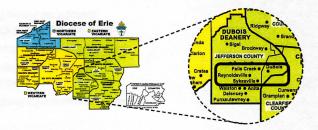
WHAT IS PASTORAL PLANNING?

Bishop Persico is encouraging parishes to work cooperatively to develop a strategy addressing challenges of the next five years and to assure a successful faith-filled future.

We are stronger together.

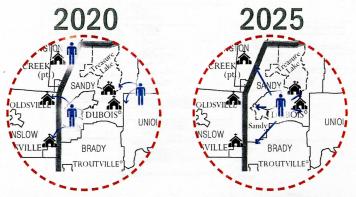
Since 2020, an Advisory Committee has been working with the pastors of Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Bernard, St. Catherine of Siena, St. Mary, and St. Michael the Archangel to assess the condition our parishes and plan for the future of our faith community.



A preliminary report of the findings was shared with Parish Council and Finance Committee members of the individual parishes in May 2021. After that, a Steering Committee, composed of three parishioners from each parish, began meeting on a monthly basis. With your help, the Steering Committee aims to provide a 5-year plan to Bishop Persico for his consideration in late spring 2022.

WHY PARTICIPATE IN THE PLANNING?

AS THE NUMBER OF ACTIVE DIOCESAN PASTORS DECREASES,
IT IS **PROBABLE** THE NUMBER OF PASTORS IN OUR AREA WILL REDUCE FROM **THREE** TO **TWO**.
IT IS **POSSIBLE** THE NUMBER OF PASTORS COULD REDUCE FROM **THREE** TO **ONE**.



The Pastoral Planning Process empowers our area parishes to plan for the future and will conclude with providing a report to Bishop Persico that outlines actionable steps our parishes can take together to manage the inevitable reduction in pastors and to reinvigorate our parish communities.

The resulting 5-year plan will aim to align spiritual leadership and evangelization and connect our faith with actions to follow the message of Jesus through worship and actions to serve others, creating an vibrant faith community.

WHY MUST WE DEVELOP A STRATEGY?

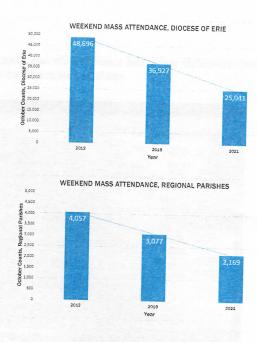
The Catholic Church, Erie Diocese, and our regional parishes are all experiences a two-fold challenge: a shortage of priests and a decline in Mass attendance and parishioner engagement.

PROJECTED DECREASE IN PASTORS IN THE DIOCESE OF ERIE





DECREASE IN MASS ATTENDANCE, 2012 - 2021



WHO IS LEADING THE PLANNING PROCESS?

"Moose" Rosanna,	George Tinnick,	Julie Smith,	Deacon Steve Rowan,
Assumption Parish	St. Bernard	St. Mary	Assumption/St. Mary
Tim Carlson,	Jason Gray,	Lauren Yamrick,	Deacon Dan Satterlee, St.
Assumption Parish	St. Catherine	St. Mary	Catherine/St. Michael
Bri Laukitis,	Mary Ann Nicholls,	John Luchini,	Jenn Zaffuto, Facilitator
Assumption Parish	St. Catherine	St. Michael	from KTH Architects
Bert Ginther,	Bill Young,	Dom Varacallo,	
St. Bernard	St. Catherine	St. Michael	
Glenda Hooten,	Ron Hannah,	Carl Yebernetsky,	
St. Bernard	St. Mary	St. Michael	

HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?

Speak with your pastor or your parish's representatives on the Steering Committee. If you have feedback, comments, or suggestions, please share!

Phase 1 of the Pastoral Planning Process concluded in 2019, with the following goals:

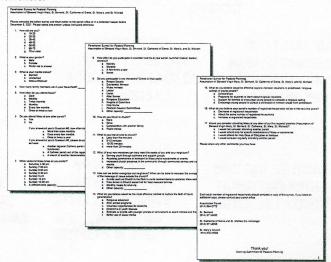
- Strengthening the Catholic educational system
- Strengthening our parishes through partnership and merging
- Fostering vocations to priesthood
- Focusing on life-long faith formation
- Realigning organization structure

Phase 2 of the Pastoral Planning Process kicked off with an affirmation of the goals previously set.



