

Sherry Weddell
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Current Position: Executive Director, The Catherine of Siena Institute, Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Founded the Catherine of Siena Institute in 1997 with Fr. Michael Sweeney, O.P, as a program of the Western Dominican Province. To date, Institute teachers and facilitators have worked directly with 250,000 lay, religious, and ordained Catholics in 1,000+ parishes in 250 dioceses on 5 continents.

Major Presentations, Programs, and Publications by Topic:

Discernment of Charisms:

Workshops:

(1993) Conceived and created the workshop which is now offered around the world as the Called & Gifted Workshop. Created specialized versions of the Called & Gifted discernment process for women, young adults, diocesan staff, diocesan priests, diaconate candidates, religious, and seminarians. The Called and Gifted workshop is available in English and in a small group format, as well as in Spanish. 200,000+ Catholics and other Christians around the world have been through one of our 1,400+ live or virtual Called & Gifted events offered to date or used our discernment resources. An introduction to the Called & Gifted process was presented at World Youth Day, Sydney, July 2008. The Called & Gifted workshop is now available via streaming in English and Spanish and being used by Catholics around the world.

Called & Gifted Facilitation/Teacher Training:

1996-present: Created and conduct the training for parish staff and leaders who wish to help their parishioners discern their charisms. Institute teachers have trained 4000+ parish staff and lay leaders to conduct one-hour personal gifts interviews and facilitate discernment in small groups. Dozens of trained C & G teachers work with us at present in parish, regional, and diocesan teams across North America, Australia, New Zealand, the UK, Ireland, Hong Kong, and Singapore.

Books/Publications:

1995: *The Catholic Spiritual Gifts Inventory*

1996: *The Catholic Spiritual Gifts Interviewer's and Facilitator's Guide*

1998: *The Catholic Spiritual Gifts Resource Guide*

2000: *The Discerning Charisms Workbook* (with Eryn Huntington).

2005: *Called & Gifted I: Introductory Workshop & Called & Gifted II: Discernment in Depth small group process.*

2017: *Fruitful Discipleship: Living the Mission of Jesus in the Church and the World*, Our Sunday Visitor, July, 2017

2019: Revised/rewrote streaming video version of Called & Gifted initial workshop

Evangelization:

Books/Publications:

Forming Intentional Disciples: The Path to Knowing and Following Jesus, Our Sunday Visitor, July 2012. *Forming Intentional Disciples* has sold 175,000 copies in English and

Spanish and has also been translated into Polish and German. 10th anniversary edition, revised and expanded, November, 2022.

Becoming a Parish of Intentional Disciples, Editor, Our Sunday Visitor, January, 2015.

Fruitful Discipleship: Living the Mission of Jesus in the Church and the World, Our Sunday Visitor, July, 2017

Seminars: Making Disciples

2006 - 2017: Conceived and wrote (with Fr. Michael Fones, OP) a 4 day seminar on helping post-modern adults make the spiritual journey to intentional discipleship. Offered multiple times in Colorado, Maryland, and Wisconsin to pastors, diocesan and parish staff from across North America, Australia & Singapore. Also for the (arch)dioceses of Omaha; Kansas City, KS; Boise; and Los Angeles. I have also presented portions of Making Disciples for the (Arch)dioceses of Detroit, St. Paul-Minneapolis, MN; Trenton, NJ; Denver, CO; Lansing, MI; Fargo, ND; Arlington, VA; La Crosse, WI; Green Bay, WI; Milwaukee, WI; Bismark, ND; San Francisco, Monterey, Oakland, Stockton, San Jose, CA; Boston; Joliet; Anchonry, Ireland, and Armaugh, Northern Ireland.

2009: General Session, “*Evangelizing Post Modern Catholics*”, Convocation on St. Paul and Evangelization, Sacred Heart Seminary, Detroit.

October 2010, January, March 2011: large scale implementation of the Making Disciples process in the San Fernando region of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. Training offered to 800 parish leaders from San Fernando region.

2007 – 2021: Days/Presentations on *Forming Intentional Disciples* for leaders in 58 US, Canadian, UK, Irish, German, Australian, and New Zealand (arch) dioceses as well as in Singapore and Malta.

2018 – 2020: Making Disciples 101, 201, 301 attended by pastors and leaders from the US, UK, Canada, and Malaysia.

