Celebrating Pentecost:
A New Look At God’s Gifts of Love

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“My beloved friends, let us continue to love each other since love comes from God. Everyone who loves is born of God and experiences a relationship with God. The person who refuses to love doesn’t know the first thing about God because God is love—so you can’t know God if you don’t love. This is how God showed his love for us: God sent his only Son into the world so we might live through him. This is the kind of love we are talking about—not that we once upon a time loved God but that God loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to clear away our sins and the damage they’ve done to our relationship with God.”

1 Jn 4:8-10
That means...

- We are to love one another
- Love is from God
- If we love - we are born from God (each of us with different gifts)
- and we are in relationship with God.
- God is love!
- God loves us so much God gave us Jesus and the Holy Spirit
  - Paraclete > helper or advocate
  - Advocate > public supporter or recommender
Today we will...

- Connect with other Women of Faith
- Learn about the multiple intelligences
  - Ways we have these gifts
  - Ways we can pray with these gifts
  - Ways we can share God’s love with these gifts
- And we will “play” with these gifts
Let’s begin with prayer...
Ask God to lead you to a partner...

1. Introduce yourself
2. What part of the Trinity do you feel most comfortable?
3. What name do you often use to refer to that part of the Trinity?
Our Names for Our Triune God
Pentecost

When the Feast of Pentecost came they were all together in one place. Without warning there was a sound like a strong wind — gale force—no one could tell where it came from. It filled the whole building. Then like a wildfire the Holy Spirit spread through their ranks and they started speaking in a number of different languages as the Spirit prompted them.... That day about three thousand took him at his word were baptized and were signed up. They committed themselves to the teaching of the apostles the life together the common meal and the prayers.... Everyone around was in awe—all those wonders and signs done through the apostles!

Acts 2:1-4
God is love...
A Little About Me
God - the Creator and Divine Parent

Matthew 7:11
A master’s in intergenerational studies
Whole Person

- Spiritual
- Intellectual
- Emotional
- Financial
- Social
- Physical
Multiple Intelligences

- Self Smart
- Music Smart
- Body Smart
- Nature Smart
- Picture Smart
- People Smart
- Word Smart
- Logic Smart
Two sayings...

- It’s not how smart you are but.... HOW you are smart!

- We may not have it all together but together we have it all!
Think…

► If you had an hour of free time what would you do?
► What is your dream vacation?
► What kind of work have you done/ are you doing? (being a homemaker and/or mother is a job!)
► What kind of ministry have you most enjoyed?
► If you had $10 000 to put towards an issue what would you do with it?
► What is your favorite Bible story or verse?
What are you smarts?
Share with a partner...
“You formed my inmost being; you knit me in my mother’s womb.” Psalm 139:13

“Oh yes you shaped me first inside then out;
you formed me in my mother’s womb.
I thank you High God—you’re breathtaking!
Body and soul I am marvelously made!
I worship in adoration—what a creation!
You know me inside and out
you know every bone in my body;
You know exactly how I was made bit by bit
how I was sculpted from nothing into something.
Like an open book you watched me grow from conception to birth;
all the stages of my life were spread out before you
The days of my life all prepared
before I’d even lived one day.”
MES
Coming to love God

Spending time with God in a Prayer Corner
“Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person and they with me.”
God communicates with us!
A thought...
Intergenerational programs are a vaccination against ageism and a prescription for longevity!

A voice...
Self Smart Gifts of the Holy Spirit

- Adoration
- Faith
- Fear of Awe of the Lord
- Fortitude  Courage and Strength
- Holy Boldness
- Interpretation of Dreams
- Joy
- Martyrdom
- Piety
- Tongues
Saints with Self Smart

- Hildegard
- Mother Mary
- Mary of Magdala
- Julian of Norwich
- Josephine Bakhita
- Junia
- Rose Philippine Duchesne
Praying Using Self Smart

- Do an inventory of our gifts
- Ask God for gifts we want and then wait
- Spend time alone with God and invite God to be with us
- Meditate
- Practice spiritual remembering
- Thank God for how we are made
- Fast and/or offer a sacrifice
- Be cognizant of our actions and the ramifications of them
- Examination of conscience
- Retreats - especially silent ones
- Make a gratitude list
Using Self Smart to Love Others

- Cultivating our gifts
- Discern our vocation
- 10,000 hours (!)
- Vote
- Spending time with God so that we bear more fruit
Spending time with God leads to us bearing spiritual fruit

- Charity
- Joy
- Peace
- Patience
- Kindness
- Goodness
- Generosity
- Gentleness
- Faith
- Modesty
- Self-control
- Chastity
Self Smart Activity: An Acrostic Poem

Active
Nice
Dedicated
Responsive (send feedback!)
Energetic
Artsy
There are different kinds of gifts. But they are all given to believers by the same Spirit. There are different ways to serve. But they all come from the same Lord. There are different ways the Spirit works. But the same God is working in all these ways and in all people. The Holy Spirit is given to each of us in a special way. That is for the good of all. 

To some people the Spirit gives a message of wisdom. To others the same Spirit gives a message of knowledge. To others the same Spirit gives faith. To others that one Spirit gives gifts of healing. To others he gives the power to do miracles. To others he gives the ability to prophesy. To others he gives the ability to tell the spirits apart. To others he gives the ability to speak in different kinds of languages they had not known before. And to still others he gives the ability to explain what was said in those languages. All the gifts are produced by one and the same Spirit. He gives gifts to each person just as he decides.

