

Ministry Interest Discernment Conversation

The purpose of the Ministry Interest Discernment Conversation is for the individual and either the DRE/CRE/YM or Pastor to have a conversation about ministry interests, skills and abilities and the needs of the parish to determine where and how the individual's gifts may best be utilized.

If the individual is already serving in ministry, this is an opportunity to reflect on current involvement, as well as other possible ministry interests.

The conversation should last 20-30 minutes. Following the conversation, the individual writes a 1-page reflection on the conversation for submission with his/her Application for Basic Formation Certificate and indicates on the application form the date and with whom the conversation occurred.

The questions on this sheet are a guide, to assist in this conversation, but are not meant as a strict script that must be followed. Both parties should allow the conversation to develop naturally.

For an individual already serving in ministry

- In what ministry/ministries are you currently serving?
- What gifts and talents do you bring to this ministry?
- How do you see yourself partnering with God in this ministry?
- What is life-giving for you about this ministry?
- What challenges do you face while serving in this ministry?
- What are ways you can grow in this ministry – intellectually, spiritually, pastorally, physically?
- What, if any, additional training or support would assist you?

For an individual who has a particular ministry in which he/she would like to serve

- In which ministry are you interested?
- What is your understanding of this ministry?
- What gifts and talents do you bring to this ministry?
- Why do you think God may be calling you to this ministry?
- How have you discerned the "prompting" of God to pursue this ministry?
- What training or support do you see yourself needing in order to participate in this ministry?

For an individual who does not know where he/she might serve

- What are your hobbies or things you enjoy doing for leisure?
- What gifts and talents do you see in yourself?
- What is your favorite form of prayer?
- How do you relate to God in your own life?
- What interests you about serving at the parish?
- What ministries are you aware of within the parish?
- In which ministries are you able to see yourself serving? How? Why?