

“Called and Gifted”

- Dr. Barbara Sutton

“Each of us are called and gifted. In what ways do you say ‘Yes’ to that call?”

This talk reflects upon the document *“Called and Gifted for the Third Millennium”- Reflections of the U.S. Catholic Bishops on the Thirtieth Anniversary of the Decree on the Apostolate of the Laity and the Fifteenth Anniversary of Called and Gifted*.

We encourage Parish Pastoral Council members to read the document and together discuss the reflection of the Bishops and how it speaks to your own experiences both within the PPC and in your daily lives.

Specific questions for reflection are included that focus the conversation on the primary themes of the document, namely:

- The Call to Holiness
- The Call to Community
- The Call to Mission and Ministry
- The Call to Christian Maturity

The 10 page document can be found here:

<http://www.usccb.org/laity/calleden.shtml>

Quotes from the video:

“The Parish Pastoral Council has the visionary and planning role to keep this crazy dream of God’s alive. We need to create parishes that draw attention to God, rather than themselves, who become witnesses and instruments of the reign of God rather than an end in themselves.”

“Jesus beckons us to be alert...We need to invest in God’s plan- God can’t if we won’t!”

About the speaker:

Dr. Barbara Sutton is the Director of Ministerial Formation and Field Education at St. John’s School of Theology and Seminary, Collegeville, MN. Prior to this, she served 8 years in diocesan ministry for the Diocese of Wheeling Charleston as Executive Director, Diocesan Pastoral Services, where she assisted parishes in developing a vision for parish pastoral planning. Barbara also has 13 years experience in parish ministry in Florida. She serves on the Board of Directors of the Conference for Pastoral Planning and Council Development. She holds a Doctor of Ministry degree from St. Paul School of Divinity, St. Paul, MN.