1 Cor 12:4-11
Spiritual Gifts & People Smart

- Counsel or Guidance or Encouragement or Right Judgment or Exhortation
- Apostleship
- Establishing justice and peace
- Evangelization
- Foresight
- Forgiveness
- Healing
- Intercessory Prayer
- Interpretation of dreams
- Interpretation of tongues
- Knowledge
- Laying on of Hands
- Leadership
- Mercy
- Miracles
- Pastoring
- Preaching
- Proclaiming
- Prophecy
- Teaching
- Visitation of Souls
- Witnessing
Mercy... is to have a 

Mother’s Love for 
Everyone 
Regardless 
Catholic - with a quiet, persistent faith 
Youth-like - accepting, trusting, ready to play
Saints with People Smart

- Hildegard
- Claire of Assissi
- Elizabeth Ann Seton
- Eunice & Lois (mother & grandmother of St. Timothy)
- Francis Xavier Cabrini
- Katherine Drexel
- Margaret Occhini Bosco
- Martyrs of El Salvador
- Phoebe and Theosebia
- Theresa of Calcutta
Praying Using People Smart

- Intercessory prayer
- Being on a prayer line
- Going to prayer services and mass
- Joining prayer at the same time - like at 3 PM on Fridays
- “May I be an instrument of your healing love and grace”
Using People Smart to Love Others

- Ask God whom you should connect with
- Pray for people’s vocations
- Give opportunities for people to have purpose and to use their talents
- Be one with others - in communion - with compassion
- Make amends
- Take seriously your roles in life as sister, spouse, parent, grandparent, teacher, catechist, spiritual director, mentor, coach
- Invite and gather - especially young people
- Be a greeter at church or serving on a hospitality committee
- Pray for and remember those who have gone before us
- Celebrate!
- Volunteer - serve on a board
- Vote & be politically active
- “God bless you and keep you safe”
- Pray when you hear a siren
Be a Faithful Friend... Sirach 6

A pleasant voice multiplies friends and a gracious tongue multiplies courtesies.

Let those that are at peace with you be many but let your advisers be one in a thousand.

When you gain a friend gain her through testing and do not trust her hastily.

A faithful friend is a sturdy shelter: she that has found one has found a treasure.

There is nothing so precious as a faithful friend and no scales can measure her excellence.

A faithful friend is an elixir (medicinal potion) of life; and those who fear the Lord will find her.

Whoever fears the Lord directs her friendship aright for as she is so is her neighbor also.
A People Smart Experience

The Servant Song
People Smart - Share with a partner...

- Who has served you in a powerful way?
- Whom have you served and experienced more love in doing so?
- What can your partner pray for you today?
Sing for joy in the Lord O you righteous ones;
Praise is becoming to the upright.
Give thanks to the Lord with the lyre;
Sing praises to God with a harp of ten strings.
Sing to God a new song;
Play skillfully with a shout of joy.
Psalm 33
Spiritual Gifts & Music Smart

- Inspired Music and Dance

Saints with Music Smart

- Hildegard
- Bernadette Farrell
- Thea Bowman
Praying Using Music Smart

- Singing - “Singing is praying twice!”
  - Use refrains as part of your prayer
  - Imagine God singing to you
  - Belt out some love songs to God!
  - Rewrite the words to a simple tune
- Playing an instrument
- Making playlists and asking Jesus to be your DJ
Using People Smart to Love Others

- Join the choir or play an instrument at mass
- Write a song
- Play an instrument
- Put on music
- Make a playlist and share it
- Share a song
Music Smart - Kumbaya...

Kumbaya my Lord  Kumbaya
Kumbaya my Lord  Kumbaya
Kumbaya my Lord  Kumbaya
Oh Lord  Kumbaya

- Someone’s seeking you
- Someone’s singing for you
- Someone’s praying
“In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through Him and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being. In Him was life and the life was the Light of people. The Light shines in the darkness and the darkness did not comprehend it.”
In the beginning was the Word of God named Jesus. Jesus was with God and Jesus was God. Everything was created through Jesus - I mean every thing... In Jesus there is life and that life is the light of people. It’s God grace in us - it’s what makes us shine. It’s what we are called to do - be a light for those who walk in darkness. But the reality is - sometimes they don’t even know they need the Light or Jesus. But I need to keep on shining... And one way I do that is by reading God’s word. And hanging onto every word...
Spiritual Gifts & Word Smart

- Justice
- Knowing Scripture
- Poetry
- Preaching or proclaiming the Gospel
- Words of wisdom
Saints with Word Smart

- Hildegard
- Dorothy Day
- Jessica Powers
- Sandra Schneiders
- Theresa of Avila
Praying Using Word Smart

- Reading The Bible
  - Memorizing Bible verses
  - Paraphrasing a Bible verse
  - Lectio Divina
  - Focusing on a word
  - Praying ourselves into a scene
- Reading other religious and secular books
- Write love letters (with God’s response)
- Novenas
Using Word Smart to Love Others

- Write stories and poems and prayers and letters and notes and texts and emails
- Read and share what we learned/experienced
- Pass a book or magazine along
- Buy a magazine subscription, Bible or book for someone
- Speaking, preaching, lecturing
Children’s Picture Books...
In God’s Name by Sandy Eisenberg Sasso
Spend a few minutes writing a letter to God - what name will you use? Consider including:

- **P**raise & thanksgiving
- **R**epentance & asking for direction in making amends
- **A**sk and intercede
- **Y**ield - God’s will be done!
Go forth to love our God by loving others