### Basic Demographics

#### AGE GROUP (n=1,505)

- 11-13: 17%
- 14-17: 14%
- 18-20: 3%
- 21-29: 7%
- 30-39: 21%
- 40-49: 16%
- 50-59: 13%
- 60-69: 6%
- 70+: 3%

- 22% of respondents are over 50 years of age

#### ETHNICITY (n=1,589) and GENDER (n=1,095)

- White: 31%
- Black: 10%
- Hispanic: 22%
- Asian or Pacific Islander: 7%
- Native American: 2%
- Other: 3%
- Prefer not to answer: 1%

#### CATHOLIC STATUS (n=1,105)

- Raised Catholic: 94%
- Converted to Catholicism (RCIA): 5%
- No longer Catholic: 1.9%
- Never Catholic: 2.2%

#### LANGUAGES SPOKEN AT HOME (n=1,589)

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<tr>
<th>Language</th>
<th>% of Respondents</th>
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<td>English</td>
<td>57.8%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spanish</td>
<td>81.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Options</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
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<td>“Other”</td>
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### 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.
Family Demographics

MARITAL STATUS (n=1,102)

- 74% are married or have been married
- 67%
- 17%
- 9%
- 3%
- 4%

- Married
- Widowed
- Divorced
- Single
- Unmarried, living together

CHILDBREN UNDER 18 IN HOUSEHOLD? (n=1,073)

- 47% No children under 18 in household
- 53% Have children under 18 in household

HOW DO YOUR CHILDREN RECEIVE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION? (n=735)

1. Parish-based (through 8th grade)
2. In home
3. Catholic school
4. Catholic Youth Ministry (Middle or High)
5. Other religious ed. (through 8th grade)
6. Other
7. None of the above

- 35% Within Parish
- 47% Outside of Parish
- 8% Other formal programs

GREATEST CHALLENGES PASSING FAITH TO CHILDREN (n=543)

1. Swimming against the tide in a society that does not value faith
2. Children are not interested enough
3. I do not feel prepared or knowledgeable enough about the faith
4. No good opportunities to bring up faith matters
5. I am not interested enough
6. Other
7. None of the above

- 41% Swimming against the tide
- 12% Children are not interested enough
- 10% I do not feel prepared or knowledgeable enough
- 10% No good opportunities
- 1% I am not interested enough
- 10% Other
- 32% None of the above

FAITH ACTIVITIES WITH CHILDREN (n=2,450)

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

- 85% Attend Mass
- 49% Point out ways we are blessed
- 47% Prepare for sacraments
- 45% Pray together as a family
- 42% Teach prayers, hymns
- 26% Use Christ as reference
- 16% Enroll in religious education
- 10% Encourage participation in youth groups
- 8% Enroll in Catholic schools
- 4% Read the Bible and spiritual reading
- 2% Other
WILLINGNESS TO SHARE FAITH (n=1,053) - Q14

- 78% would proactively share their faith in some way.
- Welcome the opportunity: 14%
- Be happy to share, but not debate: 6%
- Be willing to share, but only if asked: 6%
- Do not share, do not know enough about faith: 4%
- Do not share, faith is private: 3%
- Avoid the conversation: 2%
- None of the above: 1%

HOW WOULD SOMEONE KNOW YOU ARE A CHRISTIAN? (n=2,803) - Q15

- Be kind, charitable, respectful, and forgiving to all: 31%
- Mention attending church in conversation: 25%
- Serve those in need: 24%
- Talk about God in my life: 23%
- Discuss words of Pope Francis or from Church: 22%
- Share faith through social media: 21%
- Other: 19%
- None of the above: 3%

WITH WHOM DO YOU TALK ABOUT FAITH? (n=2,692) - Q16

- Adult family members: 71%
- Friends: 66%
- My children: 42%
- Co-workers, neighbors: 41%
- Strangers: 14%
- No one: 3%