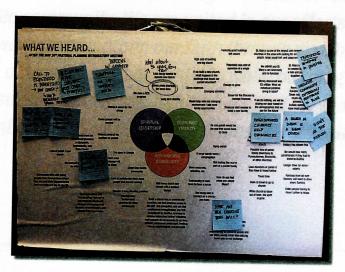
WHERE WE ARE...

During November and December 2021, a survey was distributed to all parishioners, asking for their input on the questions outlined by the Steering Committee. The Steering Committee committed to sharing the survey results with all parishioners.



Hundreds of surveys were returned. The results have been tabulated and are now shared with parishioners. The Steering Committee is now beginning the work of interpreting the results and developing them into the 5-year plan, including action items on how to manage a shortage of pastors, increase parishioner engagement, and evangelize the message of Jesus to our families, friends, neighbors, and future generations.

After the May session, individual parish councils and finance committees individually discussed the concepts presented, and collectively joined together at the end of June.



The June meeting functioned as a listening session, where the pastors were able to hear reactions, concerns and suggestions from parishioners. After the June meeting, each individual parish council deliberated on whether they wanted to proceed in the cooperative planning process. Each of the five parishes elected to continue in the planning process collectively.

The Steering Committee was formed and began their work together to define a mission for the planning process, gather additional information and data, and strategize how build consensus for the 5-year plan.

WHAT WILL RESULT FROM THIS PLANNING PROCESS?

THE STEERING COMMITTEE WILL MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE BISHOP, FOCUSING ON ADVANCING THE GOALS SET FROM PHASE 1 OF THE PLANNING PROCESS.

THE STEERING COMMITTEE ASKS PARISHIONERS TO PARTICIPATE BY SHARING THEIR IDEAS. THE 5-YEAR PLAN WILL INCLUDE OBJECTIVES AND TASKS TO NOT ONLY ADDRESS THE SHORTAGE OF PASTORS OUR DIOCESES IS FACING, BUT ALSO TO ENHANCE OUR FAITH COMMUNITY.

STEERING COM

WHAT IS OUR VISION?

Our regional Catholic community is one in faith, vibrant, and dedicated to evangelizing the message of Jesus to together deepen our faith, honor our traditions, and encourage a lifelong commitment to follow and serve him.

OUR COLLECTIVE QUESTIONS

HOW ARE WE FULFILLING THE MISSION OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH?

WHAT OTHER
POSSIBILITIES CAN
ADDRESS THE LACK OF
PRIESTS?

WHAT STAFFING MODELS CAN REDUCE THE BURDEN ON OUR PASTORS AND PRIESTS?

HOW ARE WE FULFILLING THE MISSIONS OF OUR INDIVIDUAL PARISHES? WHAT IS OUR RESPONSIBILITY AS CATHOLICS TO SERVE OUR COMMUNITIES' MEMBERS IN NEED?

HOW CAN WE HONOR TRADITIONS WITHIN INDIVIDUAL PARISHES?

WHAT OUTREACH EFFORTS CAN BOLSTER OUR COMMUNITIES AND OUR PARISHES?

The Steering Committee determined that by answering these questions, we can develop the 5-year plan for our region.

AITTEE'S FOCUS

WHAT IS OUR MISSION?

The Steering Committee accepts the charge set forth by Bishop Persico in 2019 to develop a long-term plan for our regional Catholic community. We are united in our efforts to create a framework to strengthen our faith through worship, evangelization, outreach, and stewardship while building a foundation for success and sustainability now and for years to come. We embrace this as a unified community of faith.

DO YOU HAVE IDEAS?

THROUGH THE PROCESS, STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS WILL BE USING THE DATA WE GATHER AND AVAILABLE INFORMATION FROM THE DIOCESE TO ANSWER THE QUESTIONS AND DEVELOP OUR STRATEGIC WE ASK THAT PARISHIONERS PARTICIPATE FULLY IN PLAN.

