

## Stewardship

St. Stephen's Parish, Olds, AB

**Time**

**Talents**

**Treasure**

Deacon Charles and the other members of the Parish Stewardship Committee invite all parishioners young and old(er) to spend the summer reflecting on the Lord's call in their lives. For the month of July, we recommend the following prayer exercise at least one time during the month of July. Another, similar prayer will follow in the August bulletin and by then it will be time to decide which ministry you will volunteer your time and talent to do.

### **July Prayer (Lectio Divina\* – for discerning my gifts/talents)**

The Gifts of the Spirit – a time for reflection and prayer

*Begin with a Prayer to the Holy Spirit and a request for God's presence during your reflection.*

"Come Holy Spirit fill the hearts of your faithful. Kindle in them the fire of your love.

O Lord, send forth your Spirit and we shall be recreated and you shall renew the face of the earth."

"Speak Lord your servant is listening."

A reading from 1 Corinthians 12: 4 -11

"There are a 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, 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, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues. All these are activated by one and the same spirit who allots to each on individually just as the Spirit chooses."

*Finally, take time to reflect on your personal gifts and how you might best use them to serve others.*

This model of Lectio Divina\* is based on one used by His Excellency Cardinal Tom Collins of Toronto. (formerly of Edmonton)

If you would like some advice or guidance as you attempt this process of discernment for the first time, please feel free to contact me.

Deacon Charles Johnston

[padrecj@outlook.com](mailto:padrecj@outlook.com)