



Catholic Leadership Institute
Disciple-Maker Index DMI Reporting Center for
The Basilica of Sts. Peter and Paul, Chattanooga (2025)



These reports have been generated to help you interpret your DMI results and better plan for the future of your parish.

Analytics

771 total surveys completed

39% of 2,000 (average Sunday mass going parishioners)

759 online surveys completed

98% of total surveys completed

12 paper surveys completed

2% of total surveys completed

Custom and Context

Demographics

Lists the demographic data about parishioners who have taken the DMI

Strengths & Opportunities

Questions for which your parish had the strongest positive and negative results based on strongly agree or high frequency

Key Leader Perspective

Additional insights from parishioners who report being heavily involved in the life of the parish.

Beliefs, Effectiveness, and Drivers for Big Outcomes

Key Drivers

Questions that are statistically significant with respect to a parishioner's likelihood to recommend the parish, say the parish is helping them grow spiritually, and frequency with which they are sharing their faith

Belief in Core Catholic Teaching

Questions related to parishioners' degree of belief in core teachings of the faith

Effectiveness of Parish Support

Questions related to how well the parish supports parishioners personally and spiritually

Four Factors of a Thriving Parish

Leadership Indicators

Questions most directly related to parish leadership

Sunday Experience

Questions directly related to the Sunday experience

Spiritual Practices

Questions related to the faith practices of your people

Missionary Impulse

Questions related to the missionary discipleship practices of your people

Demographics

Lists the demographic data about parishioners who have taken the DMI

2025 ▾

Surveys received: 771

Membership Duration

☐ Show table



Legend

- 20+
- 11 - 20
- 6 - 10
- 3 - 5
- 1 - 2
- <1

Ethnicity/Race

☐ Show table



Legend

- Black or African-American
- Asian-American
- Caucasian
- Hispanic/Latino
- Native American
- Other

Marital status

☐ Show table

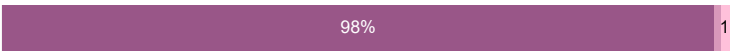


Legend

- Single
- Married
- Divorced
- Widowed

Spiritual identity

☐ Show table



Legend

- I am Catholic
- I was Catholic once, but no longer consider myself Catholic
- I am not Catholic

Sex

☐ Show table



Legend

- Male
- Female

Age

☐ Show table



Legend

- Under 18
- 18 - 25
- 26 - 35
- 36 - 45
- 46 - 55
- 56 - 65
- 66 - 75
- Over 75

Household contributions

☐ Show table



Legend

- \$0 - \$99
- \$100 - \$499
- \$500 - \$999
- \$1,000 - \$2,499
- \$2,500 - \$4,999
- \$5,000 - \$9,999
- \$10,000 - \$24,999
- Greater than \$25,000
- I prefer not to respond

Household income

☐ Show table



Legend

- 0 - \$24,999
- \$25,000 - \$49,999
- \$50,000 - \$99,999
- \$100,000 - \$149,999
- \$150,000 - \$199,999
- \$200,000 - \$249,999
- Greater than \$250,000
- I prefer not to respond

Approach to financial giving

☐ Show table



Legend

- I do not support the parish financially at this time
- I usually give when the collection basket comes around or in response to specific appeals
- I determine a total dollar amount to give to my parish each year
- I give a percentage of my income to my parish

Primary place of worship

☐ Show table



Legend

- Yes
- Yes, but only for part of the year (seasonally)
- No

School Age Children

☐ Show table



Legend

- Yes
- No

Giving Percentage

☐ Show table

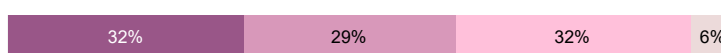


Legend

- None
- < 10%
- 10%
- > 10%

Education Choice

☐ Show table



Legend

- I send all my children to Catholic school
- I send all my children to Public school
- I homeschool my children

I choose separately for each child

Survey Language

☐ Show table



Legend

- English
- Spanish

Strengths & Opportunities

Questions for which your parish had the strongest positive and negative results based on strongly agree or high frequency

2025 ▼

(Optional) Filter the responses to this question by a particular demographic by selecting a question and associated response below

Select a question ▼

Select a response ▼

☐ Hide data with low responses

Strengths

Top 3 by Highest Percentage Strongly Agree

Belief: Scripture is word of God

☐ Show table


Belief: Eucharist is body/blood of Christ

☐ Show table


Belief: Church critical in relationship with God

☐ Show table


Legend

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neither Agree nor Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree
- I Do Not Know

Top 3 by Highest Percentage Monthly or More Often

Frequency: Mass attendance

☐ Show table


Frequency: Individual prayer time

☐ Show table


Frequency: Catholic devotions

☐ Show table


Legend

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Quarterly
- Once or Twice a Year
- Never
- ☐ Group Daily, Weekly & Monthly

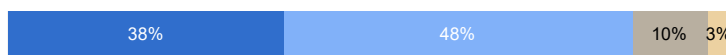
Opportunities

Top 3 by Lowest Percentage Strongly Agree

Conversations:

Confidence in teachings

☐ Show table



Legend

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neither Agree nor Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

Growth via: Forming as a Disciple

☐ Show table



Community: Information availability

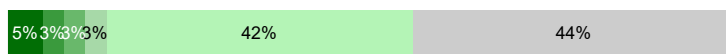
☐ Show table



Top 3 by Lowest Percentage Monthly or More Often

Frequency: Retreat

☐ Show table



Legend

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Quarterly
- Once or Twice a Year
- Never
- ☐ Group Daily, Weekly & Monthly

Frequency: Invited man to priesthood

☐ Show table



Frequency: Invited another to religious life

☐ Show table



Key Leader Perspective

Additional insights from parishioners who report being heavily involved in the life of the parish.

By default, the report shows the responses of these parishioners. To see the responses of all parishioners who responded, regardless of their involvement with the parish, check the “show all respondent answers” checkbox.

