REFLECTION AND NOTES

Central Region
Frederick & Washington Counties

Basic Demographics

AGE GROUP (n=2,709) Q3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>% of Respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11-13</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14-17</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-20</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21-29</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-39</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40-49</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50-59</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-69</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70+</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ETHNICITY (n=2,168) and GENDER (n=2,012) Q10, Q9

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
<th>% of Respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian or Pacific Islander</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native American</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prefer not to answer</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CATHOLIC STATUS (n=2,042) Q8

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Catholic Status</th>
<th>% of Respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Raised Catholic</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Converted to Catholicism (RCIA)</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No longer Catholic</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never Catholic</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LANGUAGES SPOKEN AT HOME (n=2,168) Q11

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language</th>
<th>% of Respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>97.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Options</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Other”</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

BACKGROUND ON THE SURVEY AND ITS USE

The parish planning survey was administered by parishes and schools between October and December 2015 in support of the Be Missionary Disciples planning process. The survey was designed to complement Archbishop William E. Lori’s pastoral letter, *A Light Brightly Visible: Lighting the Path to Missionary Discipleship*, as a way to help understand how people would answer key questions laid out in the letter.

The survey was not designed to achieve a statistically random or complete sample of respondents, so it will yield only partial and somewhat biased results. In this light, the results are meant to be used in conjunction with parish statistics and demographics to provide a more complete picture of challenges and opportunities to missionary discipleship and evangelization-based planning. A copy of the survey can be found online at [www.BeMissionaryDisciples.org/planning/pastoral-planning-tools/](http://www.BeMissionaryDisciples.org/planning/pastoral-planning-tools/). For more information on the survey or the Be Missionary Disciples planning process, contact the Daphne Daly, Director of the Office of Pastoral Planning at 410-547-5545 or Daphne.Daly@archbalt.org.
Central Region
Frederick & Washington Counties

**Family Demographics**

**MARITAL STATUS (n=2,038)**

- 91% are married or have been married
- 7% Married
- 6% Widowed
- 3% Divorced
- 1% Single
- 0% Unmarried, living together

**CHILDREN UNDER 18 IN HOUSEHOLD? (n=2,022)**

- 69% No children under 18 in household
- 31% Have children under 18 in household

**HOW DO YOUR CHILDREN RECEIVE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION? (n=944)**

- Parish-based (through 8th grade): 46%
- In home: 44%
- Catholic school: 28%
- Catholic Youth Ministry (Middle or High): 17%
- Other religious ed. (through 8th grade): 6%
- Other formal programs: 8%
- None of the above: 7%

**GREATEST CHALLENGES PASSING FAITH TO CHILDREN (n=734)**

- Swimming against the tide in a society that does not value faith: 60%
- Children are not interested enough: 16%
- I do not feel prepared or knowledgeable enough about the faith: 10%
- No good opportunities to bring up faith matters: 5%
- I am not interested enough: 1%
- Other: 14%
- None of the above: 19%

**FAITH ACTIVITIES WITH CHILDREN (n=3,445)**

- 1. Attend Mass regularly
- 2. Point out the many ways in which we are blessed
- 3. Prepare them for sacraments
- 4. Pray together as a family (bedtime, mealtime, etc.)
- 5. Teach prayers, hymns
- 6. Use Christ as the reference point for decision-making
- 7. Enroll them in religious education classes
- 8. Encourage participation in youth groups
- 9. Enroll them in Catholic schools
- 10. Read the Bible and spiritual reading together
- 11. Other
Are we equipped to fulfill the great commission to make disciples of all nations?

**Willingness to Share Faith (n=2,005)**

- 72% would proactively share their faith in some way.
- **Q14**
  - Welcome the opportunity: 27%
  - Be happy to share, but not debate: 21%
  - Be willing to share, but only if asked: 45%
  - Do not share, do not know enough about faith: 7%
  - Do not share, faith is private: 32%
  - Avoid the conversation: 46%
  - Others: 5%
  - None of the above: 1%

**How Would Someone Know You Are a Christian? (n=6,118)**

- Be kind, charitable, respectful, and forgiving to all: 82%
- Mention attending church in conversation: 71%
- Serve those in need: 49%
- Talk about God in my life: 46%
- Discuss words of Pope Francis or from Church: 32%
- Share faith through social media: 19%
- Other: 5%
- None of the above: 1%

**With Whom Do You Talk About Faith? (n=5,410)**

- Adult family members: 81%
- Friends: 71%
- My children: 62%
- Co-workers, neighbors: 42%
- Strangers: 13%
- Others: 3%
- No one: 3%

**Greatest Obstacles to Sharing Faith? (n=3,304)**

- Don’t want to push beliefs: 41%
- Not encouraged by society: 35%
- Others not interested: 28%
- No good opportunities: 24%
- Not knowledgeable enough: 26%
- Afraid to offend, made fun of: 12%
- Not interested: 12%
- Other: 8%

**What Is Evangelization? (n=4,253)**

- Bearing witness through way I live my life: 68%
- Talking about God and Jesus: 57%
- Sharing faith story: 54%
- Trying to convert others: 24%
- Something preachers do on TV, street corners: 12%
- Other: 3%

**Reflection and Notes**

Central Region
Frederick & Washington Counties
Do we personally have the qualities of mind, heart, and spirit to take up this task?

**RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS and SPIRITUAL GROWTH**

- **Jesus at the center**: 22%
- **Relationship, growing**: 58%
- **Practice, no relationship**: 15%
- **Relationship, but do not practice**: 2%
- **Spiritual, but do not practice**: 2%
- **Do not practice or feel spiritual**: 0%

81% are growing in their spiritual life.

46% are not growing in their spiritual life.

**RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS (n=1,934)**

- **Growing steadily**: 35%
- **Growing slowly**: 17%
- **Neither**: 19%
- **Declining**: 19%

**FAITH ACTIVITIES (n=5,525)**

- **1 - Prayer outside of Mass**
- **2 - Reading/reflecting on scripture, writings, teachings**
- **3 - Outreach to sick, needy, and grieving**
- **4 - Devotions (rosary, novenas, wearing scapulars, etc.)**
- **5 - Small groups, guided prayer, or spiritual direction**
- **6 - Eucharistic adoration**
- **7 - Charismatic prayer, lay ecclesiastical movements**
- **8 - Other**
- **9 - None**

**FREQUENCY OF CATHOLIC ACTIVITIES**

- **Prayer (n=1712)**
  - Daily: 82%
  - Weekly: 13%
  - Few times a Month: 4%
- **Devotions (n=813)**
  - Daily: 18%
  - Weekly: 18%
  - Few times a Month: 19%
  - Few times a Year: 19%
- **Eucharistic Adoration (n=571)**
  - Daily: 19%
  - Weekly: 19%
  - Few times a Month: 27%
  - Few times a Year: 5%

**REASONS FOR NOT ATTENDING MASS AT MAIN PARISH (n=4,592)**

- **1 - Sports or other activities**
- **2 - Don’t feel I need to come to church every week**
- **3 - Working or in school**
- **4 - Also attend church elsewhere**
- **5 - Church is becoming less relevant in my life**
- **6 - Health problems or disability**
- **7 - Spiritual needs are not being met here**
- **8 - Divorce or marriage outside Church**
- **9 - Poor preaching**
- **10 - Parish is not welcoming**
- **11 - Priest is not welcoming**
- **12 - Lack of transportation**
- **13 - Lack of children’s ministry**
- **14 - Parish does not reflect my language/ethnic/cultural identity**
- **15 - No special needs ministry**
- **16 - Church not accessible**
- **17 - Other**
Central Region
Frederick & Washington Counties

Parish-Life Demographics

**SELF-IDENTIFICATION (n=2,884)**
- Parishioner: 78%
- Regular attendee: 87%
- Visitor: 14%
- Ministry Volunteer: 10%
- Parish Leadership: 3%
- Deacon: 31%
- Parish Staff Member: 3%

**REGISTERED? (n=2,039) and FOR HOW LONG? (n=1,903)**
- 91% are registered
- 8% are not registered or don't know
- 9% are not registered
- 8% do not know
- 31% 0-3 years
- 20% 4-9 years
- 18% 10-19 years
- 12% 20+ years

**TRAVEL TIME TO PARISH (n=2,039) and ATTENDANCE (n=2,036)**
- 88% travel less than 20 minutes
- 12% travel 20-30 minutes
- 5% travel 30-45 minutes
- 5% travel 45+ minutes
- 80% attend Mass at least once a week
- 12% attend Mass once or twice a month
- 5% attend Mass several times a year
- 5% attend Mass rarely

**Are our parishes ready to respond to the challenges of the mission in our times? (Part I)**

**ARE VOCATIONS PROMOTED? (n=1,912)**
- No: 9%
- Don't Know: 26%
- Yes: 65%

**MULTI-CULTURAL PARISH? (n=1,865) and if so, INTEGRATED? (n=1,121)**
- Yes: 51%
- No: 16%
- Somewhat: 32%
- Uncertain: 8%
Are our parishes ready to respond to the challenges of the mission in our times? (Part II)

