

Sherry Weddell
PO Box 26440
Colorado Springs, CO 80936
(719) 219-0056 sherry@siena.org

Current Position: Co- 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. An Australian branch of the Institute was begun in October 2004. To date, Institute teachers and facilitators have worked directly with 100,000 lay, religious, and ordained Catholics in 500+ parishes in 137 (arch) 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 on CD and in a small group format, as well as in Spanish. 80,000+ Catholics and other Christians around the world have attended one of the 550+ live 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.

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 3000+ parish staff and lay leaders to conduct one hour personal gifts interviews and facilitate discernment in small groups. I also teach a two day Called & Gifted teacher's training workshop. Dozens of trained C & G teachers work with us at present in parish, regional, and diocesan teams across North America, Australia, the UK, 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.*

Evangelization:

Books/Publications:

Forming Intentional Disciples: The Path to Knowing and Following Jesus, Our Sunday Visitor, July 2012. *Forming Intentional Disciples* has sold 95,000 copies as of March, 2015.

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

Seminars: Making Disciples

2006 - 2015: 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; Anchony, 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 – 2015: Days/Presentations on *Forming Intentional Disciples* for leaders in 36 US, Irish, & Australian (arch) dioceses as well as in Singapore and Malta.

2009 – 2015: 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); Steubenville, OH (St. John Bosco); Cincinnati (Proclaim); Keynote: Mid Atlantic Conference.

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.

Conference

April 2001: Helped conceive, plan, organize and speak at **Apostles to the World: The Formation and Mission of the Laity**, San Francisco, with Cardinal J. Francis Stafford, then President of the Pontifical Council for the Laity.

Seminar

2004 – 2006: Conceived, wrote (with Fr. Michael Sweeney, OP) and led a team of priest and lay facilitators to offer *Making Disciples, Equipping Apostles*: four days of training for clergy, religious, and lay leaders interested in parish-based formation of adult Catholics. Attended by priests, diocesan staff, and pastoral leaders from 55 dioceses across North America and Australia. Offered for the Archdiocese of Melbourne, fall, 2004.

Lectures:

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.

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

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.

1997 – 2015:

Priest Days/Convocations for (arch)diocese of Vancouver, San Francisco; Dodge City, KS; Omaha; Fargo; St. Cloud; Green Bay; Parramatta, Australia; Denver; Seattle; Evansville, IN; Orange, CA, El Paso, TX, Crookston, MN, Oklahoma City, Phoenix, Colorado Springs, as well as the Major Superiors of Men (CMSM), Companions of the Cross; Western Dominican Province, Central Dominican Province, Franciscan Friars of the Renewal.

Seminarians/students

October, 2007: “*Pre-Discipleship levels of Spiritual Development*” to STL students, Sacred Heart Seminary, Detroit.

2007 – 2015: 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, Oscott College, UK, St. Joseph’s Seminary (Dunwoodie, NY).

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.