2025 ▼

☐ Show all respondent answers

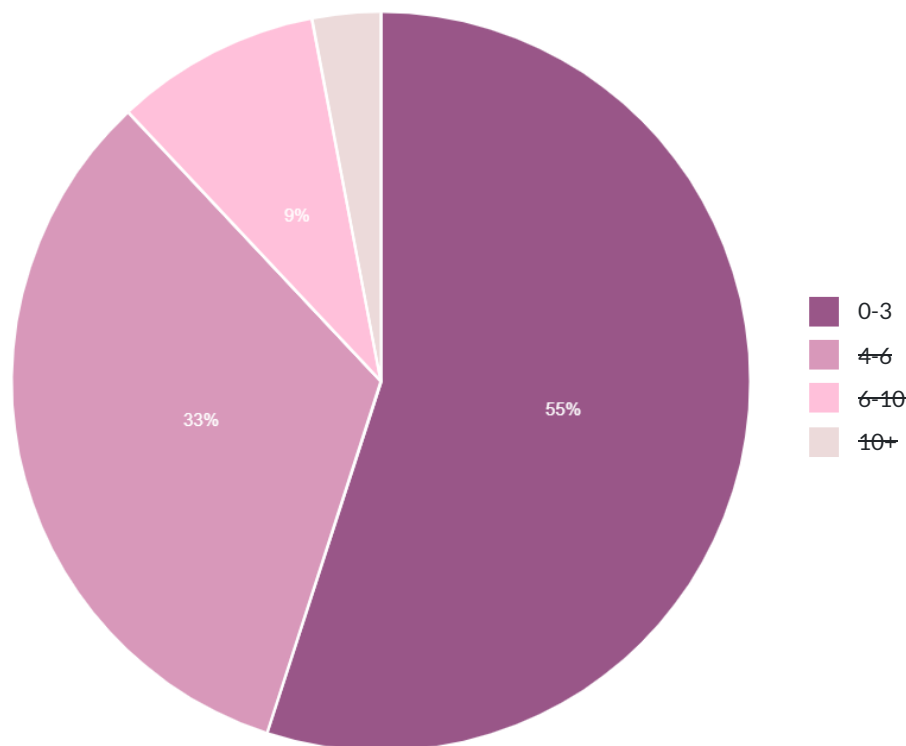
(Optional) Filter the responses to this question by a particular demographic by selecting a question and associated response below

Select a question ▼

Select a response ▼

About You

1. In the last year, how many different parish-based ministries or parish-based organizations have you participated in?



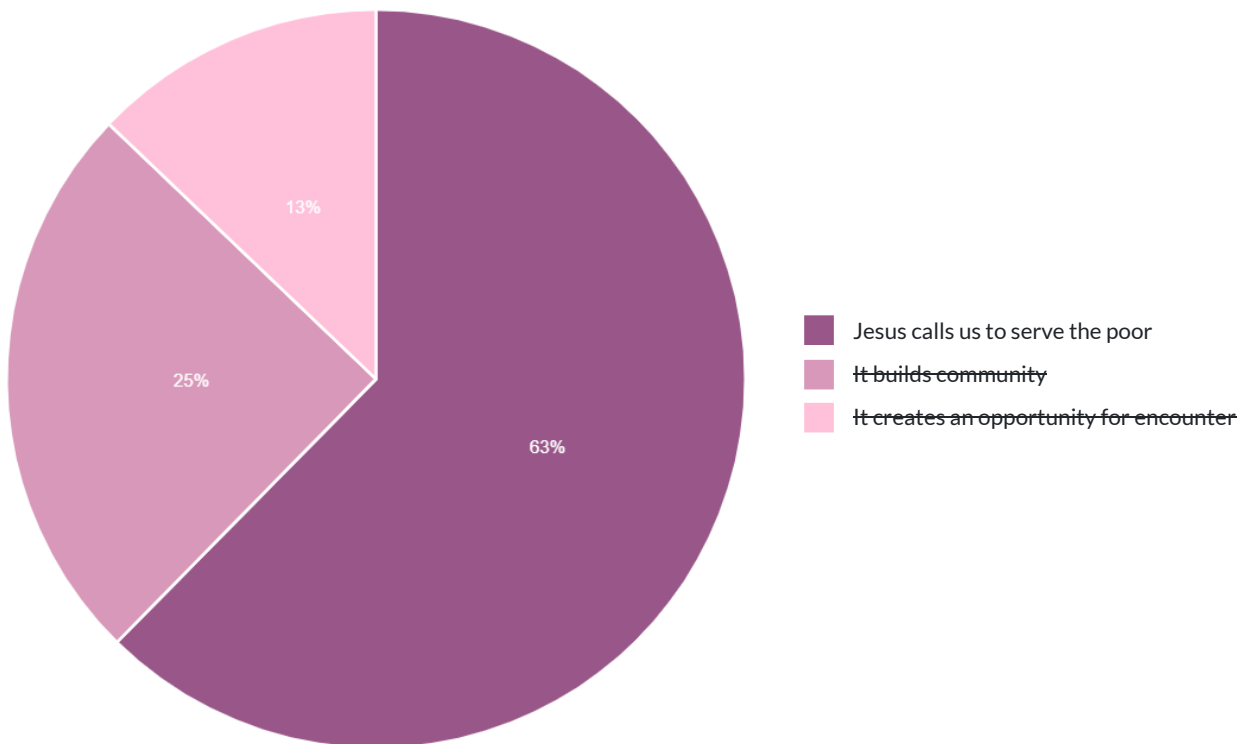
2. Of all the below factors that might keep someone connected in the life of a parish, **check 3** that are most influential in your **current experience** with the parish:

