

**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. An Australian branch of the Institute was begun in October 2004. To date, Institute teachers and facilitators have worked directly with 170,000 lay, religious, and ordained Catholics in 600+ parishes in 195 (arch)dioceses on 5 continents.

**Major Presentations, Programs, and Publications by Topic** (*A more complete list is available upon request*):

**Discernment of Charisms:**

**Workshops:**

**(1993)** Conceived and created the workshop which is now offered around the world as the Called & Gifted Workshop including 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. 135,000+ Catholics and other Christians around the world have been through one of our 1,200+ 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 Team 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 teams work with us at present in parish, regional, and diocesan teams across North America, Australia, the UK, Ireland, and Singapore.

**Books/Publications:**

**1995-2005:** Various resources to support the Called & Gifted discernment process including *The Catholic Spiritual Gifts Inventory*, the first spiritual gifts inventory developed for Catholics.

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

**2018:** Revised video version of Called & Gifted initial workshop

**Evangelization:**

**Books/Publications:**

**2012:** *Forming Intentional Disciples: The Path to Knowing and Following Jesus*, Our Sunday Visitor. Has sold over 150,000 copies in English and Spanish and available in Polish.

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

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

**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 whole or part, across North America, Australia & Singapore such as for the (arch)dioceses of Omaha; Kansas City, KS; Boise; Los Angeles; Detroit, St. Paul-Minneapolis, MN; Denver, CO; Lansing, MI; Arlington, VA; Milwaukee, WI; Bismark, ND; San Francisco; Boston; Anchony, Ireland and Armagh, 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 in the region.

**2007 – 2018:** *Forming Intentional Disciples* days for leaders in 48 US, UK, Irish, & Australian (arch) dioceses as well as in Singapore and Malta.

**Conference Keynotes & Presentations include:**

**Keynotes:** NCCL National conference; Mid Atlantic Conference; New Evangelization Summit, National Religious Vocation Directors, Catholic Campus Ministers Conference, Los Angeles Religious Congress,

**Presentations:** Detroit – Sacred Heart Seminary (St. Paul & Evangelization); Denver (Living Your Faith); Dublin (TINE Evangelization); Malta, (RELAY); Steubenville, OH (St. John Bosco, Defending the Faith);

**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.

**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 include:****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 include:**

(arch)dioceses of: Vancouver, London (Ontario), San Francisco; Dodge City, KS (twice); Parramatta, Australia; Denver; Seattle; Evansville, IN; Orange, CA, El Paso, TX, Phoenix, Colorado Springs, Cheyenne (twice), Jackson, MS; Little Rock, AK, Providence, RI, Lincoln, NE; Washington DC, Portsmouth (UK), Shrewsbury (UK) as well as the Major Superiors of Men (CMSM), Companions of the Cross; Western Dominican Province, Central Dominican Province, the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal, and the Benedictine community of St. Meinrad’s Archabbey and Seminary.

**Seminarians/graduate students**

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

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).

**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.