



## RESULTS - DISCIPLE MAKER INDEX SURVEY

# CALLED FOR MORE

The Next Steps for St. Mary Church in Chelsea, MI

DEAR PARISHIONERS OF ST. MARY CHELSEA,

Our Pastoral Team, the Called for More Committee, and the Parish Council thank you for your participation in the Disciple Maker Index Survey. Once again, you have shown that our parishioners care about St. Mary more than most others about their parishes, as measured by your willingness to take the time to fill out an extensive survey. More than half of St. Mary regular Mass attendees participated in the survey. Guided by the Holy Spirit, we now discern the voice of God speaking through you and the wisdom you shared as the people of St. Mary Chelsea.

The results of the survey have helped us identify opportunities for improvement and encourage us to strategically develop and carry out plans for growth. The process of administering the survey and the subsequent study seeks to give you more awareness about the needs, opportunities and your responsibilities to the people of your parish and outreach to the needs of the local community.

So, what do we do with this information? We believe, similarly to all areas of our faith, that we are called to action. Our goal must be to develop St. Mary Church as a vibrant faith community guided by the Holy Spirit, as we make Christ's love visible to each other through service, worship, celebration, education, prayer and in healing. We pray that God will richly guide our ministry and work as disciples.

## AMONG THE INTERESTING RESULTS

Parishioners have a solid belief in the core teachings of our Catholic Faith, by agreeing or strongly agreeing with these faith issues. We believe this positive strength is comforting.

- 92% of our parishioners believe that the Eucharist is the Body and Blood of Christ.
- 98% of our parishioners believe that Jesus died and rose again.
- 92% of our parishioners believe that the Scriptures are the word of God.
- 90% of our parishioners believe in the moral teachings of Jesus.
- More than half of our parishioners have prayed with someone at least once a month, and more than 85% pray with someone at least once a year.
- 32% of our parishioners have volunteered to serve a member of our community at least once a month
- 78% have volunteered to serve someone at least once a year.

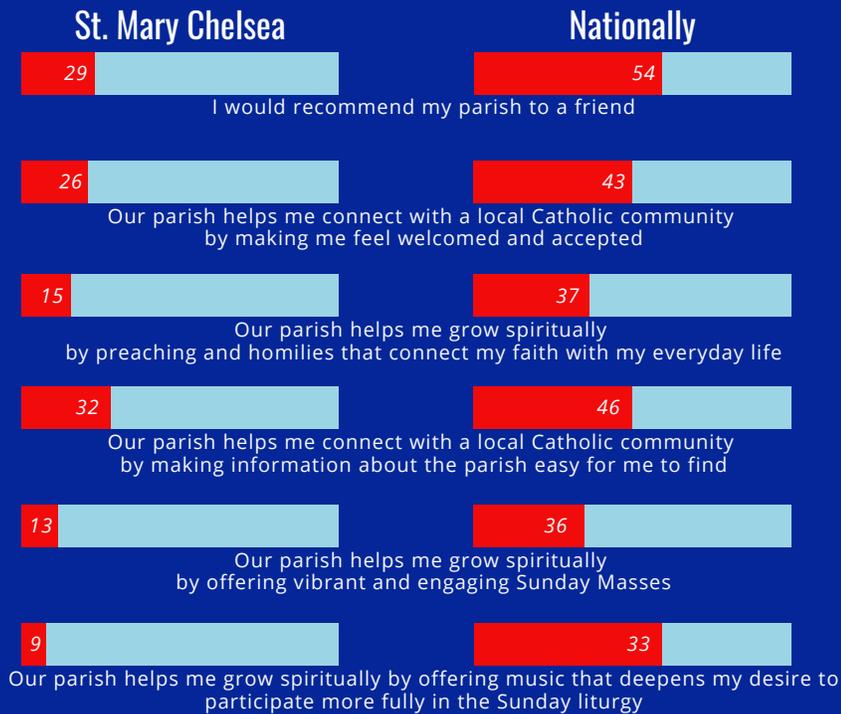


..... SO WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

## AMONG THE INTERESTING RESULTS

Parishioners seek an opportunity for growth by strongly agreeing with these questions. While we do know that there are perspective limits of the survey, we do believe this information is compelling for action.

*percentage of people who answered "strongly agree" for each question*



## How can you engage?

The purpose of taking this survey and the subsequent study was to provide a tool that will equip us to call forth disciple-makers – people who bring others to know Jesus. We want to create a hunger for growing prayer life, community and ministry participation. If we wish to have an increase in the percentage of people in our parish who have a deep, personal relationship with Jesus, we must intentionally provide an environment which is designed to allow people to enter into this relationship. If the survey states that respondents know that Jesus is truly present in the Eucharist, how can we not increase our participation in ministry?

We will stay committed to the three priority areas that greatly affect our parishioners before moving on to other areas. The primary point people will open communication to hear from you in the three priority areas and work with focus groups to further analyze the information and engage teams to respond to the survey results and strategically build ministries in these areas.

## Growth outcome focused

As we journey through 2020, we find ourselves in a unique opportunity for growth and will continue to discern ways to build our dynamic parish community. You reported strongly that you are growing spiritually, and most want to accelerate their rate of growth. We want to turn that voice into an action plan by creating an accessible framework that will target three priorities with 2 - 3 immediate goals under each. We will begin work under each of these goals over the next months and continue to build over the next 18 months before moving into additional target areas. Our parish planning process will move from the wisdom you shared to action.



### Priority Areas

#### Welcoming / Hospitality

Pat Rohrer

#### Music and Liturgy

Steve Hinz

#### Preaching

Rich Barston

Engage, participate and volunteer with us as we take incremental steps that grow our vital faith community.