29 Celebration of the Eucharist

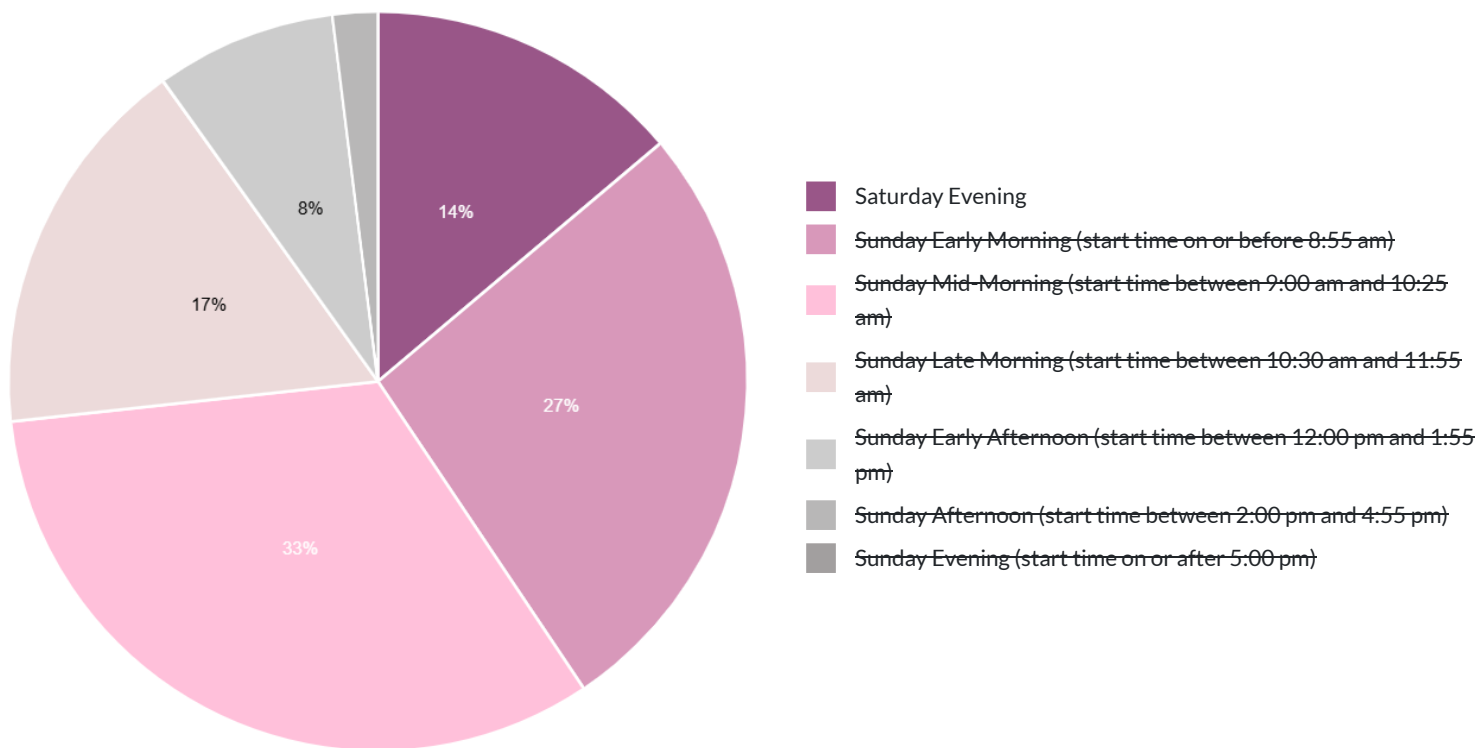
24 Relationship with other parishioners

- 23 Regular access to Eucharistic Adoration and Confession
- 17 Relationship with the pastor(s)
- 17 Parish-hosted or sponsored retreats
- 14 Parish-hosted social events
- 12 Parish-supported faith sharing opportunities (e.g. small groups, bible study)
- 10 Parish-organized service and outreach to the community
- 10 Prayer and Worship (outside of Mass)
- 9 Parish care and support for life events (e.g. death/illness, weddings, family issue)
- 7 Hospitality and Welcome
- 4 Intentional Invitation (e.g. by pastor or parish staff, ministry sign-up weekends)

3. What is the most important reason to encourage community service in my parish?



4. What is the Mass time you most frequently attend at your parish on the weekend?



About Leadership

5. If you could only select 5, which of the following expectations of a pastor for **your community** would be **most** important: (check 5)

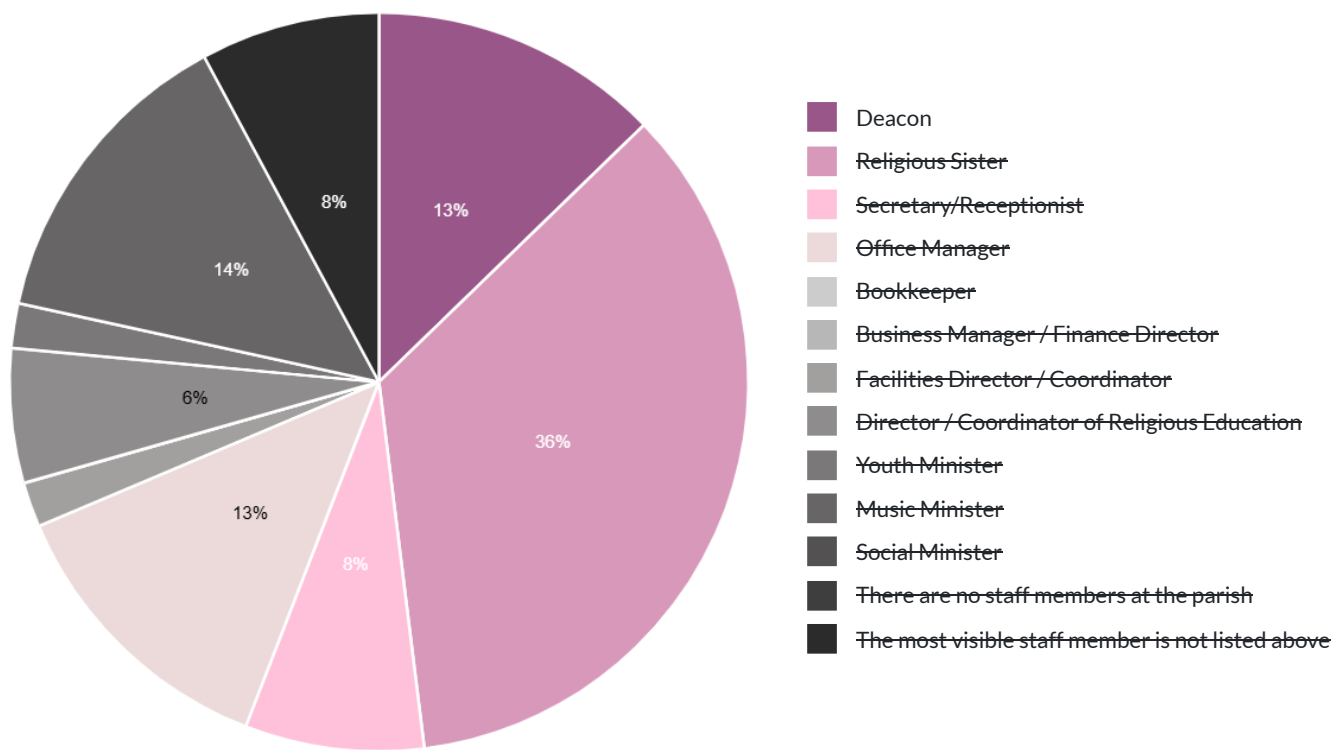
- 47 Teaching the faith
- 38 Providing spiritual direction/counsel
- 38 Celebrating the sacraments
- 30 Forming your people
- 28 Providing pastoral care
- 25 Preaching homilies
- 24 Modeling personal prayer life
- 15 Empowering service and outreach to the poor
- 12 Setting Vision and Direction
- 11 Managing Catholic Schools
- 6 Overseeing care for the facilities
- 5 Promoting Stewardship
- 5 Raising money
- 5 Managing staff and volunteers
- 4 Managing finances