PARISH INSPIRING (n=1,921) & WOULD RECOMMEND? (n=1,937)  Q29, Q30

- 76% are firmly inspired by their parish
- 36% Yes
- 21% To some degree
- 2% No
- 2% Not at all

- 93% would recommend their parish
- 66% Very Likely
- 26% Likely
- 5% Undecided
- 3% Unlikely
- 2% Very Unlikely

PARISH INSIGHTS (4 or 5 on 5-point scale)  Q31, Q32, Q33

- My spiritual needs are being met here (n=1,929) 78%
- I feel like I am a valued member of this parish (n=1,926) 72%
- Encouraged in spiritual growth by someone in the parish (n=1,917) 66%

WHERE COULD THE PARISH GIVE THE MOST SUPPORT? (n=4,768)  Q35

- 57% 1 - Spiritual guidance and care
- 47% 2 - Grief and loss
- 10.3% 3 - Aging and care for the elderly
- 53% 4 - Sickness and long-term health issues
- 14% 5 - Parenting and care for the family
- 8% 6 - Marital issues
- 17% 7 - Depression or mental illness
- 14% 8 - Education needs
- 20% 9 - Separation/Divorce
- 19% 10 - LGBT support for individuals and families
- 3% 11 - Addiction (substance abuse, gambling, pornography)
- 7% 12 - Unemployment
- 7% 13 - Lack of housing/food
- 7% 14 - Access to healthcare
- 7% 15 - Care for immigrant families
- 7% 16 - Legal assistance
- 7% 17 - Domestic violence
- 4% 18 - Immigration assistance
- 5% 19 - Prisoner re-entry
- 5% 20 - Other

PARISH ASPECTS: IMPORTANCE x SATISFACTION (4 or 5 on 5-point scale)  Q28

IMPORTANCE

- Christ-centered parish 57% 10.3%
- Engaging homilies 53% 14.0%
- Feeling of warmth and welcome 49% 8.9%
- Holy, reverent worship experience 38% 6.6%
- Service-oriented parish 35% -0.6%
- Joy and excitement in parishioners 52% 11.3%
- Dynamic, lively worship experience 43% 11.2%
- Inspiring adult faith formation 37% 8.7%
- Engaging children's ministry 37% 2.2%
- Outstanding music 33% 7.1%
- Welcomes immigrant families 45% 7.1%
- Fun social gatherings 16% -17.8%
- Beautiful architecture and grounds 25% -3.4%

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

**TIME AND TALENT CONTRIBUTIONS (n=1,863) Q37**

- 28% are seeking to contribute but are not currently
- 19% I regularly contribute
- 17% I would like to but don’t know how
- 11% I would like to but I am too busy
- 9% I don't contribute
- 9% I don’t feel like my contributions are welcome or appreciated
- 3% Other

**PERCEPTIONS OF GOD’S GIFTS Q38, Q39**

I have thought about the gifts God has given me and how they might be used (n=1,867)
- 37% 17%
- 45% 40%
- 37% 41%

I consider the time and talent I contribute to be a form of ministry (n=1,822)
- 38% Strongly Agree
- 24% Agree
- 17% Neither
- 13% Disagree
- 6% Strongly Disagree

**REASONS FOR FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS (n=2,944) Q40**

1. My contributions support the ongoing presence and work of this particular parish (63%)
2. My contributions support the core mission of the Church to spread the Gospel, form disciples, and serve others (47%)
3. It is my obligation as a Catholic to support the Church (42%)
4. I cannot make financial contributions at this time, but would like to (5%)
5. I do not make financial contributions (2%)

**RATING OF PARISH’S FINANCIAL HEALTH (n=1,861) Q41**

- 56% Excellent
- 27% Good
- 9% Poor
- 4% Do not know

**RATING OF SIZE AND CONDITION OF PARISH FACILITIES Q42**

- **Worship Space (n=2,801)**
  - 37% Just Right
  - 37% Too Big
  - 9% Too Small
  - 9% Do not know
  - 53% Excellent
  - 46% Adequate
  - 15% Needs Attention
  - 12% Do not know

- **Fellowship Space (n=2,801)**
  - 34% Just Right
  - 31% Too Big
  - 7% Too Small
  - 9% Do not know
  - 44% Excellent
  - 4% Adequate
  - 51% Needs Attention
  - 10% Do not know

- **Outdoor Areas (n=2,801)**
  - 39% Just Right
  - 31% Too Big
  - 7% Too Small
  - 9% Do not know
  - 40% Excellent
  - 5% Adequate
  - 54% Needs Attention
  - 2% Do not know

- **Parking (n=2,801)**
  - 32% Just Right
  - 32% Too Big
  - 15% Too Small
  - 10% Do not know
  - 63% Excellent
  - 0% Adequate
  - 32% Needs Attention
  - 3% Do not know
**Central Region**