Conference Presentations:

Detroit – Sacred Heart Seminary (St. Paul & Evangelization); Denver (Living Your Faith); Bismark (Thirst); Omaha (Heartland Women’s); SF/Monterey/Stockton/Oakland/San Jose (Faith Formation); Dublin (TINE Evangelization); Malta, (RELAY); St. Louis, (Keynote-NCCL National conference); Richmond, VA (Sullivan Conference); Franciscan University, Steubenville, OH (St. John Bosco, Defending the Faith, Commencement); Cincinnati (Proclaim); Keynote: Mid Atlantic Conference; New Evangelization Summit (Ottawa), National Religious Vocation Directors, Catholic Campus Ministers Conference, Los Angeles Religious Congress (twice), Archdiocese of Halifax, St. Mary’s, Twickenham, London; US Canon Law Society; Diocese of Lubbock TX; Benedictine University, Kansas; Reno, NV.

March, 2015: “*Forming Intentional Disciples*”, Meyer Lectures, University of St. Mary of the Lake (Mundelein), Archdiocese of Chicago.

July, 2017: Convocation of Catholic Leaders, Orlando, FL, Plenary panel on *Missionary Discipleship*, Breakout panel on Peripheries in the Parish.

Adult Faith Formation/Theology of the Laity

Books/Publications:

2000: *The Parish: Mission or Maintenance?* Siena Institute Press, with Michael Sweeney, OP.

2001: *Making Disciples, Equipping Apostles: The Parish as a House of Formation for Adult Catholics* Siena Institute Press.

2007: *Can You Tell Me What a Parish Is?* Proceedings published in *Chicago Studies* vol. 46:2.

2011: *What is a Parish? Canonical, Pastoral, and Theological Perspectives*, Thomas A. Baima, ed., Hildebrand Books.

Saints Who Transformed Their World, The Word Among Us Press, 2019.

Seminars

July 2006: “*The Parish and the Apostolic Formation of the Laity*” at Chicago theological colloquium *Can You Tell Me What a Parish is?* sponsored by the Dominican School of Philosophy and Theology.

Graduate Course:

May-June 2009: With Fr. Michael Sweeney, OP, conceived, wrote, and taught graduate course *Theology of the Laity*, Sacred Heart Major Seminary, Detroit.

Presentations to Clergy & Seminarians:

Bishops:

May 2013, Australian Bishops, *Forming Intentional Disciples*

Clergy:

February 2000: Presentations at the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas (Angelicum) and the Pontifical North American University with Michael Sweeney, OP, on *Lay Formation and the Office of the Ordained*, Rome, Italy.

Priest Days/Convocations

Archdiocese of Vancouver (twice); London (Ontario); San Francisco; Dodge City, KS (twice); Omaha, NE; Fargo, ND; St. Cloud, MN; New Ulm, MN; Parramatta, Australia (twice); Sydney, Australia; Christchurch, New Zealand; Denver; Seattle; Atlanta, GA; Evansville, IN; Owensboro KY; Reno, NV; Orange, CA; El Paso, TX; Crookston, MN; Oklahoma City; Phoenix; Colorado Springs (twice); Cheyenne, WY (twice); Lake Charles; Tulsa; Duluth; Fort Wayne; Jackson, MS, Biloxi, MS; Little Rock, AK; Davenport, IA; Providence, RI; Lincoln, NE; Washington DC; Metuchen, NJ; Knoxville, TN; Corpus Christi, TX; Portsmouth (UK); Shrewsbury (UK); Cardiff (UK); Salford (UK); Paderborn (Germany), Harrisburg, PA;; Victoria, BC; as well as the US Major Superiors of Men (CMSM); Companions of the Cross; Western Dominican Province; Central Dominican Province; the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal; the Missionary of Charity Fathers (twice), and the Benedictine community of St. Meinrad’s Archabbey and Seminary.

Presented multiple *Called & Gifted* and evangelization workshops to seminarians of St. Mary’s seminary, Houston, TX; Menlo Park, CA; Western Province and Australian Province Dominicans; Missionaries of God’s Love, Melbourne, Australia; Good Shepherd Seminary, Sydney (twice); Holy Spirit Seminary, Paramatta; Oscott College, UK; St. Joseph’s Seminary (Dunwoodie, NY).

Education:

BA in History (honors), University of Washington; MA in Education, Seattle University

Personal: When Sherry is not hanging out in airports, she lives in the Colorado Rocky Mountains where she enjoys tending her high altitude Tuscan garden.