6. Select the **two** most important things you would want to take away from a homily at your parish.

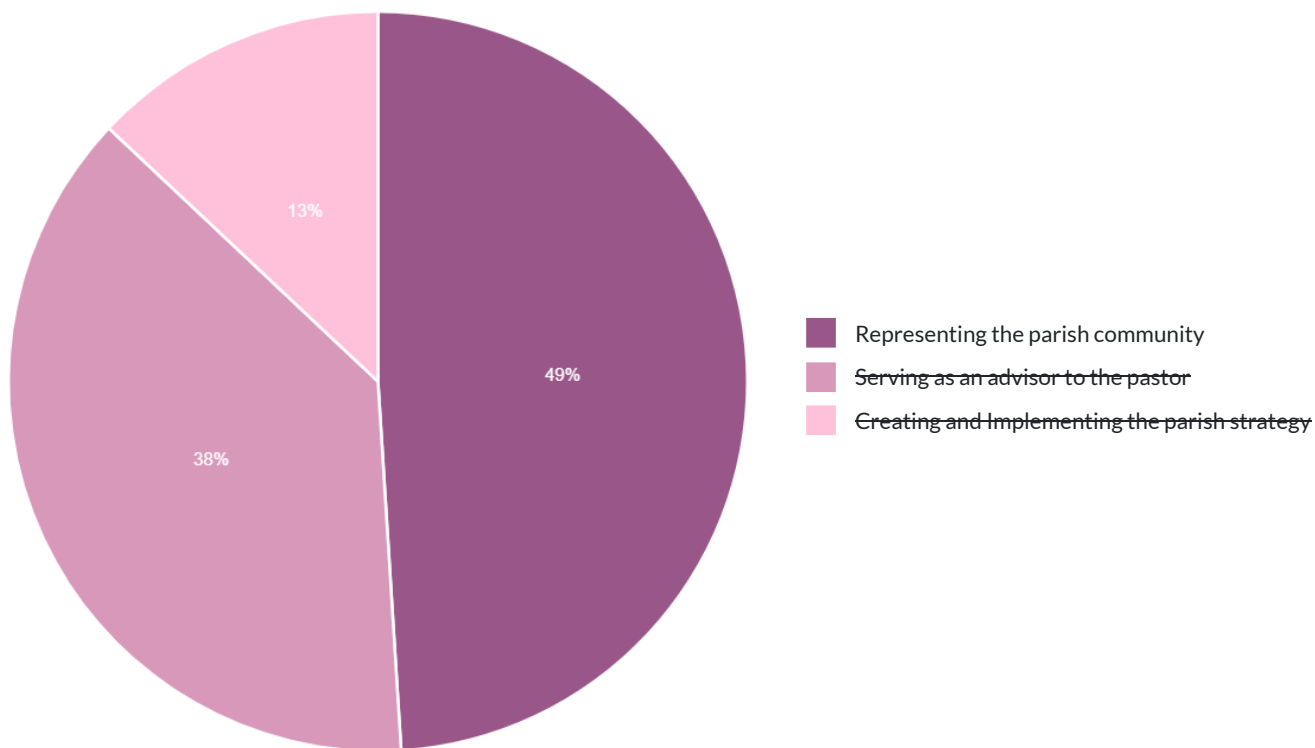
- 23 Truth

- 23 Desire to Grow Spiritually
- 18 Joy
- 15 Love for Scripture
- 14 Hope
- 13 Knowledge
- 7 Call to Action
- 5 Relevance

7. Besides the pastor and any other priests in the parish, who is the most visible staff member at the parish?



8. The most important role of the Pastoral Council is:



9. A bishop wears many hats. Select the **two** most important hats that he wears.

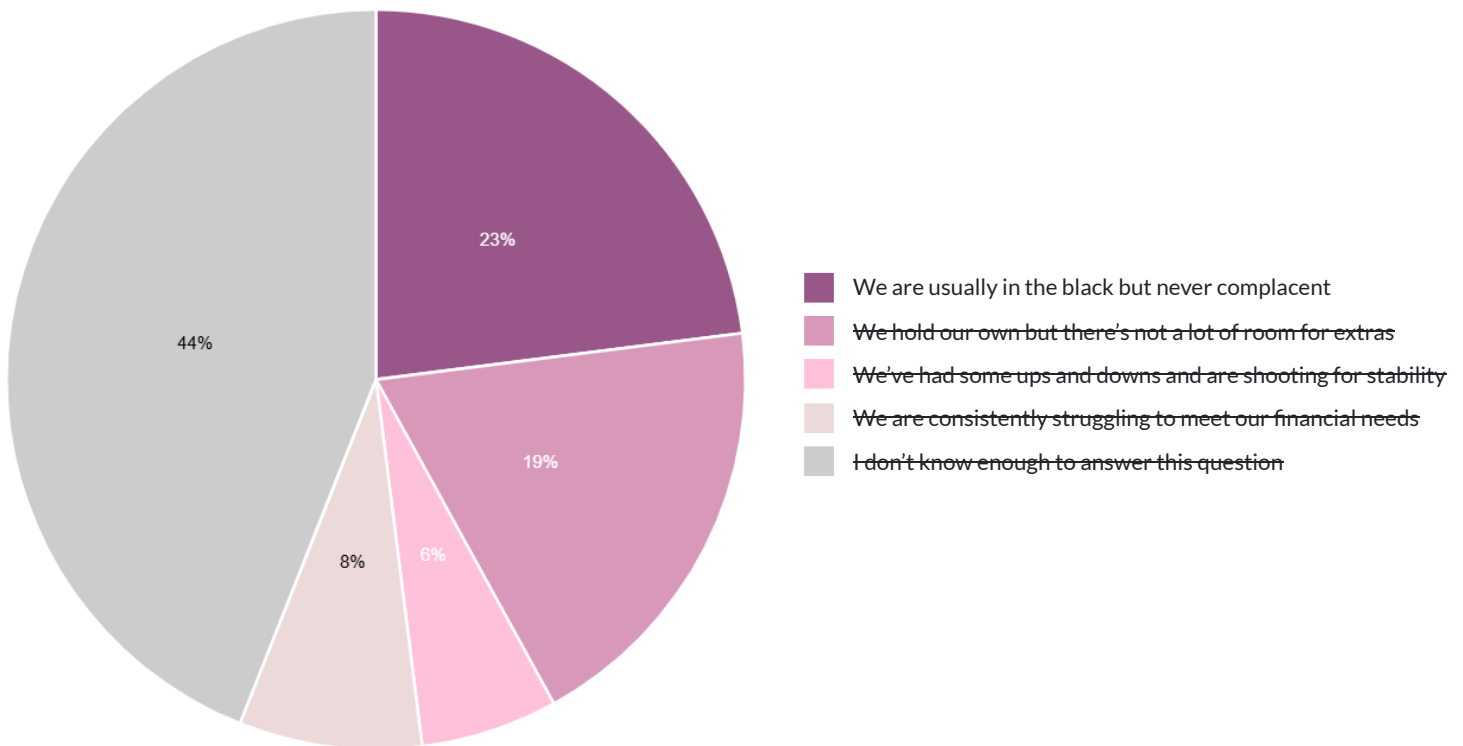
- 35 Spiritual shepherd to the faithful
- 34 Spiritual father to priests
- 26 Guardian of the faith
- 20 The Chief Executive of the Diocese
- 5 Voice of social conscience