THE PLAN'S FOCUS IS TO ADDRESS A SHORTAGE OF RESOURCES AND TO IDENTIFY WAYS TO REINVIGORATE **OUR FAITH COMMUNITY.**

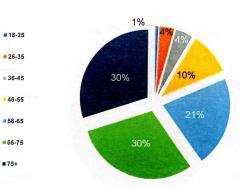
MANY PARISHIONERS HAVE ALREADY SHARED IDEAS FOR PROGRAMMING AND OUTREACH THAT CAN ADD TO OUR FAITH LIVES.

THIS PROCESS. THE COMMITTEE'S PLEDGE IS TO SHARE INFORMATION TRANSPARENTLY AND TO ADDRESS PARISHIONERS' IDEAS AND SUGGESTIONS FULLY.

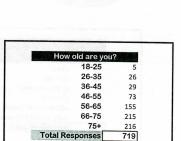
ABOUT OUR F

■ Married

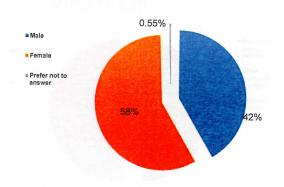




■75+



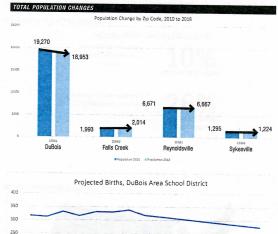
WHAT IS YOUR GENDER?

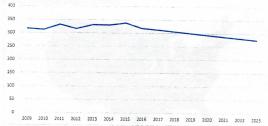


What is your gend	ler?
Male	303
Female	421
Prefer not to say	4
Total Responses	728

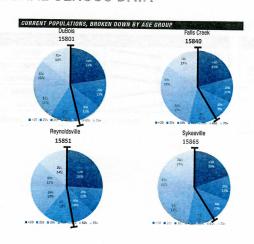
HOW DO THE DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS COMPARE?

COMPARING OUR SURVEY RESULTS TO REGIONAL CENSUS DATA





The number of births in our school district has been gradually declining.



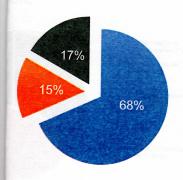
The area population has been relatively stable for the last several years.

COMPARING PO 60+ Years Old

> Our re popula averag

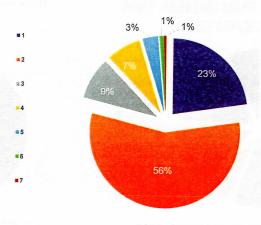
ARISHIONERS

WHAT IS YOUR MARITAL STATUS?



What is your marital st Married	487
Unmarried	
	105
Prefer not to say	120
Total Responses	712

HOW MANY FAMILY MEMBERS ARE IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD?



How many fa members are i household	in your
1	157
2	390
3	62
4	51
5	23
6	6
7	4
otal Responses	693

LATION PERCENTAGES		
Regional	National	
56%	48%	
28%	23%	

ion has an older ion than national

WHAT DO THE DEMOGRAPHICS SUGGEST?

81% OF SURVEY RESPONDENTS ARE OLDER THAN 55. 81% OF SURVEY RESPONDENTS ARE OLDER THAN 55.
28% OF OUR REGIONAL POPULATION IS OLDER THAN 60.

PARISHES MAY NOT BE AS ENGAGED AS WE'D LIKE.

66% OF SURVEY RESPONDENTS ARE MARRIED. HOWEVER, THE MAJORITY OF RESPONDENTS HAVE A HOUSEHOLD OF 2 FAMILY MEMBERS

THIS SUGGESTS THAT MANY SURVEY RESPONDENTS HAVE NO CHILDREN UNDER 18 IN THEIR HOUSEHOLD.

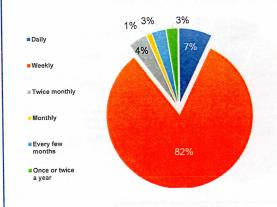
56% OF SURVEY RESPONDENTS HAVE A HOUSEHOLD OF 2 FAMILY MEMBERS.

