

Liturgy Matters: Who's got the Power?

Occasionally I sit at committee meetings where the leadership of Holy Family attempts to empower the folks in the pew. Speaking as a member of the leadership team, we cannot empower anyone. God empowers. And God's people are empowered already. We are firm believers in the presence of gifts of the Holy Spirit, charism in each person. What we need to do is find better and more effective ways at helping people discern what their gifts are. Ministry is using one's gifts to help advance the cause of, facilitate the coming of God's Reign, the Kingdom on God. Such ministry can certainly take place in the context of church or parish-based ministry. But ministry needs also to take place in the domestic church of one's primary relationships. And, as has already been noted, the greatest challenge is to re-frame one's life's work as the possibility of cocreating the world with God, bring Christ and the values of the gospel to the marketplace, ushering in God's Reign.

Attempting discernment, as well as beyond the parish as a collection of programs and organizations. Discernment is the threshold to baptismal ministry, service that flows from the dignity and responsibility of being baptized into the Body of Christ. As baptized people, we are called to be priest, prophet and servant leader.

More about evangelization next week.

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