About the Parish

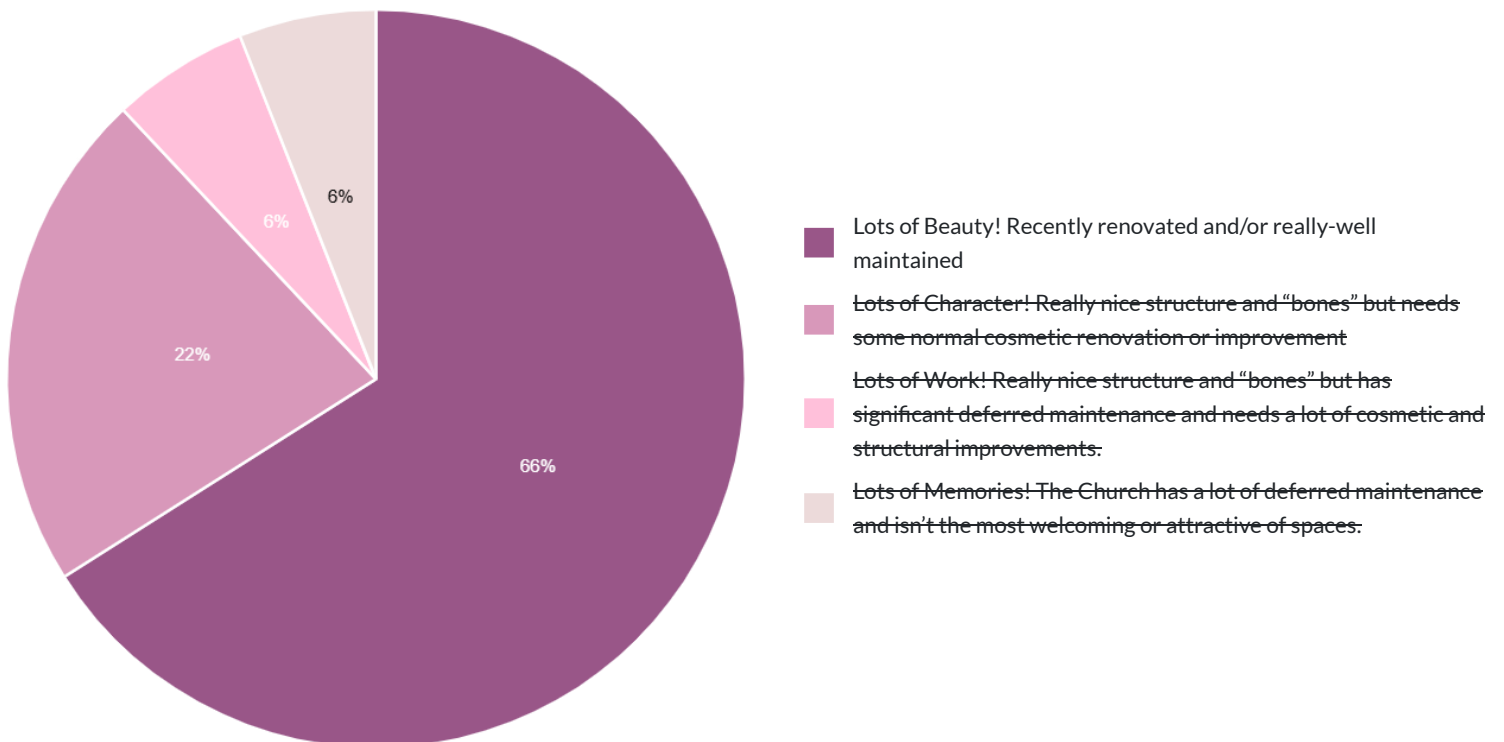
10. All parishes have opportunities for growth. If you could **only select 3 of the following things** that the parish needs more of, which would they be.

- 33 More volunteers participating in ministries
- 31 More catechesis on Church teaching
- 28 More young people involved
- 16 More traditional forms of worship
- 15 More money for parish needs
- 13 More lay involvement in decision making and leadership
- 10 More clarity on parish vision, direction, and goals
- 10 More inclusive spirit and welcome
- 5 More paid professional staff
- 5 More savvy communication strategies
- 3 More transparency (e.g. finances and decisions)