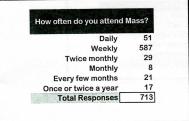
19% OF SURVEY RESPONDENTS HAVE HOUSEHOLDS OF 3 - 7 FAMILY MEMBERS.

THIS SUGGESTS THERE ARE OPPORTUNITIES THAT CAN INCREASE ENGAGEMENT OF YOUNGER FAMILY MEMBERS, TO HELP WITH FAITH-FORMATION. INTERGENERATIONAL ACTIVITIES CAN CREATE CONNECTIONS WITHIN THE FAITH COMMUNITY AND STRENGTHEN BONDS.

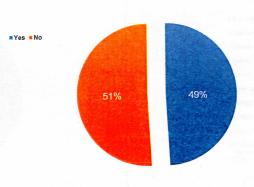
ABOUT OUR MA

HOW OFTEN DO YOU ATTEND MASS?





DO YOU ATTEND MASS AT ANY OTHER PARISH?



Do you attend Mass a other parish?	at any
Yes	350
No	362

HOW OFTEN DO YO ANOTHER CHU



Once every few months

■ Once or twice a year



How often do you a church that is not parish?

More than once monthly Once every few months Once or twice a year Total Responses

ATTENDANCE AND CELEBRATION OF SACRAMENTS

MEMBERSHIP AND ATTENDANCE

A SUMMARY OF OUR FIVE PARISHES

MEMBERSHIP AND ATTENDANCE

THE NUMBER OF REGISTERED MEMBERS INCREASED TO 6,790 FROM FY 2013-14 TO FY 2018-19

10%
INCREASE IN MEMBE

ATTENDANCE AT WEEKEND MASS DECREASED TO 1,751 FROM FY 2013-14 TO FY 2018-19.

26% OF MEMBERS ATTEND WEEKEND MASS

SACRAMENTS

OUR FIVE PAI	RISHES B	Y THE N	BERS, FY 2013-14 TO 18-19
BAPTISMS	74	44	DOWN 40.59
FIRST COMMUNION	53	33	DOWN 37.79
CONFIRMATIONS	57	52	DOWN 8.8%
MARRIAGES	19	25	UP 31.5%
DEATHS	65	82	UP 26.1%

* COMPARING TO PRIOR 5-YEAR AVERAGES to FY 2018-19

UP	THULIC CHU
BAPTISMS	693,914
FIRST COMMUNION	726,887
CONFIRMATIONS	566,143
MARRIAGES	148,134
DEATHS	391,131

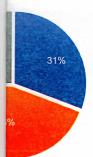
* COMPARING 2015 TO 2019 (Source https://cara.georgetown.edu

CATHOLIC CHURCHES ACROSS THE NATION

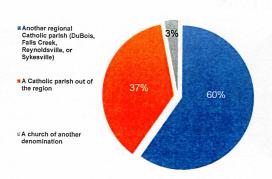


S ATTENDANCE

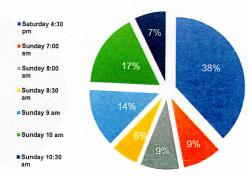
JATTEND RCH?



103 150 DESCRIBE WHERE YOU ALSO ATTEND CHURCH.







ttend	Please describe where you also a Mass or services.
233	Another regional Catholic parish (DuBois, Falls Creek, Reynoldsville, or Sykesville)
145	A Catholic parish out of the region
12	A church of another denomination
390	Total Responses

What weekend Mass tin you prefer?	nes do
Saturday 4:30 pm	351
Sunday 7:00 am	83
Sunday 8:00 am	83
Sunday 8:30 am	58
Sunday 9 am	124
Sunday 10 am	158
Sunday 10:30 am	67
A different time	48
No preference	2
Total Responses	974



uently-requested-church-statistics/)

WHAT DO OUR ATTENDANCE TRENDS MEAN?

