

THE JOURNEY

WE ARE A CHURCH ON THE MOVE!!

Our faith has never been, nor will it ever be one that “*stays put*”. Christianity is about moving...we are *animated* by the Holy Spirit and, as Church, we must actively plot our course to bring about God’s reign and invite others to join us along the way!

As Catholics, we are inspired and empowered by an **encounter** of Christ and, as a **community**, we are **sent** out with the task of **accompanying** others and making the gospel message known in thought, word and deed wherever we are called. This is our task as missionary disciples called to evangelize in our lives. Pope Francis substantiates this in his apostolic exhortation, *Evangelii Gaudium*:

In virtue of their baptism, all the members of the People of God have become missionary disciples (cf. Mt 28:19). All the baptized, whatever their position in the Church or their level of instruction in the faith, are agents of evangelization, and it would be insufficient to envisage a plan of evangelization to be carried out by professionals while the rest of the faithful would simply be passive recipients. The new evangelization calls for personal involvement on the part of each of the baptized. Every Christian is challenged, here and now, to be actively engaged in evangelization; indeed, anyone who has truly experienced God’s saving love does not need much time or lengthy training to go out and proclaim that love. (Par. 120)

What is a Charism: "Whether extraordinary or simple and humble, charisms are *graces* of the Holy Spirit which directly or indirectly benefit the Church, ordered as they are to her building up, to the good of men and women, and to the needs of the world" *Catechism of the Catholic Church, 799*.

3 Proposed Discernment Categories for a Church *ON THE MOVE*

- **The Navigation**

- Graces: Visionary Focus, Direction, Fuel
 - **Accompanying Spiritual Gifts (outlined in *Uniquely His* booklet)**
 - Discernment, Administrative, Knowledge, Pastoring/Shepherding, Prophecy, Wisdom

- **The Path**

- Graces: Supports and upholds, Lays a Foundation; Stabilizes Structure (Trust), Anchors
 - **Accompanying Spiritual Gifts (outlined in *Uniquely His* booklet)**
 - Encouragement, Faith, Helps, Hospitality, Intercession, Teaching

- **The Vehicle**

- Graces: Mobilizes, Models the Way, Action/Doer
 - **Accompanying Spiritual Gifts (outlined in *Uniquely His* booklet)**
 - Evangelism, Giving, Healing, Leadership, Mercy, Missionary, Service, Creative Ability

Each of these categories are essential for a community on the move. Individual spiritual gifts can fall under one of these categories. Discernment is essential!

Questions for Discussion

PERSONAL REFLECTION

1. Introduce yourself. It's good you are here! What brought you here tonight?
2. Can you identify three ways you practically live your faith? How do you think these actions build the Church?
3. What is your favorite way to pray? How does this influence how you integrate faith in your life?

THE JOURNEY DISCERNMENT

4. As you listened to the proposed Spiritual Gifts Categories (The Path, The Navigation, The Vehicle), which resonated most with you? Why?
5. As you listened to the proposed Spiritual Gifts Categories (The Path, The Navigation, The Vehicle), which category seemed to resonate least with you? Why?

THE CHURCH

6. In your experience within the parish and in the community, what are the greatest opportunities of growth and evangelization? How can you contribute to nurturing these opportunities using your gifts?
7. Considering the 4 pillars of Evangelization outlined earlier (Encounter, Accompany, Community, Send), what are some practical ideas to intentionally promote these pillars in the community?