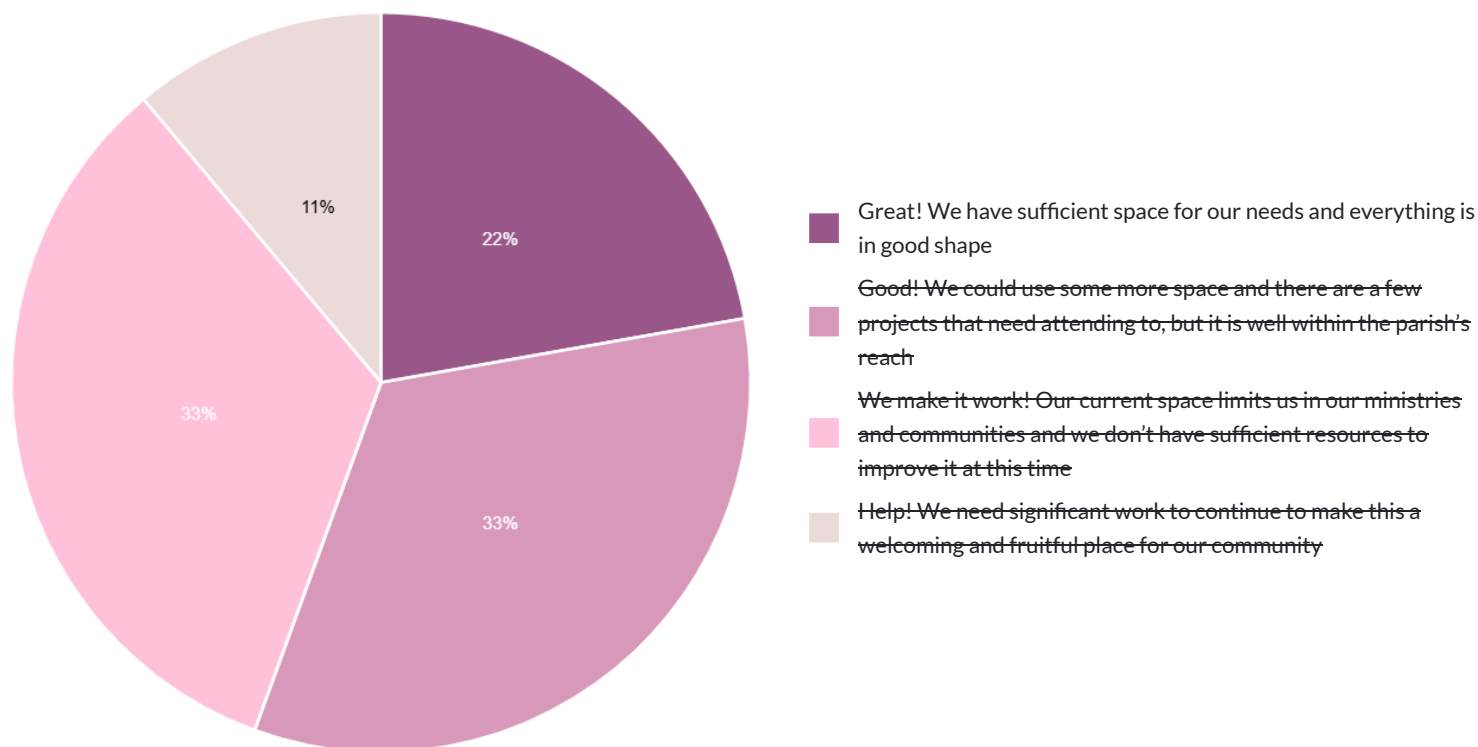
11. Which would best describe your assessment of the financial health of the parish?



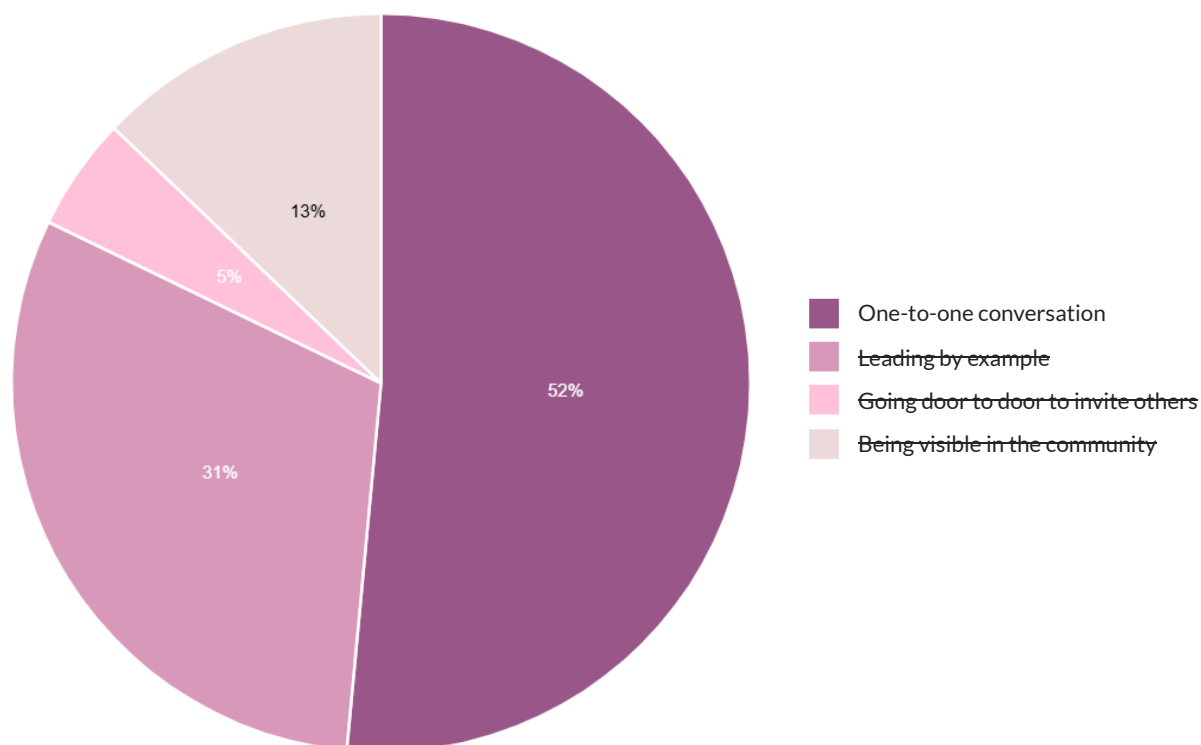
12. Which would best describe your assessment of the physical shape of your Church building?