WHILE OUR ATTENDANCE HAS DROPPED, A GREATER PERCENTAGE OF PARISHIONERS ATTEND MASS WEEKLY THAN ACROSS THE NATION.

THIS SUGGESTS OUR PARISHIONERS MAY BE MORE ENGAGED THAN ELSEWHERE ACROSS THE NATION. HOW CAN WE CONTINUE TO INCREASE THAT ENGAGEMENT?

ROUGHLY HALF OF THE SURVEY RESPONDENTS ATTEND MASS OR SERVICES AT OTHER CHURCHES.

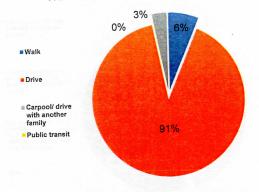
MOST SURVEY RESPONDENTS WHO ATTEND CHURCHES OTHER THAN THEIR HOME PARISH ARE ATTENDING CATHOLIC MASS, EITHER WITHIN THE REGION OR OUTSIDE THE REGION.

SURVEY RESPONDENTS CONTINUE TO PREFER THE MASS TIMES OFFERED AT THEIR HOME PARISHES.

THIS INDICATES THAT THE RESPONDENTS HAD CREATED A HABIT OF ATTENDING MASS AT THE TIMES OFFERED BY THEIR HOME PARISH, MAKING IT PART OF THEIR WEEKLY ROUTINE.

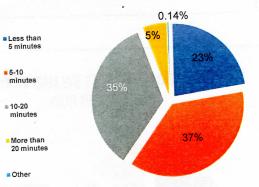
HOW WE GET TO MASS...

HOW DO YOU TRAVEL TO CHURCH?



46	How do you travel to chur Walk
646	Drive
22	Carpool/ drive with another family
C	Public transit
714	Total Responses

WHAT IS YOUR TRAVEL TIME TO CHURCH?



What is your travel time to chu	rch?
Less than 5 minutes	158
5-10 minutes	260
10-20 minutes	242
More than 20 minutes	37
Other	1
Total Responses	698

WHY ARE THESE QUESTIONS IMPORTANT?

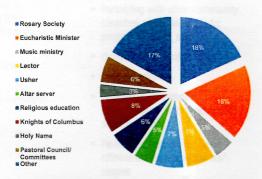
NEAR WHERE WE CURRENTLY LIVE.

OUR PARISHES ARE OFTEN SITUATED IN THE NEIGHBORHOODS WHERE WE GREW UP OR NEAR WHERE WE CURRENTLY LIVE.

THIS HELPS US LEARN IF PARISHIONERS DRIVE, AND IF SO HOW FAR, TO ATTEND MASS. DOES THE DISTANCE LIMIT ATTENDANCE?

MINISTRY PARTICIPATION AND VOLUNTEERSHIP

WHAT MINISTRIES DO YOU PARTICIPATE IN?



in?
91
90
23
35
34
23
31
40
15
31
88
498

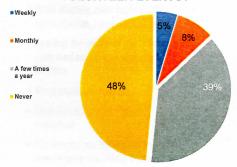
ADDITIONAL MINISTRIES PERFORMED BY RESPONDENTS:

- Coffee ministry
- Outreach Group
- Cemetery Assn
- Changing altar clothes/ decorating church/food pantry
- · Children's Lit
- Card Ministry
- Reconciliation/First Communion
- Life chain
- Card Ministry
- Eucharistic Adoration coordinator
- Fund raising
- Festival

- Eucharistic ministry for many years
- Prayer Groups
- Collection Counting
- ALPHA Course
- Home Enthronements.
 Other things father asks me to do.
- · Pro-Life
- Dinners
- Funeral lunches
- Food pantry
- Christmas decorating
- Preparing for church seasons
- Sacristan
- Collection Counting

- Prayer chain
- · Work Dinners
- · Catholic school
- Bereavement committee
- Making meals
- St Michael Outreach
- Jesse Tree
- Confirmation
- Moms group
- Going to start making rosaries
- Good Samaritan
- · Work at bingo
- Take care of the holy family bed.
- Outreaches to the Bereaved (dinner) and poor (food baskets)

HOW OFTEN DO YOU PARTICIPATE IN VOLUNTEER EVENTS?



