

WHAT ARE THE SPIRITUAL GIFTS OR CHARISMS?

Here is a brief description of some key charisms from the *Catholic Spiritual Gifts Inventory*, The Siena Institute Press, Colorado Springs CO, © 1997 by Sherry Weddell.

The Charism of Administration

The charism of administration empowers a Christian to be an effective channel of God's wisdom by providing the planning and coordination needed to accomplish good things.

The Charism of Celibacy

The charism of celibacy empowers a Christian to be most fulfilled and spiritually fruitful by remaining unmarried and celibate for the sake of Christ.

The Charism of Craftsmanship

The charism of craftsmanship empowers a Christian to be an effective channel of God's goodness to others through artistic or creative work that beautifies and/or orders the physical world.

The Charism of Encouragement

The charism of encouragement empowers a Christian to be an effective channel of God's love by nurturing others through his or her presence and words of comfort, encouragement and counsel.

The Charism of Evangelism

The charism of evangelism empowers a Christian to be an effective channel of God's love by sharing the faith with others in a way that draws them to become disciples of Jesus and responsible members of his Church.

The Charism of Faith

The charism of faith empowers a Christian to be an effective agent of God's purposes through an unusual trust in the love, power and provision of God and a remarkable freedom to act on this trust.

The Charism of Giving

The charism of giving empowers a Christian to be a cheerful channel of God's provision by giving with exceptional generosity to those in need.

The Charism of Healing

The charism of healing empowers a Christian to be a channel of God's love through whom God cures illness and restores health when healing is unlikely to occur quickly or to happen at all.

The Charism of Helps

The charism of helps empowers a Christian to be a channel of God's goodness by using his or her talents and charisms to enable other individuals to serve God and people more effectively.

The Charism of Hospitality

The charism of hospitality empowers a Christian to be a generous channel of God's love by warmly welcoming and caring for those in need of food, shelter and friendship.

The Charism of Intercessory Prayer

The charism of intercessory prayer empowers the intense prayer of a Christian for others to be the means by which God's love and deliverance reaches those in need.

The Charism of Knowledge

The charism of knowledge empowers a Christian to be a channel of God's truth through diligent study and intellectual activity that enables us to better understand God, ourselves and the universe.

The Charism of Leadership

The charism of leadership empowers a Christian to be an agent of God's purposes by sharing a compelling vision of a better future with others and by directing the overall efforts of a group as they work together to make the vision a reality.

The Charism of Mercy

The charism of mercy empowers a Christian to be a channel of God's love through practical deeds of compassion that relieve the distress of those who suffer and help them experience God's love.

The Charism of Missionary

The charism of missionary empowers a Christian to be a channel of God's goodness to others by effectively and joyfully using their charisms in a second culture.

The Charism of Music

The charism of music empowers a Christian to be a channel of God's creative goodness to others through writing or performing music for the delight of others and the praise of God.

The Charism of Pastoring

The charism of pastoring empowers a Christian to be an effective channel of God's love and build Christian community by nurturing the relationships and long-term spiritual growth of a group.

The Charism of Prophecy

The charism of prophecy empowers a Christian to be a channel of divine truth and wisdom by communicating a word or call of God to individuals or a group through inspired words or actions.

The Charism of Service

The charism of service empowers a Christian to be a channel of God's purposes by recognizing the logistical gaps or unmet needs that can prevent good things from happening, and by personally doing whatever it takes to solve the problem and meet the need.

The Charism of Teaching

The charism of teaching empowers a Christian to be a channel of God's truth and wisdom by enabling others to learn information and skills that help them reach their fullest spiritual and personal potential.

The Charism of Voluntary Poverty

The charism of voluntary poverty empowers a Christian to be a channel of God's loving presence by living a life of cheerful, voluntary simplicity or poverty in order to identify with Jesus and the poor.

The Charism of Wisdom

The charism of wisdom empowers a Christian to be a channel of God's goodness through remarkable insight that enables him or her to come up with creative solutions to specific problems and make good decisions.

The Charism of Writing

The charism of writing empowers a Christian to be a channel of God's creativity by using words to create works of truth or beauty that reflect the fullness of human experience and bring glory to God.