoring. Volunteer with Catholic schools, confirmation classes, RCIA, or young adult ministries.



### Serve

Use your talents in teaching, organization, or technology. Join the choir, become a catechist, help with livestreaming Mass, or repair parish facilities.



### Support

Offer your professional skills to parish or diocesan needs. Help with parish financial reviews, provide pro bono legal guidance, or translate materials for multilingual communities.

**Do not bury your talents, the gifts that God has given you! – Pope Francis**



Catholic Diocese of Memphis - Office of Development - [cdom.org/stewardship](http://cdom.org/stewardship) - (901) 373-1200

# Although discernment is a gift, it requires our work to uncover it. Here is a quiz to help you discern your talents:

In the Gospels (*Matthew 25:14-30; Luke 19:12-28*), we hear of the importance of putting our gifts and talents at the service of the Master. In light of this, we encourage you to spend some time reflecting upon how God has uniquely blessed you with particular talents and how he might use them to be a blessing to the Church and to the world.

*Consider the following statements and rank them from 1 to 3 (1=disagree, 2=neutral, 3=agree):*

- \_\_\_\_\_ I prefer to work directly with people rather than behind the scenes.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I'm better at organizing and planning events than executing them.
- \_\_\_\_\_ People tell me I'm a good listener.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I am able to explain ideas and communicate well.
- \_\_\_\_\_ People find me easy to talk to and trust.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I'm good at motivating people to do things.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I feel comfortable praying with and for others.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I like to host events and work with groups.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I communicate best in writing.
- \_\_\_\_\_ People find me encouraging and joyful.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I tend to be generous with my time and resources.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I get energized from working with people who are in need.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I am good at multi-tasking and juggling many responsibilities.

Based on your responses above, what do you think are some of your gifts and talents?

What do you think other people would say are your gifts and talents?

What might God be calling you to do right now to put my gifts and talents at the service of others?

## **Prayer for Discernment of Talents**

Lord Jesus Christ, I offer You my humble prayer that You help me identify the talent You have given me.

Lord, I want to utilize my God given talent to accomplish the work I have been assigned by God, which is being of service to other Gods creations.

Dear Lord, inspire me to identify what are my passions, hobbies, skills, knowledge and expertise so that with Your help, guidance, protection and governance, I may serve other people and also inspire others to make good use of their talents. Amen.

As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another  
as good stewards of God's varied grace. - 1 Peter 4:10