GREATEST OBSTACLES TO SHARING FAITH? (n=1,494) - Q17

- Don't want to push beliefs: 25%
- Not encouraged by society: 31%
- Others not interested: 21%
- No good opportunities: 25%
- Afraid to offend, made fun of: 13%
- Not knowledgeable enough: 31%
- Other: 8%
- Not interested: 4%

WHAT IS EVANGELIZATION? (n=1,768) - Q18

- Bearing witness through way I live my life: 41%
- Talking about God and Jesus: 58%
- Sharing faith story: 41%
- Trying to convert others: 23%
- Something preachers do on TV, street corners: 11%
- Other: 2%
**Do we personally have the qualities of mind, heart, and spirit to take up this task?**

**REFLECTION AND NOTES**

**RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS (n=998) and SPIRITUAL GROWTH (n=967)**

Q21, Q22

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<th>Relationship AND Practicing</th>
<th>Relationship OR Practicing</th>
<th>Neither</th>
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<tr>
<td>Relationship, growing</td>
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<td>Practice, no relationship</td>
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<td>Spiritual, but do not practice</td>
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89% are growing in their spiritual life

60% Declining

**FAITH ACTIVITIES (n=2,708)**

Q23

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

(multiple selections possible)

**FREQUENCY OF CATHOLIC ACTIVITIES (of those who participate)**

Q23

**Prayer** (n=772)

- Daily: 80%
- Weekly: 12%
- Few times a Month: 6%
- Few times a Year: 12%

**Devotions** (n=382)

- Daily: 26%
- Weekly: 19%
- Few times a Month: 21%
- Few times a Year: 19%

**Eucharistic Adoration** (n=312)

- Daily: 48%
- Weekly: 22%
- Few times a Month: 9%
- Few times a Year: 9%

**REASONS FOR NOT ATTENDING MASS AT MAIN PARISH (n=2,075)**

Q27

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

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

**Parish-Life Demographics**

### Self-Identification (n=1,252)
- Parishioner: 73%
- Regular attendee: 22%
- Visitor: 8%
- Ministry Volunteer: 11%
- Parish Leadership: 6%
- Deacon: 1%
- Parish Staff Member: 0%

(multiple selections possible)

### Registered? (n=1,083) and For How Long? (n=1,020)
- 23% Registered
- 77% Not Registered or Don't Know
- 32% 0-3 Years
- 24% 4-9 Years
- 10% 10-19 Years
- 34% 20+ Years

### Travel Time to Parish (n=1,092) and Attendance (n=1,102)
- 79% travel less than 20 minutes
- 21% 20-30 minutes
- 73% attend Mass at least once a week
- 27% Once a week or more
- 6% Daily

### Are Vocations Promoted? (n=940)
- 69% Yes
- 22% Don't Know
- 9% No

### Multi-Cultural Parish? (n=846) and if so, Integrated? (n=571)
- 80% at least "Somewhat"
- 18% "Somewhat"
- 4% "No"

The parish provides strong pastoral care and formation for multiple cultures, and multiple cultures are integrated into and reflect 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.
Are our parishes ready to respond to the challenges of the mission in our times? (Part II)

**PARISH INSPIRING (n=957) & WOULD RECOMMEND? (n=947)**

- **Absolutely!**
  - 84%
  - 32%
  - 52%
  - 15%
  - 1%

- **Yes**
  - 75%
  - 21%
  - 18%

- **To some degree**
  - 7%

- **No**
  - 1%

- **Not at all**
  - 0%

**Q29, Q30**

- **Very Likely**
  - 96%
  - 21%
  - 18%

- **Likely**
  - 7%

- **Unlikely**
  - 3%

- **Very Unlikely**
  - 1%

**PARISH INSIGHTS (4 or 5 on 5-point scale)**

- My spiritual needs are being met here (n=948)
  - 84%

- I feel like I am a valued member of this parish (n=955)
  - 74%

- Encouraged in spiritual growth by someone in the parish (n=936)
  - 76%

**Q31, Q32, Q33**

**WHERE COULD THE PARISH GIVE THE MOST SUPPORT? (n=3,182)**

- Imp.
- Sat.
- Diff.