How often do you participate in volunteer events at your parish (summer festival, bazaar, dinners)?

Weekly 32
Monthly 58
A few times a year 266
Never 335
Total Responses 691

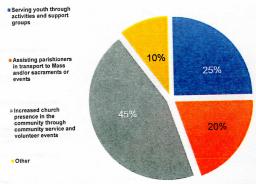
WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO IDENTIFY CURRENT I VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES?

HALF OF RESPONDENTS VOLUNTEER REGULARLY WITH THEIR PARISH. THIS INDICATES THAT I PARISHIONERS WHO RE EVENTS. IT IS A SIGN O WE INCREASE IT?

NEARLY 500 RESPONSES INDICATED A MINISTRY IN WHICH PARISHIONERS PARTICIPATE. FIVE YEARS AGO, HOW PARTICIPATED IN MINIS PARISHIONERS WILL PA FIVE YEARS FROM NOW FROM NOW?

NEW MINISTRY PARTICIPATION

WHAT NEW MINISTRIES CAN MEET COMMUNITY NEEDS?



ds of	What (if any) new ministries can help meet the nee you and your neighbors?
152	Serving youth through activities and support groups
121	Assisting parishioners in transport to Mass and/or sacraments or events
274	Increased church presence in the community through community service and volunteer events
609	Other Total Responses

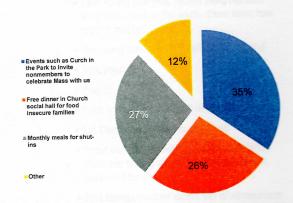
All of the above but if one is established, make sure it is consistent... Don't leave people hanging

- Financial counseling, giving and tithing
- Small Christian communities as in the past
- Joint prayer service with other Christian churches
- · Outreach Committee
- Programs to support older people's needs
- Programs for parents to nurture the spiritual development of their children.
- Habitat for Humanity
- · Starting outreach dinner again
- · Getting involved with food bank

ADDITION

- Partnering with other communit churches and businesses for projects, dinners, etc.
- · Habitat for Humanity
- Outreach dinners
- Partnering with other denominations or businesses for service project
- Perhaps something for Senior citizens or widows/widowers/ singles
- Get back to home communion visits.
- Reaching out positively to Christians of other denomination & others (Jewish).
- · Get togethers
- · Prayer group formations
- · Small groups that meet month

HOW CAN WE BETTER EVANGELIZE OUR NEIGHBORS?



How can we better evangelize our neighbors? What can be done to increase the evangelization of the message of Jesus outside the church?

Events such as Church in the Park to invite nonmembers to celebrate Mass with us 258

Free dinner in Church social hall for food insecure families 197

Monthly meals for shut-ins 204

Other 89

Total Responses 748

- · Ask the young people.
- · Missions every year.
- A pastor to help close adoration so we don't have to not have it when our volunteers can't close.
- We had shut in meals a dear lady organized them. She did not have cooperation from her pastor.
- Promote Catholic education at DCC
- Many protestants do not know they are welcome at church.
 Suggest doing a booth at community days
- · Living life with Christ
- Free clothes closet twice a year for homeless
- · Softball league
- · Bowling parties
- Go first to the sons of Israel. Those registered as parishioners who do not attend mass.
- · Social Media

 Distribute prayer cards or handouts explaining the cath faith such as the neighbors reaching neighbor service the were handed out at St. Cathe

ADDITI

- · Elderly sitters
- · Home Visits

before.

