



HOPE

IN THE FUTURE



Reflection 2

Discerning your Gifts & Talents

Opening Reflection

Some Definite Purpose by Cardinal John Henry Newman

God has created me to do Him some definite service
He has committed some work to me which He has
not committed to another
I have my mission
I may never know it in this life but I shall be told it in the next
I am a link in a chain
a bond of connection between persons
He has not created me for naught
I shall do good - I shall do His work
I shall be an angel of peace
a preacher of truth in my own place while not
intending it if I do but keep His commandments
Therefore I will trust Him whatever I am, I can never
be thrown away
If I am in sickness, my sickness may serve Him in
perplexity, my perplexity may serve Him
If I am in sorrow, my sorrow may serve Him
He does nothing in vain
He knows what he is about
He may take away my friends
He may throw me among strangers
He may make me feel desolate
make my spirits sink
hide my future from me – still He knows what He is about.



Scripture Reading

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

The Word of the Lord
R/ Thanks be to God

We pause to reflect and share...



Is there a group or ministry already happening in your parish which you can give some time to support? Is there a gap or need? Could you help to set up a new group or ministry?



Reflect on your God-given gifts and talents. Reflect on your baptismal promises and Charisms given by the Holy Spirit. How much time can you give to support the mission of the parish?

Saying YES to God

At the heart of all vocations is a **YES** to God. As we prepare to start Stage 2 on our Diocesan Journey in October pray between now and then asking God to show you what he wants you to do next in your parish. Be open to using your gifts, talents and charisms. Be open, say **YES** and God will use you in amazing ways.

Closing Prayer

God of love and of life, let us take time to look deep within ourselves and discover the gifts you have blessed us with. May we take the time to direct our lives in a way that best uses our own unique combination of gifts. May our education help us discover where our strengths and interests lie. May our faith guide us in realising our gifts. May we always be open to the direction of the Spirit and never forget the love you have for each of us.

Give us, O Lord, the perception we need to look within ourselves and discover the beauty and gifts we possess. Give us the courage to show others the talents they have. Help us serve others in the community and in so doing build up your kingdom. We ask this through Jesus, our Lord. Amen.



"I ask for your active participation in both prayer and action. If we were all to undertake just one task in our parishes we would transform the witness we give and make a difference to the lives of so many people."

Bishop John Arnold