**Basic Demographics**

**AGE GROUP (n=347)**

- 11-13: 22%
- 14-17: 0%
- 18-20: 8%
- 21-29: 69%
- 30-39: 0%
- 40-49: 0%
- 50-59: 9%
- 60-69: 22%
- 70+: 39%

69% of respondents are over 50 years of age.

**ETHNICITY (n=285) and GENDER (n=277)**

- White: 96%
- Black: 1%
- Hispanic: 1%
- Asian or Pacific Islander: 0%
- Native American: 2%
- Other: 2%
- Prefer not to answer: 1%

(multiple selections possible)

**CATHOLIC STATUS (n=278)**

- Raised Catholic: 91%
- Converted to Catholicism (RCIA): 8%
- No longer Catholic: 8%
- Never Catholic: 0%

8% of respondents converted to Catholicism.

**LANGUAGES SPOKEN AT HOME (n=285)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language</th>
<th>% of Respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>99.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Options</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Other”</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(multiple selections possible)

**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=278)

- **88%** are married or have been married
- **22%** Married
- **10%** Widowed
- **6%** Divorced
- **1%** Single
- **6%** Unmarried, living together

#### CHILDREN UNDER 18 IN HOUSEHOLD? (n=277)

- **90%** No children under 18 in household
- **10%** Have children under 18 in household

#### HOW DO YOUR CHILDREN RECEIVE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION? (n=43)

- **41%** Parish-based (through 8th grade)
- **30%** In home
- **19%** Catholic school
- **11%** Catholic Youth Ministry (Middle or High)
- **1%** Other religious ed. (through 8th grade)
- **1%** Other formal programs
- **0%** None of the above

#### GREATEST CHALLENGES PASSING FAITH TO CHILDREN (n=31)

- **58%** Swimming against the tide in a society that does not value faith
- **12%** Children are not interested enough
- **8%** I do not feel prepared or knowledgeable enough about the faith
- **8%** No good opportunities to bring up faith matters
- **4%** I am not interested enough
- **4%** Other
- **31%** None of the above

#### FAITH ACTIVITIES WITH CHILDREN (n=150)

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**

(multiple selections possible)
Are we equipped to fulfill the great commission to make disciples of all nations?

**WILLINGNESS TO SHARE FAITH (n=273)**

- 70% would proactively share their faith in some way
- 27% welcome the opportunity
- 24% be happy to share, but not debate
- 20% be willing to share, but only if asked
- 18% do not share, do not know enough about faith
- 17% do not share, faith is private
- 10% avoid the conversation
- 5% none of the above

**HOW WOULD SOMEONE KNOW YOU ARE A CHRISTIAN? (n=795)**

- Be kind, charitable, respectful, and forgiving to all: 79%
- Mention attending church in conversation: 71%
- Serve those in need: 46%
- Talk about God in my life: 45%
- Discuss words of Pope Francis or from Church: 34%
- Share faith through social media: 17%
- Other: 2%
- None of the above: 0%

**WITH WHOM DO YOU TALK ABOUT FAITH? (n=668)**

- Adult family members: 79%
- Friends: 69%
- My children: 53%
- Co-workers, neighbors: 36%
- Strangers: 11%
- No one: 3%

**GREATEST OBSTACLES TO SHARING FAITH? (n=409)**

- Don't want to push beliefs: 38%
- Not encouraged by society: 31%
- Others not interested: 29%
- No good opportunities: 32%
- Not knowledgeable enough: 23%
- Afraid to offend, made fun of: 10%
- Other: 4%
- Not interested: 5%

**WHAT IS EVANGELIZATION? (n=529)**

- Bearing witness through way I live my life: 66%
- Talking about God and Jesus: 54%
- Sharing faith story: 52%
- Trying to convert others: 26%
- Something preachers do on TV, street corners: 13%
- Other: 0%
Do we personally have the qualities of mind, heart, and spirit to take up this task?

### Relationship with Jesus (n=250) and Spiritual Growth (n=243) Q21, Q22

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frequency of Catholic Activities</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Relationship AND Practicing</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relationship OR Practicing</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neither</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Growing steadily: 79%
- Growing slowly: 19%
- Neither: 2%
- Declining: 2%

### Faith Activities (n=800) 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**
  - Daily: 91%
  - Weekly: 6%
  - Few times a month: 3%
  - Few times a year: 6%

- **Devotions**
  - Daily: 23%
  - Weekly: 15%
  - Few times a month: 12%
  - Few times a year: 49%

- **Eucharistic Adoration**
  - Daily: 23%
  - Weekly: 7%
  - Few times a month: 12%
  - Few times a year: 59%

### Reasons for not attending Mass at Main Parish (n=616) 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)
**Western Region**

**Allegany & Garrett Counties**

### Parish-Life Demographics

#### REFLECTION AND NOTES

**SELF-IDENTIFICATION (n=374)**

- Parishioner: 94%
- Regular attendee: 6%
- Visitor: 19%
- Ministry Volunteer: 73%
- Parish Leadership: 11%
- Deacon: 11%
- Parish Staff Member: 8%

