

A Reading from the Document on the Laity:

For the exercise of the apostolate, the Holy Spirit, who sanctifies the People of God through ministry and the sacraments, gives the faithful special gifts also, "allotting them to everyone according as he wills," in order that individuals, administering grace to others just as they have received it, may also be "good stewards of the manifold grace of God", to build up the whole body in charity. From the acceptance of these charisms, including those which are more elementary, there arise for each believer the right and duty to use them in the Church and in the world for the good of all and the building up of the Church, in the freedom of the Holy Spirit who "breathes where he wills". This should be done by the laity in communion with their brothers in Christ. (3)

Psalm Response:

**Sing to the Lord a new song;
Sing to the Lord, all the earth.**

Sing to the Lord, bless God's name;
Announce God's salvation day after day.

Tell God's glory among the nations;
Among all peoples, God's marvelous deeds.

For great is the Lord and highly to be praised,
To be feared above all gods.

For the gods of the nations all do nothing,
But the Lord made the heavens.

Splendor and power go before God;
Power and grandeur are in God's holy place.

Give to the Lord, you families of nations,
Give to the Lord glory and might;
Give to the Lord the glory due God's name!

Bring gifts and enter God's courts;
Bow down to the Lord, splendid in holiness.

Tremble before God, all the earth;
Say among the nations: The Lord is king.

The world will surely stand fast,
Never to be moved.

God rules the peoples with fairness.

Let the heavens be glad and the earth rejoice;
Let the sea and what fills it resound;
Let the plains be joyful and all that is in them.

Then let all the trees of the forest rejoice
Before the Lord who comes,
Who comes to govern the earth,

To govern the world with justice
And the peoples with faithfulness.

**Sing to the Lord a new song;
Sing to the Lord, all the earth.**

(Psalm 96)

Call to Community

1) The most important elements of life in our school that foster community for me are _____

2) A helpful experience of Christian community I have had is _____

because _____

3) Our school could be a better community by _____

Take a few minutes to share some of your responses with a few colleagues.

Is there anything you would like to share with everyone else?

A Reading from *Called and Gifted; The American Catholic Laity*

The Church is to be sign of God's kingdom in the world. The authenticity of that sign depends on all the people: laity, religious, deacons, priests and bishops. Unless we truly live as the People of God, we will not be much of a sign to ourselves or the world. We are convinced that the laity are making an indispensable contribution to the experience of the People of God and that the full import of their contribution is still in a beginning form in the post-Vatican II Church.

(Conclusion)

Intercessions:

For all here who work on our relationship with God; we pray for the courage and strength to do so, we pray to the Lord ...

For our students as they seek to understand the reason for faith in their lives, we pray to the Lord ...

For all who seek holiness in everyday life, we pray to the Lord ...

For all here, that we bear witness to the truth especially with our students, we pray to the Lord ...

That the members of this school community find the courage to remain faithful to the Church's mission, we pray to the Lord ...

(Spontaneous prayers)

Our Father:

Closing Prayer:

God of love and mercy, you call us to be your people, you gift us with your abundant grace. Make us a holy people, radiating the fullness of your love. Form us into a community, a people who care, expressing your compassion. Remind us day after day of our baptismal call to serve, with joy and courage. Teach us how to grow in wisdom and grace and joy in your presence.

Through Jesus and in your Spirit, we make this prayer. **Amen.**

**FACULTY/STAFF REFLECTION
FOUR CALLS**



**FOURTH CALL
We are Called to Community**

Opening Prayer:

Lord, you call each of us to the apostolate of making manifest your Kingdom here on earth. Through your Spirit you provide each of us with a unique set of gifts to use in our particular ministry. Grant us your grace so that we might understand your will and accept the challenge that you present to us today.

We pray this in the name of Jesus, our Brother.

Amen.