**Frederick & Washington Counties**

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

**REFLECTION AND NOTES**

**REASONS WHY YOU THINK PEOPLE LEAVE THE CHURCH (n=4,962) Q19**

- Disagree with Church teachings on specific... 59%
- Not getting enough out of Mass/not being... 53%
- Gradual loss of interest 36%
- Dissatisfied with atmosphere in church 27%
- Clergy sex-abuse issue 20%
- Spiritual needs not being met 29%
- Not feeling welcomed 21%
- No longer believe 17%
- Other 13%

(multiple selections possible)

**HOW TO HELP RECONNECT PEOPLE WITH THE FAITH? (n=6,576) Q20**

- Pray for them 78%
- Be open to their questions about the Church and its... 53%
- Let them know they are missed and always welcome 50%
- Share why you remain a committed Catholic 43%
- Listen to their pains and concerns and accompany them in... 41%
- Offer a personal invitation to attend Mass with you 41%
- Invite them to parish social events 28%
- Introduce them to your parish friends and/or pastor 22%
- Other 5%

(multiple selections possible)

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

**WAYS TO COLLABORATE WITH ANOTHER PARISH? (n=5,451) Q43**

- Service and outreach ministries 50%
- Evangelization 41%
- Youth ministry 37%
- Young adult ministry 34%
- Adult faith formation 36%
- Religious education 32%
- Sacramental preparation 22%
- Parish and/or pastoral staff 19%
- Music ministry 14%
- Other 4%
- Do not know 19%

(multiple selections possible)
Central Region
Frederick & Washington Counties

Youth Survey

ETRNCITY (n=777) and GENDER (n=686)

- White: 82%
- Black: 3%
- Hispanic: 12%
- Asian or Pacific Islander: 9%
- Native American: 1%
- Other: 3%
- Prefer not to answer: 2%

(multiple selections possible)

LANGUAGES SPOKEN AT HOME (n=826)

- English: 98.7%
- Spanish: 10.3%
- Other Options: 3.4%
- "Other": 5.3%

(multiple selections possible)

HOW DO YOU LEARN ABOUT YOUR FAITH? (n=1,271)

- In a Catholic school: 41%
- In the home: 47%
- In a religious education program: 72%
- Youth Ministry program: 42%
- Other: 4%
- None of the above: <1%

(multiple selections possible)

WHICH FAITH ACTIVITIES DO YOU PARTICIPATE IN? (n=3,237)

- 1 - Attend Catholic school/religious education classes: 55%
- 2 - Attend Mass regularly: 71%
- 3 - Talk to God: 58%
- 4 - Prepare for sacraments: 58%
- 5 - Pray with my family: 64%
- 6 - Participate in service projects: 36%
- 7 - Make decisions based on my faith and religious beliefs: 39%
- 8 - Read the Bible or other religious writings: 32%
- 9 - Attend youth groups: 56%
- 10 - Other: 3%

(multiple selections possible)

DIRECTLY TALKING ABOUT FAITH (n=695)

- 20% would share their faith in some way
- 72% would not have a problem doing it
- 92% do it, but only if I was with friends from church
- 8% do it, but only if I was with friends from church
- 72% do it, but only if I was with friends from church

“If you were in a situation where speaking about God, Jesus Christ, or your personal faith seemed appropriate, you would...”
Central Region
Frederick & Washington Counties

Youth Survey

REFLECTION AND NOTES

MASS ATTENDANCE (n=707)

- 24% attend Mass weekly
- 43% are not attending Mass weekly
- 9% attend 2-3 times a month
- 8% attend once a month
- 3% attend several times a year
- 57% do not attend Mass weekly

REASONS FOR NOT ATTENDING MASS (n=1,569)

1. Sports or other activities
2. If my family doesn't come
3. Working or in school
4. Lack of transportation
5. Health problems or disability
6. Don't feel I need to come to church every week
7. Church is not that meaningful to me
8. Don't feel like I belong
9. Other

(multiple selections possible)

HOW DOES YOUR PARISH INSPIRE YOU?

- Does this parish inspire you to follow Jesus?
  - Absolutely!: 18%
  - Yes: 37%
  - Sort of: 29%
  - No: 9%
  - Not at all: 5%
  (n=692)

- Would you tell your friends to come to this parish?
  - Absolutely!: 18%
  - Yes: 31%
  - Sort of: 31%
  - No: 29%
  (n=696)

- Do you feel welcome and valued in this parish?
  - Yes: 77%
  - Sort of: 19%
  - Not sure: 2%
  - No: 2%
  (n=691)