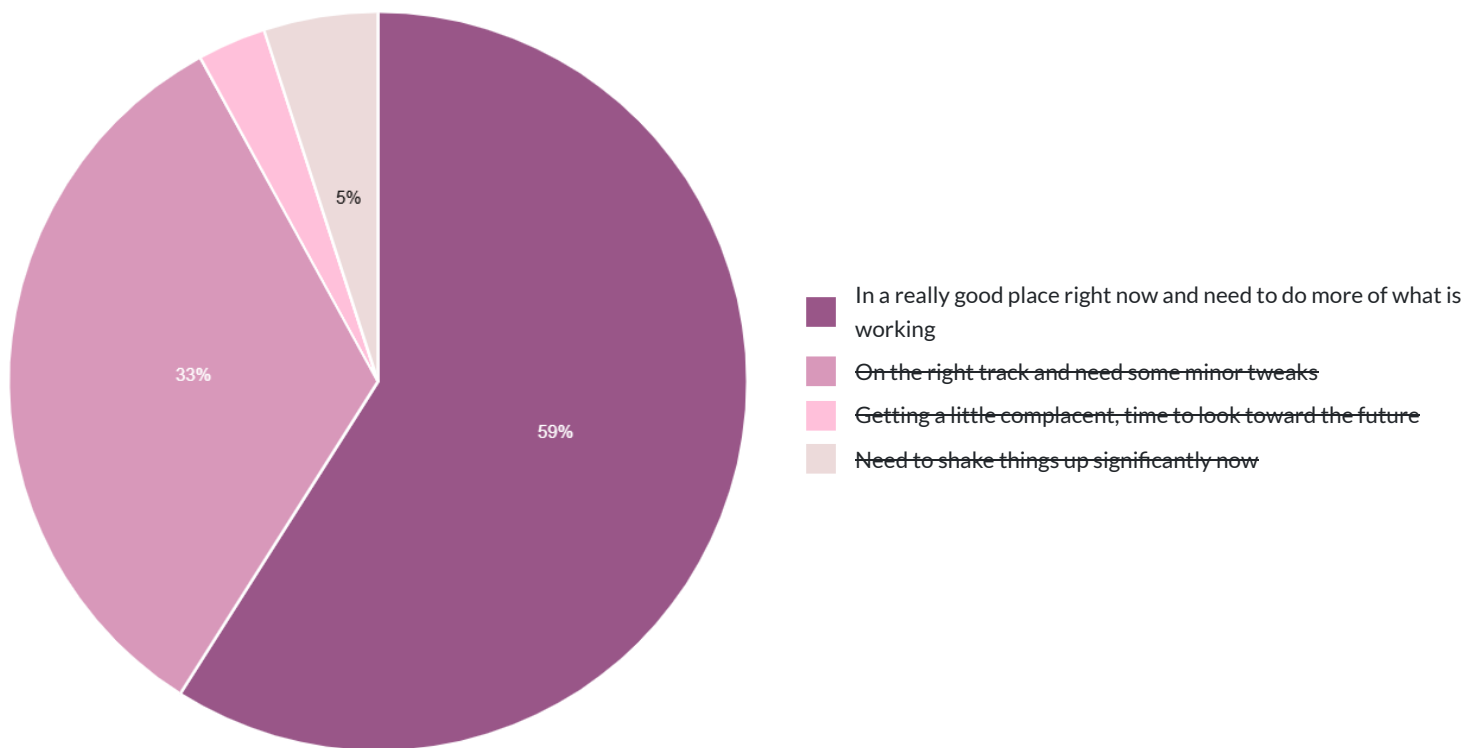
13. Which would best describe your assessment of the physical shape of the other buildings and property outside the Church building (e.g. rectory, parking lot, parish center, etc)?



14. What is your most preferred method of bringing others closer to Christ?



15. To what degree do you think your parish needs to change in order to best fulfill its mission in the next 5 years.



16. Rank **the community values** that would best describe the culture of your parish community. (1 being the highest preference to 9 being the lowest preference)

- 2.1 Access to the sacraments and worship
- 2.7 Prayerfulness
- 4.0 Sharing the Faith with others
- 3.4 Stewardship
- 3.8 Parish Traditions
- 3.9 Family Focused
- 4.1 Diversity and Inclusion
- 5.1 Service and Outreach
- 5.6 Social Justice

Key Drivers

Questions that are statistically significant with respect to a parishioner's likelihood to recommend the parish, say the parish is helping them grow spiritually, and frequency with which they are sharing their faith

×
2025

(Optional) Filter the responses to this question by a particular demographic by selecting a question and associated response below

Select a question

Select a response

What drives a parishioner to recommend their parish to a friend and to indicate the parish is helping them grow spiritually?

Recommend Pastor

☐ Show table



Legend

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neither Agree nor Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

Community: Welcoming

☐ Show table



Growth via: Preaching

☐ Show table



Growth via: Mass

☐ Show table



Conversations: God's work in my life

☐ Show table



Growth via: Forming as a Disciple

☐ Show table



Community: Information availability

☐ Show table



What drives a parishioner to share a personal witness story?

Belief: Scripture is word of God

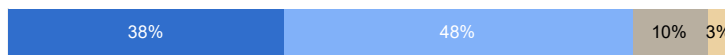
☐ Show table



Legend

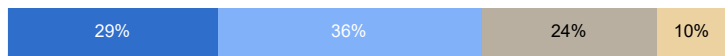
- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neither Agree nor Disagree

Conversations:
Confidence in teachings
☐ Show table

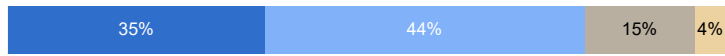


■ Disagree
■ Strongly Disagree
■ I Do Not Know

Conversations: Sharing
personal story
☐ Show table



Conversations: Sharing
story of Jesus
☐ Show table



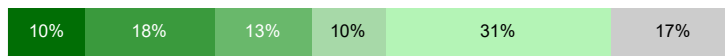
Frequency: Invited
someone to Mass
☐ Show table



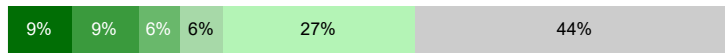
Legend

■ Daily
■ Weekly
■ Monthly
■ Quarterly
■ Once or Twice a Year
■ Never
☐ Group Daily, Weekly & Monthly

Frequency: Invited
someone to parish
activity
☐ Show table



Frequency: Pastoral
counseling/spiritual
direction
☐ Show table



Belief in Core Catholic Teaching

Questions related to parishioners' degree of belief in core teachings of the faith

× 2025 ▼

(Optional) Filter the responses to this question by a particular demographic by selecting a question and associated response below

Select a question ▼

Select a response ▼

Belief: Jesus died and rose again

☐ Show table



Legend

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neither Agree nor Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree
- I Do Not Know

Belief: Eucharist is body/blood of Christ

☐ Show table



Belief: Scripture is word of God

☐ Show table



Belief: Authority of the Church

☐ Show table



Belief: Church critical in relationship with God

☐ Show table



Belief: Jesus moral teachings

☐ Show table



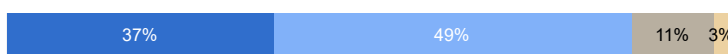
Effectiveness of Parish Support

Questions related to how well the parish supports parishioners personally and spiritually

(Optional) Filter the responses to this question by a particular demographic by selecting a question and associated response below

Conversations: Care for
community

☐ Show table



Legend

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neither Agree nor Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

Connecting me with Catholic Community

Community:
Opportunities to serve

☐ Show table

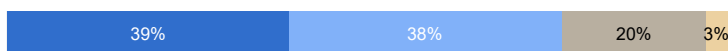


Legend

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neither Agree nor Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

