

## *"Be Missionary Disciples: " A Parish Review of Mission Readiness*

Thank you for participating in this survey! Your participation is much appreciated and will be invaluable as we continue striving to be a Church committed to loving God, serving each other, and making disciples for Christ. Be assured that your answers to the survey are completely anonymous and will not be traceable to any individual.

**This survey also is available online. Check your parish website or go to: [www.BeMissionaryDisciples.org](http://www.BeMissionaryDisciples.org)**

**1. Which parish do you attend most frequently?**

\_\_\_\_\_ (parish name)  
\_\_\_\_\_ (city, town)

**2. Do you frequently attend church elsewhere?**

Yes  No

If yes, where? \_\_\_\_\_

**3. Age: [11-17 years, please use Youth Survey]**

18-20  30-39  50-59  70+  
 21-29  40-49  60-69

**4. Are you a registered member of this parish?**

Don't Know  Yes  No

**How long have you been coming to this parish?**

0-3 years  10-19 years  
 4-9 years  20+ years

**5. Would you consider yourself a.....? [check all that apply]**

Parishioner  Ministry Volunteer  Parish Staff  
 Visitor  Parish Leadership  Deacon  
 Regular attendee (non-parishioner)

**6. What is your average travel time to this parish?**

Under 10 minutes  20-30 minutes  +45 minutes  
 10-20 minutes  30-45 minutes

**7. How often do you attend Mass?**

Daily  2-3 times a month  Several times a year  
 Once a week or more  Once a month  Seldom or never

**8. Please check the box that best describes your experience with the Catholic faith:**

Raised Catholic  No longer Catholic  
 Converted to Catholicism (RCIA)  Never Catholic

**9. Gender:**

Male  Female

**10. Race/Ethnic Background (check all that apply)**

White  Asian or Pacific Islander  Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 Black  Native American  Prefer not to answer  
 Hispanic

**11. Languages spoken at home (check all that apply)**

English  Polish  French  
 Spanish  Korean  Other \_\_\_\_\_

**12. Marital Status:**

Single  Married  Unmarried, living together  
 Divorced/separated  Widowed

**13. Do you have children under 18 in your household?**

No children under 18 in household  
 Children under 18 in household

**If you have children under 18, how do your children receive a religious education? (check all that apply)**

In the home  
 Enrolled in Catholic elementary, middle or high school  
 Enrolled in parish-based Catholic religious education program (through 8<sup>th</sup> grade)  
 Enrolled in other religious education program (through 8<sup>th</sup> grade)  
 Involved in Catholic youth ministry program for middle or high schoolers  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 None of the above

**If you have children under 18, which of the following faith-based activities do you do with your children? (check all that apply)**

Attend Mass regularly  
 Enroll them in religious education classes  
 Enroll them in Catholic schools  
 Prepare them for baptism, reconciliation, communion and confirmation  
 Encourage participation in youth groups  
 Teach prayers, hymns  
 Read the Bible and spiritual reading together  
 Pray together as a family (bedtime, mealtime, etc...)  
 Point out the many ways in which we are blessed  
 Use Christ as the reference point for discussions on decision-making and priority-setting  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

**If you have children under 18, what do you feel are the greatest challenges you face in passing the faith on to your children?**

I feel like I am swimming against the tide in a society that does not value faith  
 There do not seem to be good opportunities or moments to bring up faith matters  
 I do not feel prepared or knowledgeable enough about the faith  
 My children are not interested enough  
 I am not interested enough  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 None of the above

*Are we equipped to fulfill the great commission to make disciples of all nations?*

14. **If you were in a situation where speaking about God, Jesus Christ or your personal faith seemed appropriate, you would:**
- Welcome the opportunity – I am very comfortable sharing my faith with others and listening to their faith stories as well
  - Be happy to share my faith with others but would not feel comfortable in a lengthy discussion or debate
  - Be willing to share my faith with others but only if asked about it
  - Not take the opportunity because I do not feel like I know enough to speak with others about my faith
  - Not take the opportunity because I feel like faith is a private matter
  - Avoid the conversation altogether
  - None of the above
15. **How would someone know you are a Christian? (check all that apply)**
- I talk about God and the ways He is at work in my life
  - I discuss the words of Pope Francis or things I heard or learned in church
  - I mention attending church in conversation
  - I share faith matters through social media
  - I try to be kind, charitable, respectful and forgiving to everyone
  - I serve those in need
  - Other \_\_\_\_\_
  - None of the above
16. **Who do you talk with about faith matters typically? (check all that apply)**
- My children
  - Family members
  - Co-workers, neighbors
  - Friends
  - Strangers
  - No one
17. **What do you feel are the greatest obstacles to being able to talk about faith with others? (check all that apply)**
- There don't seem to be good opportunities or moments to bring it up
  - It is not something our society encourages
  - I don't feel prepared or knowledgeable enough
  - Others don't seem interested enough
  - I am afraid I'll make others mad, offend them or be made fun of
  - I don't want to push my own beliefs on others
  - I am just not interested in doing that
  - Other \_\_\_\_\_
18. **What does the term "evangelization" mean to you? (check all that apply)**
- Something that Protestant preachers do on TV and street corners
  - Trying to convert others to Christianity
  - Talking to others about God and Jesus
  - Sharing my faith story and listening to that of others
  - Bearing witness to my faith through the way I live my life
  - Other \_\_\_\_\_

