

PARISH MINISTRY OF CARE

Visitor Discernment of Gifts for Ministry Questionnaire

Name

Discussion on “Ministry”

Definition of Ministry Father Richard P. McBrien proposes a working definition of Christian-specific “ministry” when he writes: “Any general service rendered to others in Christ and because of Christ in the name of the Church and for the sake of helping the Church fulfill its mission.” (A fuller explanation of his models of ministry can be found in our previous publication entitled: “Parish Home Ministry of Care Basics,” CHAS, 1994-95)

Discussion Questions

Please take a few minutes of silence to consider these questions.
Write your personal reflections. Later we will share them with the group.

1. What do you think of when you hear the word: “ministry”?

2. Describe a time when you experienced being “ministered to.”
Perhaps when you were ill, or experienced some kind of loss, etc.) What did that feel like?

3. What can you bring from that experience to your ministry to others?

4. What are your needs as you prepare for ministry to the homebound, bereaved, and others?

Practical Matters

1. What talents or abilities do you bring to the ministry of visiting? (Include skills, interests, and hobbies).

2. How much time can you devote to being present to someone in need?
(Hours per week, preferred time of day, etc.)

3. Driving

Is distance a factor?

Yes No

Do you prefer to visit someone within walking distance?

Yes No

Do you drive or have access to a vehicle?

Yes No

Are you willing to give someone a ride to meetings, medical appointments, or parish events?

Yes No

4. What are your preferences for ministry?

- home visits to the sick
- hospital visits to the sick
- visits to bring communion to the sick and shut-ins
- home visits to the bereaved
- assist with funeral planning
- crisis support: meals
 - babysitting
 - home visit
 - 'telephone' ministry

Other suggestions:

Feel free to add comments on the bottom of this sheet. Thank you for your response to this questionnaire. It will be held in confidence and used only to match you with a person or family in need of care.
