



THE BEACON - VOL. 11

Hello Fellow SJN Parishioner!

You might remember the first Gallup survey from mid-2023 and the second one from last Fall. During the Sunday Masses, Fr. Dean shared the results of the second survey, highlighting some positive changes, which we'll discuss in this edition of the Beacon and what they reveal about us – the Parish of St. John Neumann.

First, some background – the Gallup survey was designed to measure three areas:

- *Engagement – How involved am I in the life of the parish?*
- *Spiritual Commitment – What are my spiritual attitudes and behaviors?*
- *Outcomes – How are my Engagement and Spiritual Commitment reflected in my life satisfaction and my willingness to invite, serve, and give?*

In the second survey, every measurement of *Engagement* and *Spiritual Commitment* showed improvement. Those who responded to the survey felt a stronger connection to St. John Neumann Parish. A contributing factor appears to be improved communication. Communication across the board – among parishioners, and between parishioners and the parish leadership team... sharing our needs, desires, and expectations – helps us all work toward making St. John Neumann Parish an ever-brighter beacon drawing people home to Christ.

That stronger *Engagement* spills over into *Spiritual Commitment* (attitudes and behaviors). For example, my participation and experience at Mass is richer and more rewarding when **YOU** are there with me. The same is true if we consider our experience at Bible study, Alpha, or anything else

we might be involved in – our experiences are enriched by the participation and contributions of others.

So, today's message is – get involved!



Dive into ***sjnaustin.org***, our beautiful bulletin, our weekly e-newsletter, or our social media accounts (*buttons below this email*) and look for an event, activity, or ministry that piques your interest! If you perceive a need that is not currently addressed, offer a suggestion. We always have room for improvement and growth. Whether we realize it or not, I need you, and you need me.

“As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.” Proverbs 27:17

Thank you all for what you do to enrich our Parish life. God Bless!

From your Beacon team,

*Kevin Dwyer**

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Grace Everett

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*This month's Beacon written by Kevin Dwyer**



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