

**St. Anthony
Parish**



**St. Stephen
The Martyr**

**PARTNERS
IN THE GOSPEL**

What are our Gifts?

Survey Synthesis

“The community felt welcoming and not judging. I felt like I belonged.”
The greatest gifts are the parishioners and priests of St. Stephen and St. Anthony who are complimented for their welcoming and collaborative spirit and fostering a sense of family, charity, community, and being valued.

“I love our priests and appreciate their dedication and love for us.” Many pointed to the inspiring, supportive and accessible clergy and staff as well as the pastoral leadership from Fr. Ed and Fr. Bryan who encourage participation in ministries and provide opportunities for spiritual growth through faith formation and prayer, in particular, Eucharistic Adoration at St. Stephen. “I have found that volunteering for various ministries has been fulfilling. It makes you feel more like a part of something, more than just attending Mass.”

The most common answer for feeling closer to God involved the great number of opportunities for engagement in community outreach programs. “The warm feelings I get from my charitable works ... gives me a strong feeling of belonging that I did not have prior to getting involved.”

Cultural, ethnic and generational diversity was mentioned at both parishes but was a particular point of pride at St. Anthony as was the opportunities for education - especially the St. Anthony school. Over all, parishioners take joy in their priests and parish staff, the variety of ministries, outreach programs and rich liturgical life. Together, St. Anthony and St. Stephen are seen as a loving, loyal, and prayerful family that embraces its Catholic identity openly and fosters a supportive and loving environment for all.

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Parish Survey Highlights

Welcoming Community

- Parishioners feel accepted, valued, and at home.
- Strong sense of family and belonging.

Spiritual Growth

- Mass, Confession, and Adoration deepen faith.
- Faith formation programs support renewal.

Inspiring Clergy

- Priests praised for homilies and pastoral care.
- Leadership encourages ministry participation.

Service & Outreach

- Ministries like St. Vincent de Paul and PREPARES provide fulfillment.
- Charitable works foster connection to God.

Diversity

- Ethnic and cultural richness celebrated.
- Multilingual Masses and inclusive events.

Youth & Education

- St. Anthony School and youth programs nurture faith.
- Commitment to next generation of Catholics.

Spiritual Impact

- Personal transformation and renewed love for God.
- Ministry involvement strengthens faith.

Points of Pride

- 24/7 Adoration at St. Stephen.
- Vibrant worship, beautiful grounds, and active ministries.