



“Seeing obstacles that keep good things from happening and doing whatever it takes myself to remove them”

Service Story

The other people in my Small Discernment group were very sure I had this charism. They said things like ‘you’re always helping!’

I always feel joy when I am helping, because the Lord wants us to show His love in practical ways. Like St Thérèse of Lisieux, I like to find the ‘little things’.

Sometimes when I see a need, I offer to help without waiting to be asked. I have a deep love for our religious brothers and sisters, so I often organise fundraising events to help them. Sometimes these events don’t come to fruition, but my desire to help seems to inspire others to get involved too - like when our Sisters’ car broke down, a group of us in our parish collected the funds to help them.

Other times people ask me to help. They say things like ‘we know we can rely on you, so would you’. I am happy to help in lots of different ways. In our Young Adults’ Fellowship Group I have helped with street evangelism, I helped with a recording for Radio Immaculata and I have organised outings. The Parish Office asked me to help with a reception to thank all our volunteers, I was asked to help with First Holy Communion, and I was asked to organise the rota for Readers. This can be very difficult because people, sometimes text me just five minutes before the Mass to say they can’t make it. I find this very hard, but I don’t give up - I have been doing the rota for two years now. I like to delegate when I can so that other people can experience the joy of serving too, but sometimes I just have to do it myself if there isn’t time to pass it on to someone else.

I find I can stay energised with a project even when it is very difficult and takes a very long time. I wanted the Medaille Trust to come and speak at my workplace. This took a whole year to bring about because of all the security checks in my workplace. But I stayed with it and in the end it was very successful, over a hundred people came to listen.

I am happy to help with things even when I know it won't be easy for me. When I was asked to become a Reader I knew I would find it hard because English is not my first language. I had to spend a long time practising each Reading, but I still said 'yes'.

I also say 'yes' even when it's something I have never done before. When our Priest asked me to be the Called and Gifted Coordinator for our Parish, I said 'yes' even though i had no idea what I would have to do! It has been very successful because all our participants are still actively discerning their Charisms and how God wants to use them. I find I keep on getting new ideas of ways to help our Parish. At the moment I am hoping to help with an all-night Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

I just hope people don't think I am showing off - everything I do is for the glory of our Lord.