- Enter parades, festival, other events, Fairs
- Stand up for children-Stop protecting abuses and those harm the unborn
- Provide copies of the word a us. I first was able to see an obtain a copy in Florida. At the beginning of the pandemic. subscribed to it. I read it dai since.
- Women's Teas
- · Activity Clubs
- · People speak to each other.
- · Acceptance / diversity / fello

AND VOLUNTEERSHIP IDEAS

IINISTRIES SUGGESTED BY RESPONDENTS:

- Choir- had contemplating going elsewhere because you have none
- We have needed youth for the past 25 years!!
- · Visiting the sick
- Eucharistic Adoration
- · Praise & worship
- · Men's group
- Prayer ministry
- Not Sure maybe increased community presence
- · Deliver-Bulletin
- All of the above but if one is established, make sure it is consistent... Don't leave people hanging
- Financial counseling, giving and tithing

- . Men & women's groups
- Bible studies, catechism studies, book studies, home school support
- Leaving the doors to the churches unlocked so we can visit our Lord anytime
- · More confession times
- First Saturday Mass at all churches
- Confession not by appointment and by only one priest trying to do them before Mass
- Open adoration and get to school on time
- Join together with other local churches for combined events.
 Exp. Ethnic Day, Nativity Scene, Caroling
- Youth and young adults need to be more active in all church activities.

- Youth involvement
- Working close with the school DCC
- · Life teen Ministry
- Elderly sitters for home bound elderly!
- · Music Lifts the soul
- More out spoken against crime against youth & abortion
- · Christ the King
- Education how to do a mass intention.
- Parishioners being appreciative of any help one offers.
- Maybe the priest can call or visit people. Just stop in and say hi. Missed seeing you.
- Welcome Back Ministry for Catholics who no longer attend Mass

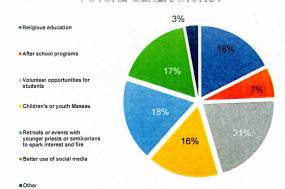
SUGGESTIONS FROM RESPONDENTS:

- · Just being kind and welcoming.
- Reach out & touch the youth!!
 When i was young (say 6) the priest came & gathered us up in a bus! And took us to mass everyday. Neither of my parents went to church. We as children loved going being choir children.
- Whatever is offered, consistently support it
- Grass cutting and sidewalk shoveling for shut-ins
- · Grocery shopping for shut-ins
- · More weekly activities
- Return to St. Michael's Terrace
- Maybe free dinner in church social hall
- We need to evangelize our own parishioners and especially our youth
- · Do more for the youth
- Joint prayer service with other Christian churches

- Programs like Alpha for members & non-members
- · Work food pantry 2X a month
- Mass online plus other services (Stations of the Cross, etc.) online
- Speak the message of Jesusthe catholic theology in churchhomilies etc. word will travel.
- Encourage parishioners to be a model of Jesus Christ.
- Service to others-Home repairs for elderly, mow grass Etc.
- · Reach out to former parishioners
- Reach out to non Catholics to create some type of union & respect.
- Marketing through TV, radio, newspaper, social media
- Get children more involved in church & events through good Christians and catholic example
- · Focus on those in need, not only

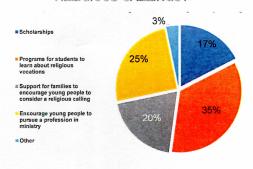
- of food, but of socialization and direction in life
- · Small groups that meet monthly
- Need to get youth & young adults involved!
- · Visit shut-ins
- Social activities in the hall-"dance" "movies" for whole town
- · Alpha Course
- Example and prayer (are powerful)
- · Phone prayer
- Community building for families w/ kids, support for home schoolers, rosary crusades, public novenas.
- Priests should encourage us to not be afraid to speak to others about our Church and beliefs
- More time the Church is open for visits

WHAT WILL NURTURE FAITH IN FUTURE GENERATIONS?



	oelieve would be most effect e faith of future generations	
	Religious education	201
	After school programs	77
Volunteer	opportunities for students	241
C	hildren's or youth Masses	185
Retreats or ev	ents with younger priests	
or seminarians	to spark interest and fire	208
	Better use of social media	197
	Other	32
	Total Responses	1141

WHAT CAN INCREASE VOCATIONS TO RELIGIOUS CALLINGS?