*How can we reach out more dynamically to those who have left and those who are searching?*

19. **Think of a person who you know has left the Catholic Church or is thinking about doing so. With this person in mind, which of the following do you believe are the 2 or 3 most important reasons they left or might leave?**
- Spiritual needs not being met
  - Not getting enough out of Mass/not being nourished at Mass
  - Gradual loss of interest
  - No longer believe
  - Dissatisfied with atmosphere in church
  - Not feeling welcomed
  - Disagree with Church teachings on specific issues
  - Clergy sex-abuse issue
  - Other \_\_\_\_\_
20. **Think of a person who you know has left the Catholic Church or is thinking about doing so. With this person in mind, what would you do to help reconnect them with the faith? (check all that apply)**
- Pray for them
  - Let them know they are missed and always welcome
  - Share why you remain a committed Catholic
  - Offer a personal invitation to attend Mass with you
  - Introduce them to your parish friends and/or pastor
  - Listen to their pains and concerns and accompany them in healing
  - Be open to their questions about the Church and its teachings
  - Invite them to parish social events
  - Other \_\_\_\_\_

*Do we personally have the qualities of mind, heart, and spirit to take up this task?*

21. **Which of the following best describes how you practice your faith and relate to Jesus Christ:**
- Jesus Christ is at the center of all I do
  - I have a relationship with Jesus Christ and am growing as a disciple
  - I practice my faith, but feel distant from Jesus Christ
  - I feel close to Jesus Christ, but do not practice my faith
  - I consider myself spiritual, but do not practice a faith or have a relationship with Jesus Christ
  - I do not practice a faith or feel spiritual
22. **Which of the following best describes your spiritual life currently:**
- Growing steadily
  - Growing slowly
  - Neither growing nor declining
  - Declining
23. **There are many ways that people grow in their spiritual life and practice aside from going to Mass. Please check the ways in which your spiritual life is nourished:**
- Prayer outside of Mass
    - Daily
    - Weekly
    - A few times a month
    - A few times a year
  - Devotions (rosary, novenas, etc.)
    - Daily
    - Weekly
    - A few times a month
    - A few times a year
  - Eucharistic adoration
    - Daily
    - Weekly
    - A few times a month
    - A few times a year
  - Reading scripture, religious writings or Church teachings
  - Participating in charismatic prayer or worship, or lay ecclesial movements (Cursillo, Focolare, etc.)
  - Participating in prayer or study groups, guided prayer, spiritual direction
  - Performing outreach to the sick, needy, and grieving
  - Other \_\_\_\_\_
  - None

24. What is the one thing you could do to enhance your spiritual life?

\_\_\_\_\_

25. What is the one thing the parish could do to help you enhance your spiritual life?

\_\_\_\_\_

26. Do you have any specific suggestions for ways to improve or broaden the appeal of adult faith formation opportunities in this parish?

- No
- Yes (please describe below)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

27. There are many reasons why people may not attend church every week. Other than the occasional illness or vacation, please select from the list below the most common reason(s) why you or people you know might not attend church at this parish on any given weekend:

- Working or in school
- Sports or other activities (my own or family member's)
- Health problems or disability (my own or family member's)
- Lack of transportation
- Don't feel I need to come to church every week
- Church is becoming less relevant in my life
- Spiritual needs are not being met
- Parish is not welcoming
- Priest is not welcoming
- Poor preaching
- Parish does not reflect my language/ethnic/cultural identity
- Lack of children's ministry
- Divorce or marriage outside Church
- Also attend church elsewhere
- Church not accessible
- No special needs ministry
- Other

*Are our parishes ready to respond to the challenges of the mission in our times?*

28. On a scale of 1 to 5, how would you rate the following in terms of.....

**Importance to you for a Catholic parish?**

1 Not important                      5 Extremely Important

- 1  2  3  4  5
- 1  2  3  4  5
- 1  2  3  4  5
- 1  2  3  4  5
- 1  2  3  4  5
- 1  2  3  4  5
- 1  2  3  4  5
- 1  2  3  4  5
- 1  2  3  4  5
- 1  2  3  4  5
- 1  2  3  4  5
- 1  2  3  4  5
- 1  2  3  4  5

- Christ-centered parish
- Engaging homilies
- Holy and reverent worship experience
- Dynamic and lively worship experience
- Outstanding music
- Feeling of warmth and welcome
- Joy and excitement in parishioners
- Engaging children's ministry
- Inspiring adult faith formation
- Welcomes immigrant families
- Service-oriented parish serving the needy
- Beautiful architecture and grounds
- Fun social gatherings

