

An Exercise In Personal Discernment

All sisters are asked to pray and review the following exercise prior to the nomination process of council elections.

We have been gifted by Creator God, gifted with charismas, gifts that are given to be used for others, special gifts for the good of others. God calls all of us to recognize, develop and use these gift . . . in our journey with our sisters and with Christ in the League.

We begin with the following premises:

1. Everyone has been gifted by God.
2. The gifts we have are not the same as the gifts others have.
3. All gifts are precious, none is greater than another.
4. All gifts fill apart of God's plan for His people.

Questions for personal reflection

1. Name one thing that you do well. When do you do it? Why do you do it? When did you learn to do it? How long did it take you to learn how to do it? Do you enjoy doing it?
2. Have you ever been asked to do something that you had never done before and you said "no"? What was this invitation? What happened? Were you ever asked again? Do you wish you had given it a try?
3. Have you ever been asked to do something that you have never done before and you said "yes"? What was it? What happened?

Recognizing Gifts

Refer to the list of gifts below when answering the following questions:

1. Which of the listed gifts are you doing now? Which could you easily do if you wanted to? Which ones would you not enjoy doing?
2. Identify four of the listed characteristics that would be of importance for a leader in the League, e.g., for the president, the standing committee chairpersons, the secretary, etc.
3. What position would you consider given your responses to the questions and reflections above?
4. What is the greatest obstacle to allowing your name to be considered for an executive position in the League?
5. God has gifted each of us. We use and develop our God-given gifts to use in the service of God's people. He calls us to service. Is God calling you to serve as a member of the executive?

Gifts	Description
Administration	You can motivate, direct and inspire God's people to work together; tie up all loose ends, get things done, set a pattern for others to follow.
Apostleship	Lead, inspire and develop the church by the teaching of truth, to lead others in their spirituality. This gift combines wisdom, discernment, leadership and teaching.
Caregiver	To willingly bear the burdens of others, to give assistance or relief from distress
Craftsmanship	Use our hands and minds to build the kingdom of God through artistic, creative means; be willing to share in finished product or in teaching others
Discernment	To discover the will of God; to distinguish between truth and error. It involves wisdom and prayerfulness
Evangelist	Enables us to share the Gospel with others so that they come to know God, within and beyond the parish
Exhortation	To stand beside people who need comfort, counsel and encouragement; to call forth the best in others; challenge others to see the goals to which God calls them
Faith	Signifies that we have great confidence in God's promises, power and presence. It involves a healthy prayer life, sensitivity to the will of God and trust that God will answer our prayers.
Giving	That we offer our energy, abilities and material resources for the work of the church, with willingness, cheerfulness and generosity
Healing	To share in restoring the sick, to pray for God's help for the sufferer
Knowledge	To understand the truth of God's word and make it relevant in our daily lives
Mercy	To feel exceptional empathy and compassion for those who are weak or suffering; to forgive those who have erred, comfort the bereaved help those who face a crisis, become a peacemaker
Prophet	Interpret and apply God's revelation in given situations, appreciates the dignity of all people, a sense of call. Knowledge of scripture and the workings of the church
Serving	Willingly share the burdens of others and help them do their tasks more effectively; to pitch in and do what needs doing

Teacher	To communicate so that others can learn, to impart information and proclaim the truth
Diversity	To let love, God's glory and Christian unity be the motivation behind our actions
Wisdom	Understanding of God's will, help others discover the wisdom they have within them
Effective Living	To lead others to realize that discipleship entails following Jesus, beyond all bonds, at all costs, to risk caring for others
Communicator	To proclaim so that others will come to a better understanding of various issues
The working of miracles	A firm relationship with God, courage in the face of adversity, willingness to call on the power of God

Closing Prayer

- † I have received mercy, kindness and unconditional love from my God.
 - ***The gift I have received, I will give as gift.***
- † I have many physical, emotional, mental and spiritual abilities that can be used to better the lives of others.
 - ***The gift I have received, I will give as gift.***
- † I have people in my life who have believed in me when I did not believe in myself, people who stood by me in difficult times.
 - ***The gift I have received, I will give as gift.***
- † I have a heart capable of great compassion, empathy and tenderness.
 - ***The gift I have received, I will give as gift.***
- † I have inner strength, the grace of conversion, the gift of hope, the desire for good.
 - ***The gift I have received, I will give as gift.***
- † I have food on my table, clothes in my closet and a roof over my head.
 - ***The gift I have received, I will give as gift.***
- † I have the opportunity for spiritual renewal and growth in my relationship with my God.
 - ***The gift I have received, I will give as gift.***