(multiple selections possible)

**REGISTERED? (n=281) and FOR HOW LONG? (n=279)**

- Registered: 96%
- Not Registered: 4%

- Duration:
  - 0-3 Years: 70%
  - 4-9 Years: 11%
  - 10-19 Years: 11%
  - 20+ Years: 8%

**TRAVEL TIME TO PARISH (n=278) and ATTENDANCE (n=277)**

- Travel less than 20 minutes: 86%
- Travel 20-30 minutes: 14%

- Attendance:
  - Once a week or more: 94%
  - 2-3 times a month: 9%
  - Daily: 5%
  - Once a month: 5%
  - Several times a year: 5%
  - Seldom or Never: 4%

### REFLECTION AND NOTES

**ARE OUR PARISHES READY TO RESPOND TO THE CHALLENGES OF THE MISSION IN OUR TIMES? (Part I)**

#### ARE Vocations PROMOTED? (n=247)**

- No: 13%
- Don’t Know: 31%
- Yes: 56%

#### MULTI-CULTURAL PARISH? (n=231) and if so, INTEGRATED? (n=38)**

- No: 66%
- At least “Somewhat”: 23%
- “Somewhat” at least: 10%
- Yes: 53%
- Uncertain: 12%
- Somewhat: 11%
- Yes: 42%
**Western Region**
Allegany & Garrett Counties

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

**PARISH INSPIRING (n=249) & WOULD RECOMMEND? (n=250)**

- Q29, Q30

- **67%** are firmly inspired by their parish
- **30%** are inspired to some degree
- **2%** are not at all inspired

- **92%** would recommend their parish
- **57%** would recommend to some degree
- **6%** would not at all recommend

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

- Q31, Q32, Q33

- **My spiritual needs are being met here** (n=251)
  - **80%** are likely
  - **11%** are undecided
  - **2%** are unlikely

- **I feel like I am a valued member of this parish** (n=252)
  - **71%** are likely
  - **9%** are undecided
  - **2%** are unlikely

- **Encouraged in spiritual growth by someone in the parish** (n=248)
  - **64%** are likely
  - **11%** are undecided
  - **2%** are unlikely

**WHERE COULD THE PARISH GIVE THE MOST SUPPORT? (n=621)**

- Q35

- **57%** - Spiritual guidance and care
- **49%** - Grief and loss
- **48%** - Aging and care for the elderly
- **48%** - Sickness and long-term health issues
- **45%** - Parenting and care for the family
- **45%** - Marital issues
- **45%** - Depression or mental illness
- **45%** - Education needs
- **44%** - Separation/Divorce
- **44%** - LGBT support for individuals and families
- **43%** - Addictions (substance abuse, gambling, pornography)
- **41%** - Unemployment
- **41%** - Lack of housing/food
- **40%** - Access to healthcare
- **40%** - Immigration assistance
- **38%** - Legal assistance
- **38%** - Domestic violence
- **37%** - Care for immigrant families
- **37%** - Prisoner re-entry
- **31%** - Other

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

- Q28

- Importance (Imp.):
  - Christ-centered parish: 61%
  - Engaging homilies: 56%
  - Feeling of warmth and welcome: 52%
  - Holy, reverent worship experience: 38%
  - Service-oriented parish: 37%
  - Joy and excitement in parishioners: 54%
  - Dynamic, lively worship experience: 44%
  - Inspiring adult faith formation: 42%
  - Engaging children’s ministry: 41%
  - Outstanding music: 37%
  - Welcomes immigrant families: 48%
  - Fun social gatherings: 23%
  - Beautiful architecture and grounds: 31%

- Satisfaction (Sat.):
  - Christ-centered parish: 48%
  - Engaging homilies: 43%
  - Feeling of warmth and welcome: 41%
  - Holy, reverent worship experience: 29%
  - Service-oriented parish: 27%
  - Joy and excitement in parishioners: 40%
  - Dynamic, lively worship experience: 27%
  - Inspiring adult faith formation: 27%
  - Engaging children’s ministry: 26%
  - Outstanding music: 25%
  - Welcomes immigrant families: 37%
  - Fun social gatherings: 39%
  - Beautiful architecture and grounds: 31%

- **DIFFERENCE**:
  - Christ-centered parish: 12.6%
  - Engaging homilies: 12.6%
  - Feeling of warmth and welcome: 11.8%
  - Holy, reverent worship experience: 8.8%
  - Service-oriented parish: 10.1%
  - Joy and excitement in parishioners: 14.0%
  - Dynamic, lively worship experience: 17.0%
  - Inspiring adult faith formation: 15.1%
  - Engaging children’s ministry: 15.1%
  - Outstanding music: 12.1%
  - Welcomes immigrant families: 11.0%
  - Fun social gatherings: -15.6%
  - Beautiful architecture and grounds: 0.0%
What decisions need to be made so we can marshal the resources the Lord has given us?