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

- Christ-centered parish: 50%/43%/7.0%
- Engaging homilies: 43%/35%/7.7%
- Feeling of warmth and welcome: 41%/34%/6.6%
- Holy, reverent worship experience: 38%/32%/6.1%
- Service-oriented parish: 35%/33%/2.6%
- Joy and excitement in parishioners: 42%/34%/8.5%
- Dynamic, lively worship experience: 39%/30%/8.9%
- Inspiring adult faith formation: 36%/28%/8.2%
- Engaging children's ministry: 37%/27%/9.8%
- Outstanding music: 37%/29%/7.9%
- Welcomes immigrant families: 40%/33%/6.9%
- Fun social gatherings: 26%/31%/-5.8%
- Beautiful architecture and grounds: 31%/27%/3.7%
What decisions need to be made so we can marshal the resources the Lord has given us?

REFLECTION AND NOTES

**TIME AND TALENT CONTRIBUTIONS (n=869)**

- 42% are seeking to contribute but are not currently
- 25% I regularly contribute
- 17% I would like to but don’t know how
- 11% I would like to but I am too busy
- 7% I don’t contribute
- 2% I don’t feel like my contributions are welcome or appreciated
- Other

**PERCEPTIONS OF GOD’S GIFTS**

- I have thought about the gifts God has given me and how they might be used (n=885)
  - 46% Strongly Agree
  - 40% Agree
  - 39% Neither
  - 16% Disagree
  - 12% Strongly Disagree

- I consider the time and talent I contribute to be a form of ministry (n=818)
  - 43% Strongly Agree
  - 38% Agree
  - 25% Neither
  - 16% Disagree
  - 11% Strongly Disagree

**REASONS FOR FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS (n=1,192)**

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

**RATING OF PARISH’S FINANCIAL HEALTH (n=874)**

- 45% Excellent
- 38% Good
- 28% Fair
- 10% Poor
- 4% Do not know

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

- **Worship Space (n=1585)**
  - 46% Excellent
  - 47% Adequate
  - 14% Needs Attention
  - 10% Do not know
  - 11% Just Right

- **Fellowship Space (n=1585)**
  - 71% Excellent
  - 32% Adequate
  - 7% Needs Attention
  - 14% Do not know

- **Outdoor Areas (n=1585)**
  - 71% Excellent
  - 35% Adequate
  - 4% Needs Attention
  - 14% Do not know
  - 10% Just Right

- **Parking (n=1585)**
  - 62% Excellent
  - 48% Adequate
  - 15% Needs Attention
  - 24% Do not know
  - 10% Just Right
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=1,932)**

- Disagree with Church teachings on specific... 39%
- Not getting enough out of Mass/not being... 28%
- Gradual loss of interest 32%
- Dissatisfied with atmosphere in church 30%
- Clergy sex-abuse issue 16%
- Spiritual needs not being met 39%
- Not feeling welcomed 17%
- No longer believe 13%
- Other 10%

(multiple selections possible)

**HOW TO HELP RECONNECT PEOPLE WITH THE FAITH? (n=2,988)**

- Pray for them 74%
- Be open to their questions about the Church and its... 37%
- Let them know they are missed and always welcome 38%
- Share why you remain a committed Catholic 34%
- Listen to their pains and concerns and accompany them in... 37%
- Offer a personal invitation to attend Mass with you 34%
- Invite them to parish social events 26%
- Introduce them to your parish friends and/or pastor 20%
- Other 3%

(multiple selections possible)

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

REFLECTION AND NOTES

**WAYS TO COLLABORATE WITH ANOTHER PARISH? (n=2,250)**

- 1 - Service and outreach ministries 30%
- 2 - Evangelization 45%
- 3 - Youth ministry 31%
- 4 - Young adult ministry 32%
- 5 - Adult faith formation 26%
- 6 - Religious education 38%
- 7 - Sacramental preparation 19%
- 8 - Parish and/or pastoral staff 15%
- 9 - Music ministry 20%
- 10 - Other 4%
- 11 - Do not know 14%

(multiple selections possible)