**Your satisfaction with it at your parish?**

1 Not satisfied                      5 Extremely satisfied

- 1  2  3  4  5
- 1  2  3  4  5
- 1  2  3  4  5
- 1  2  3  4  5
- 1  2  3  4  5
- 1  2  3  4  5
- 1  2  3  4  5
- 1  2  3  4  5
- 1  2  3  4  5
- 1  2  3  4  5
- 1  2  3  4  5
- 1  2  3  4  5
- 1  2  3  4  5

29. Does this parish inspire you to be a better Christian and to share the joy of Christ with others?

- Absolutely!  Yes  To Some Degree  No  Not at all

30. How likely is it that you would recommend this parish to someone?

- Very Likely  Likely  Undecided  Unlikely  Very Unlikely

Please tell us your level of agreement with the following statements:

31. I have been encouraged in my spiritual growth by someone in the parish.

- Strongly Agree  Agree  Neutral  Disagree  Strongly Disagree

32. My spiritual needs are being met here.

- Strongly Agree  Agree  Neutral  Disagree  Strongly Disagree

33. I feel like I am a valued member of this parish.

- Strongly Agree  Agree  Neutral  Disagree  Strongly Disagree

34. Are vocations to the priesthood, religious life or the diaconate actively promoted by the parish?

- Yes  No  Don't know

35. In which of the following areas could the parish give you the most support, either now or in the future? (check all that apply)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spiritual guidance and care               | <input type="checkbox"/> Education needs                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parenting and care for the family         | <input type="checkbox"/> Immigration assistance                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Marital issues                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Care for immigrants                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Separation/Divorce                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Legal assistance                                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LGBT support for individuals and families | <input type="checkbox"/> Unemployment                                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Domestic violence                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of housing/food                               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grief and loss                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Prisoner re-entry                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Depression or mental illness              | <input type="checkbox"/> Addiction (substance abuse, gambling, pornography) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aging and care for the elderly            | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Access to healthcare                      |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sickness and long-term health issues      |   |

36. Would you consider this parish to be a multi-cultural parish (a parish in which two or more languages or cultures significantly influence the ministerial life of the parish)?

- Yes  Somewhat  No  Uncertain

If "Yes" or "Somewhat," how well are the cultures integrated?

- The parish provides strong pastoral care and formation for multiple cultures, and multiple cultures are integrated into and reflected in the liturgical and ministerial life of the parish
- The parish provides strong pastoral care and formation for multiple cultures, but they are liturgically and ministerially separate
- The parish provides some pastoral care and formation for multiple cultures, but only one culture is reflected in the liturgical and ministerial life of the parish

*What decisions need to be made so that we can marshal the resources the Lord has given us?*

37. How would you characterize your experience in contributing your time and talent to the parish:

- I regularly contribute my time and talent to the parish
- I would like to contribute my time and talent to the parish more but I am too busy
- I would like to contribute my time and talent to the parish more but I don't know how
- I don't feel my contributions of time and talent to the parish are welcome or appreciated
- I don't contribute my time and talent to the parish
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

38. I have thought about the gifts God has given me and how they might be used in service to the mission of the Church.

- Strongly Agree  Agree  Neither Agree nor Disagree  Disagree  Strongly Disagree

39. I consider the time and talent I contribute to the parish to be a form of ministry.

- Strongly Agree  Agree  Neither Agree nor Disagree  Disagree  Strongly Disagree  Not applicable

40. Thinking about your financial contributions to the parish over the past year, check the box that fits your reasons for contributing: (check all that apply)

- My contributions support the mission of the Church to spread the Gospel, form disciples, and serve others
- My contributions support the ongoing presence and work of this particular parish
- It is my obligation as a Catholic to support the Church
- I cannot make financial contributions at this time, but would like to
- I do not make financial contributions

41. I believe the financial health of my parish is:

- Excellent  Good  Fair  Poor  Do not know

42. Please assess the following in terms of how its current size and condition/attractiveness enhance or detract from your experience at the parish:

Size	Too Big	Just Right	Too Small	Don't Know	Condition	Excellent	Adequate	Needs Attention	Don't Know
Worship Space	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fellowship Space	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Outdoor Areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Parking	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

*Are there ways we can pull together as a Catholic community to proclaim the Gospel more effectively?*

43. There are many reasons why some parishes might choose or need to work collaboratively with other parishes. Based on your experience, in which of the following areas would it make the most sense to work collaboratively with another parish – to achieve a better experience, higher participation, or cost savings? [check only those that apply]

- |  |  |  |                                      |
|--|--|--|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Evangelization      | <input type="checkbox"/> Young adult ministry  | <input type="checkbox"/> Sacramental preparation         | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Religious education | <input type="checkbox"/> Adult faith formation | <input type="checkbox"/> Service and outreach ministries | <input type="checkbox"/> Do not know |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Youth ministry      | <input type="checkbox"/> Music ministry        | <input type="checkbox"/> Parish and/or pastoral staff    |                                      |

44. Do you have any suggestions for other parishes this parish should consider collaborating with?

\_\_\_\_\_