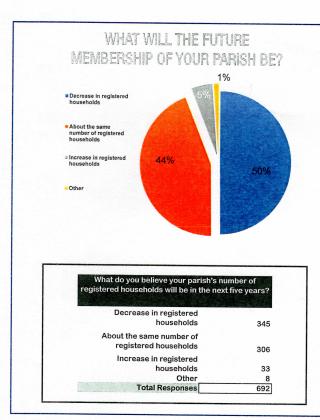
	What do you believe would be effective increase vocations to priesthood/ religion callings in young people?
171	Scholarships
341	Programs for students to learn about religious vocations
193	Support for families to encourage young people to consider a religious calling
247	Encourage young people to pursue a profession in ministry
31	Other
983	Total Responses

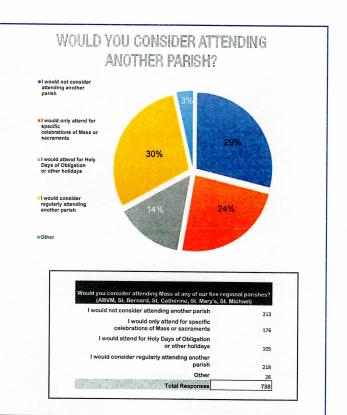
ADDITIONAL SUGGESTIONS FROM RESPONDENTS:

- All of the above but if one is established, make sure it is consistent... Don't leave people hanging
- · Allow priests to marry
- Have young energetic people living out their vocations speak to the youth. Show them how great it can be!
- Our young men should be allowed to marry!
- Talk about it!
- Prayer
- Latin + mass + traditional devotions
- Let Deacons and women say Mass
- Priest and sisters visiting religious education class and talking about the work and how it happened for them.
- First Bishop must be supportive of seminarians and explore another successful diocese
- · Pray for vocation

- Youth groups
- · Allow priests to be married
- · Allow them to marry and have children
- · Priests be allowed to marry
- · Rebuilding Homes
- · Higher salaries, better benefits
- · Allow priests to marry.
- Let them (priests) get married! It doesn't take a scientist to figure that out!
- · Permit priest to marry
- · Permit marriage
- · Families staying together.
- · Let priest get married
- Let them get married
- It has to be their calling

ARD THE FUTURE





WHAT DO THE SHORT- AND LONG-TERM SUGGESTIONS FOR FAITH FORMATION, MINISTRY AND EVANGELIZATION TELL US?

MANY PARISHIONERS HAVE IDEAS FOR HOW TO INCREASE ENGAGEMENT

WORSHIP, EVANGELIZATION, AND MINISTRY

MANY RESPONDENTS PRESENTED IDEAS THAT ADDRESSED COMMUNITY AND NEIGHBORHOOD NEEDS IN ADDITION TO THE NEEDS OF THEIR PARISH COMMUNITY

RESPONDENTS IDENTIFIED WAYS THAT OUTREACH TO YOUTH COULD BE STRENGTHENED

CREATE INTERGENERATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR EDUCATION, VOLUNTEERING, WORSHIP, AND FELLOWSHIP TO STRENGTHEN OUR FAITH COMMUNITY.

WHAT DO THE RESPONDENTS' VIEWS ON THEIR PARISHES' FUTURES MEAN?

MANY RESPONDENTS FEEL THERE WILL BE A DECREASE IN REGISTERED HOUSEHOLDS OR THE NUMBER WILL REMAIN STABLE, VERY FEW RESPONDENTS FEEL THERE WILL BE AN INCREASE IN MEMBERSHIP

THERE IS AN AWARENESS THAT THE CHURCH FACES CHALLENGES IN MAINTAINING VIBRANT PARISHES FOR THE FUTURE.

THE PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS WHO WOULD NOT CONSIDER ATTENDING ANOTHER PARISH AND THE PERCENTAGE WHO WOULD CONSIDER ANOTHER PARISH ARE NEARLY EQUAL.

WHILE MANY OF OUR REGION'S PARISHIONERS WANT THEIR PARISHES TO REMAIN AS-IS, THERE IS A NEARLY EQUAL NUMBER OF PARISHIONERS WHO WOULD BE WILLING TO CHANGE THE CHURCH AT WHICH THEY WORSHIP. THIS INDICATES THAT INNOVATIVE PARTNERSHIPS BETWEEN PARISHES COULD BE SUCCESSFUL.