Community: Follow up
on involvement

☐ Show table



Community: Support in
time of need

☐ Show table



Community: Information
availability

☐ Show table



Community: Online
Communication

☐ Show table



Fostering my Spiritual Growth

Parish helps spiritual
growth

☐ Show table

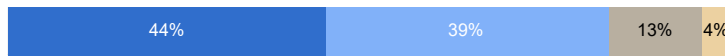


Legend

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neither Agree nor Disagree
- Disagree

Growth via: Prayer life

☐ Show table



Strongly Disagree

Growth via: Mass

☐ Show table



Growth via: Music deepens participation

☐ Show table



Growth via: Small-group

☐ Show table



Growth via: Preaching

☐ Show table



Growth via: Retreats/workshops

☐ Show table



Growth via: Teaching to read Bible

☐ Show table



Growth via: Sacramental prep

☐ Show table



Growth via: Forming as a Disciple

☐ Show table



Equipping me to talk about Faith

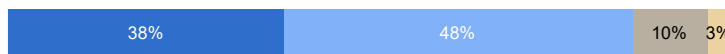
Conversations: Providing events

☐ Show table



Conversations: Confidence in teachings

☐ Show table



Legend

Strongly Agree
 Agree
 Neither Agree nor Disagree
 Disagree
 Strongly Disagree

Supporting and Educating children in the Catholic Faith

Support for child discipleship

☐ Show table



Legend

Strongly Agree
 Agree
 Neither Agree nor Disagree
 Disagree

Recommend parish
school

☐ Show table



Strongly Disagree

Recommend parish
religious education

☐ Show table



Leadership Indicators

Questions most directly related to parish leadership

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2025
▾

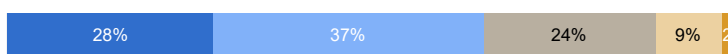
(Optional) Filter the responses to this question by a particular demographic by selecting a question and associated response below

Select a question
▾

Select a response
▾

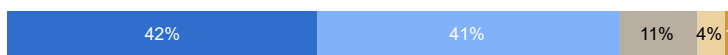
Community: Involved in decisions

☐ Show table



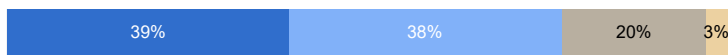
Community: Financial transparency

☐ Show table



Community: Follow up on involvement

☐ Show table



Community: Opportunities to serve

☐ Show table



Recommend Pastor

☐ Show table



Recommend Parish

☐ Show table



Recommend Parish Staff

☐ Show table



Recommend Other Priests

☐ Show table



Legend

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neither Agree nor Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

Sunday Experience

Questions directly related to the Sunday experience

×

2025 ▾

(Optional) Filter the responses to this question by a particular demographic by selecting a question and associated response below

Select a question ▾

Select a response ▾

Community: Welcoming

☐ Show table



Growth via: Mass

☐ Show table



Growth via: Music
deepens participation

☐ Show table



Growth via: Preaching

☐ Show table



Legend

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neither Agree nor Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

Spiritual Practices

Questions related to the faith practices of your people

× 2025 ▾

(Optional) Filter the responses to this question by a particular demographic by selecting a question and associated response below

Select a question ▾

Select a response ▾

Pace of spiritual growth

☐ Show table



Legend

- In a period of rapid spiritual growth
- Growing at a steady, continued pace
- Growing in my faith, but would like to grow more than I am
- Content staying right where I am spiritually
- Stalled in my spiritual growth
- In a period of spiritual decline

Catholic Journey

☐ Show table

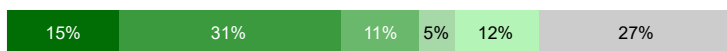


Legend

- My relationship with Jesus Christ is the most important relationship in my life
- I have personally encountered Jesus Christ and am growing as a disciple
- I practice my Catholic faith, but do not know Jesus personally like a friend
- I consider myself Catholic, though faith is not a significant part of my life

Frequency: Bible study/prayer group

☐ Show table



Legend

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Quarterly
- Once or Twice a Year
- Never
- ☐ Group Daily, Weekly & Monthly

Frequency: Individual prayer time

☐ Show table



Frequency: Mass attendance

☐ Show table



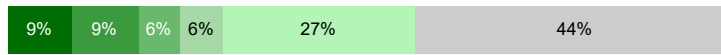
Frequency: Confession

☐ Show table



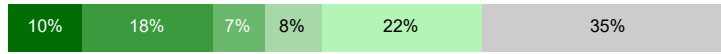
Frequency: Pastoral
counseling/spiritual
direction

☐ Show table



Frequency:
Class/workshop

☐ Show table



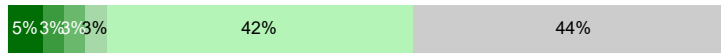
Frequency: Social event

☐ Show table



Frequency: Retreat

☐ Show table



Frequency: Eucharistic
adoration

☐ Show table



Frequency: Catholic
devotions

☐ Show table



Missionary Impulse

Questions related to the missionary discipleship practices of your people

× 2025 ▼

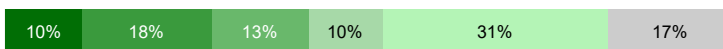
(Optional) Filter the responses to this question by a particular demographic by selecting a question and associated response below

Select a question ▼

Select a response ▼

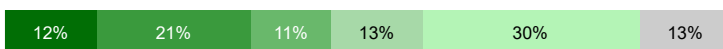
Frequency: Invited
someone to parish
activity

☐ Show table



Frequency: Invited
someone to Mass

☐ Show table



Frequency: Invited man
to priesthood

☐ Show table



Frequency: Invited
another to religious life

☐ Show table



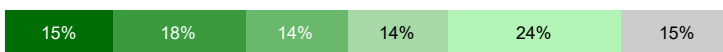
Frequency: Answered
someone's spiritual
question

☐ Show table



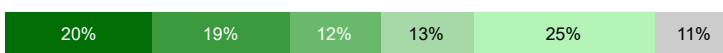
Frequency: Volunteered
to serve someone

☐ Show table



Frequency: Shared story
of Jesus

☐ Show table



Frequency: Shared
personal story

☐ Show table

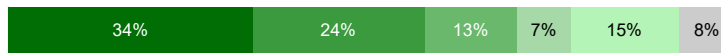


Legend

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Quarterly
- Once or Twice a Year
- Never
- ☐ Group Daily, Weekly & Monthly

Frequency: Prayed with someone

☐ Show table



Frequency: Social event

☐ Show table



Parents responsible for growth of child

☐ Show table



Legend

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neither Agree nor Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree