

Lay Spiritual Formation II

FRM-D502

Marian Love

1 Credit

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1/24, 1/31, 2/7, 2/14, 2/21

314-256-8883

3/27, 4/3, 4/10, 4/17, 4/24

Semester Retreat: TBD

Course Description: The focus of this semester of formation will be on discernment, development and claiming of one's gifts for ministry. Through the use of surveys, reflection, and discussion the participant will then explore how his/her gifts serve a unique call to ministry, and what gifts will need to be discovered and empowered in others for better collaboration. Readings will be assigned to encourage spiritual depth, deeper integration of gifts and call, and inclusion of the liturgical cycle in prayer and reflection. Participants will be engaged in reading, theological reflection and group discussion. A variety of Christian and other prayer forms will be experienced over the course of the semester, and the participant will be required to attend a one day retreat as a group.

Course Objectives:

1. To offer participants tools and readings as means of getting to know one's strengths and areas of growth toward discerning call and focus for ministry and a rationale for why this is important for ministers.
2. To create a "wisdom community" in which participants can experience the support and honest feedback of others 'on the journey'.
3. To provide participants the opportunity to lead prayer for others around key themes using different forms of Christian prayer.
4. To develop and facilitate a day of reflection for the participants that provides an atmosphere for spiritual growth and encourages a deeper sense of community.
5. To provide an opportunity to meet with the formation director at least once a semester to discuss call, strengths, discernment of ministry, and review of goal development, progress and strategies.

Required Texts:

Nouwen, Henri J.M. *Life of the Beloved: Spiritual Living in a Secular World, 10th Ed.* New York, NY:

Crossroad Publishing, 1992.

Rath, Tom. *Strengths Finder 2.0.* New York, NY: Gallup Press, 2007.

Streeter, Carla Mae, OP. *Seasons of the Soul: an Intimate God in Liturgical Time.* St. Louis, MO: Chalice

Press, 2004.

Weddell, Sharon. *Catholic Spiritual Gifts Inventory: Third Edition.* Colorado Springs, CO: Catherine of

Siena Institute. **Available on reserve or may be purchased for \$9 through instructor.**

Palmer, Parker J. *Let Your Life Speak: Listening for the Voice of Vocation.* San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass Inc., 2000. **On Reserve in AI Library or as e-book through SLU Pius**

Library with student ID and password