



ST. MARY MAGDALENE CATHOLIC CHURCH

PARISH SURVEY – Our Response

In October, 2009, in order to take the pulse of the parish, our Stewardship Council undertook a survey of the parish. The survey results have been published (see our website: smmcc.org), but more important is what we are doing to address the findings of the survey.

Listed below are the major categories. The parish information either affirmed the direction we are going, identified areas that we should address, or called us to create action items to improve. The Stewardship Council is spearheading this effort in conjunction with Staff, Pastoral Council, Finance Council and Ministry Leadership. You will find our response in bold.

LITURGY – Parishioners affirmed their satisfaction our prayer experience at Mass. **Commitment has been made through staffing and finances to continue to support this area. A Liturgy Committee has been formed under the direction of Fr. Theo. Survey comments have been given to the Liturgy Committee to be reviewed and implemented as needed.**

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION – There is just one question and it deals with whether or not there are sufficient opportunities to receive the sacrament. **Fr. Theo and Fr. Robert will accommodate individuals as needed and are monitoring the parishioners' needs.**

HOSPITALITY, FEELING WELCOMED – The responses to the 3 questions were quite diverse. **A Hospitality Committee has been formed with a welcoming calling process and invitation and tickets to the Knights' Breakfast. Welcoming socials are in the works and both the Hispanic and Caucasian communities are working together. Greeter Ministry is being ramped up as well as some liturgy recognition of visitors is being considered.**

WOULD PARISHIONERS LIKE MORE SOCIAL EVENTS TO BUILD CHURCH FAMILY – Almost two thirds of responders Agree with having more social events to build Church family. **An active Social Committee is being formed and the first events are being created. More to come!**

ADULT PROGRAMS / STUDIES / COUNSELING – No single question had a 50% or more Agree response in this area. **Many parishioners are seeking educational and spiritual enrichment in new forms. Pastoral and Stewardship Councils are working together on this. SMM is rolling out a *Living Our Strengths Program*, suggestions are being compiled by Pastoral Council of areas of interest and a calendar of enrichment activities is being created.**

STAFFING – Parishioners were uncertain about the staffing needs but give a 64% Agree response that the staff is accessible, responsive and welcoming. **Pastoral and Finance Councils, under Fr. Theo's direction, is examining the long range plans of our parish and looking at staffing in light of our growth and development.**

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAMS, CHILDREN’S LITURGY, TEEN PROGRAMMING –This is the area that our parish has focused resources and talent throughout the years. Our action items are to continue to support and grow these areas as needed. We will integrate a Stewardship component to our educational programs.

PROVIDING CHILDCARE & PROVIDERS BEING ENGAGED –There was a 34% Uncertain response to the first question and 54% Uncertain response to the second question. **Just asking this question has heightened awareness again of the need to constantly utilize quality caregivers at all functions.**

PARTICIPATION IN SPORTS PROGRAMS – This single question asked whether or not the responder’s children participate in the church sports programs. Here we recalculated the responses to adjust for those who did not know because they had no participants. The recalculated response indicated that 30% participate while 57% did not. **At this time, the status is the same. Efforts are being made to recruit adult volunteers to improve this program.**

STEWARDSHIP – Though there was a majority that felt our Stewardship Program was adequate, the newly formed Stewardship Council knows there is work to be done. One of the first efforts after the survey, was a Parish Leader Meeting which occurred in March 2010. Stewardship Council is creating responses to the many needs by spearheading the creation of committees that are overseeing welcoming, communications, social activities, and adult education. Representatives from Finance and Pastoral Councils are engaged at all levels to set and maintain a good direction. In our role as good stewards of our parish resources, our Finance Council has formed an Outreach Tithe Committee to assist in directing and monitoring our charitable giving. Suggestions are welcome. Please place them in the collection basket to the attention of the Outreach Tithe Committee or mail to the parish office.

COMMUNICATIONS / MEDIA –Though the parish had a high degree of satisfaction with our current communication, Parish Leadership recognized that more could be done to effectively communicate. A newly formed Communications Committee is now recruited and is working on our website, our bulletin, our Parish Ministry Booklet and all aspects of how we communicate to each other and the community at large.

SMMCC VISION & PLANNING – There is a Long Range Planning Committee that has started to look at prioritizing the next phase of our growth. This Committee will be presenting to the parish to obtain your input for further study.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS – Finance Council has been actively working with both the staff and volunteers to address and maintain our complex.

CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTRE (CDC) – A preschool evaluation committee was formed in October of 2009 to review the program. Changes will occur as a result of this evaluation. There will be a daily integration of Catholic teachings, smaller class sizes to enhance learning, an academic curriculum that models the local Catholic schools, and a name that reflects our Catholic heritage, St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Preschool.