**Reflection and Notes**

**Time and Talent Contributions**

- 21% are seeking to contribute but are not currently contributing
- 53% regularly contribute
- 13% would like to but don't know how
- 12% would like to but are too busy
- 5% don't contribute
- 8% 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
- I consider the time and talent I contribute to be a form of ministry

**Reasons for Financial Contributions**

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**

- 34% Poor
- 51% Fair
- 6% Good
- 4% Excellent

**Rating of Size and Condition of Parish Facilities**

- Worship Space: 93% Just Right, 49% Adequate, 32% Needs Attention
- Fellowship Space: 79% Just Right, 49% Adequate, 32% Needs Attention
- Outdoor Areas: 79% Just Right, 49% Adequate, 32% Needs Attention
- Parking: 68% Just Right, 49% Adequate, 32% Needs Attention
Western Region
Allegany & Garrett Counties

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

**REASONS WHY YOU THINK PEOPLE LEAVE THE CHURCH (n=595) Q19**

- Disagree with Church teachings on specific... 42%
- Not getting enough out of Mass/not being... 40%
- Gradual loss of interest 43%
- Dissatisfied with atmosphere in church 29%
- Clergy sex-abuse issue 22%
- Spiritual needs not being met 26%
- Not feeling welcomed 14%
- No longer believe 10%
- Other 10%

(multiple selections possible)

**HOW TO HELP RECONNECT PEOPLE WITH THE FAITH? (n=890) Q20**

- Pray for them 88%
- Be open to their questions about the Church and its... 48%
- Let them know they are missed and always welcome 46%
- Share why you remain a committed Catholic 41%
- Listen to their pains and concerns and accompany them in... 38%
- Offer a personal invitation to attend Mass with you 42%
- Invite them to parish social events 27%
- Introduce them to your parish friends and/or pastor 16%
- Other 3%

(multiple selections possible)

**WAYS TO COLLABORATE WITH ANOTHER PARISH? (n=688) Q43**

- 1 - Service and outreach ministries 34%
- 2 - Evangelization 34%
- 3 - Youth ministry 44%
- 4 - Young adult ministry 38%
- 5 - Adult faith formation 38%
- 6 - Religious education 35%
- 7 - Sacramental preparation 25%
- 8 - Parish and/or pastoral staff 30%
- 9 - Music ministry 27%
- 10 - Other 5%
- 11 - Do not know 20%

(multiple selections possible)

Are there ways we can pull together as a Catholic community to proclaim the Gospel more effectively?
Western Region
Allegany & Garrett Counties

Youth Survey

ETHNICITY (n=74) and GENDER (n=74)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
<th>% of Respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>97%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian or Pacific Islander</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native American</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prefer not to answer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Male 51%
Female 49%

(multiple selections possible)

LANGUAGES SPOKEN AT HOME (n=76)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language</th>
<th>% of Respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Options</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Other”</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

HOW DO YOU LEARN ABOUT YOUR FAITH? (n=141)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning Method</th>
<th>Outside of Parish</th>
<th>Within Parish</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In a Catholic school</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In the home</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In a religious education program</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Ministry program</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>None of the above</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WHICH FAITH ACTIVITIES DO YOU PARTICIPATE IN? (n=397)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faith Activity</th>
<th>% Participating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 - Attend Catholic school/religious education classes</td>
<td>88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 - Attend Mass regularly</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 - Talk to God</td>
<td>73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 - Prepare for sacraments</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 - Pray with my family</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 - Participate in service projects</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 - Make decisions based on my faith and religious beliefs</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 - Read the Bible or other religious writings</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 - Attend youth groups</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 - Other</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DIRECTLY TALKING ABOUT FAITH (n=75)

“If you were in a situation where speaking about God, Jesus Christ, or your personal faith seemed appropriate, you would…”

- Not have a problem doing it (96%)
- Do it, but only if I was with friends from church (23%)
- Not do it at all (4%)
**Youth Survey**

**REFLECTION AND NOTES**

**MASS ATTENDANCE** (n=75)  
QY4

- **Once a week or more**: 63%
- **2-3 times a month**: 37%
- **Once a month**: 7%
- **Several times a year**: 8%
- **Seldom or Never**: 3%

**REASONS FOR NOT ATTENDING MASS** (n=161)  
QY14

1. Sports or other activities (61%)
2. If my family doesn’t come (51%)
3. Working or in school (31%)
4. Lack of transportation (31%)
5. Health problems or disability (22%)
6. Don’t feel I need to come to church every week (10%)
7. Church is not that meaningful to me (6%)
8. Don’t feel like I belong (6%)
9. Other (6%)

**HOW DOES YOUR PARISH INSPIRE YOU?**  
QY15, QY16, QY17

- **Does this parish inspire you to follow Jesus?**
  - Absolutely!: 19%
  - Yes: 39%
  - Sort of: 43%
  - No: 39%
  - Not at all: 19%

- **Would you tell your friends to come to this parish?**
  - Absolutely!: 26%
  - Yes: 26%
  - Sort of: 25%
  - No: 39%
  - Not at all: 39%

- **Do you feel welcome and valued in this parish?**
  - Yes: 79%
  - Sort of: 17%
  - Not sure: 92%
  - No: 92%