A Letter from Our Pastor

2016 Parish Survey Results

Dear Parishioners,

As part of St. Augustine’s ongoing commitment to develop stewardship as a way of life, we conducted a comprehensive parish survey earlier this year. The survey gave all our parishioners an opportunity to express their views regarding worship, parish life, religious education, outreach, and stewardship.

Thanks to your response, our survey was a success! The parish office received 351 completed surveys. This is a response rate of 17 percent, which is nearly two times greater than the national average of 10 percent. I thank you for your honesty, as well as the time and commitment you made to complete the survey and help our parish become better and spiritually stronger.

The results of the survey are included in this newsletter, and I hope these results will give you a clearer vision of how the parish as a whole responded to each specific question. We also asked you to respond to a few open-ended questions. Because of space constraints, we could not include each response in this newsletter, but they have been read, reviewed and grouped together based on likeness so that we could determine the top responses for each open-ended question.

As your pastor, I am confident that the information we have gathered through the survey will help guide our parish leadership as we continue to develop stewardship at St. Augustine. In the coming year, I hope we all can work together to meet the needs of our parish community and make parish life more rewarding for us all.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Rev. Rene Ramoso
Pastor
As you complete this survey, please check only one response per question unless otherwise indicated. Also, please print. Thank you.

Liturgy

Which Mass at St. Augustine Catholic Church do you most frequently attend?
- 29% Saturday, 4:30 p.m.
- 15% Sunday, 7:45 a.m.
- 25% Sunday, 9:30 a.m.
- 27% Sunday, 11:00 a.m.
- 16% Sunday, 12:30 p.m.
- 8% Sunday, 5:30 p.m.

How often do you attend Mass at St. Augustine?
- 50% Every weekend
- 34% Every weekend and some weekdays
- 5% Every weekend and every weekday
- 9% Occasional weekends (once or twice a month)
- 1% Seasonally (Christmas, Easter, etc.)
- 1% I no longer attend Mass

I consider myself a member of...
- 98% St. Augustine
- 2% Another church

Please indicate how well the following liturgical ministers enhance your prayer and worship.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Needs</th>
<th>Excellent</th>
<th>Good</th>
<th>Fair</th>
<th>Improvement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hospitality Ministers</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Altar Servers</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Readers</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The music at the Mass I attend enhances my prayer and worship.
- 56% Strongly agree
- 31% Agree
- 10% Neutral
- 2% Disagree
- 0% Strongly Disagree

Do you have any suggestions to help enhance our weekend liturgies? (100 total responses)
- Changes to the Liturgy (23 responses)
- No Suggestions/Happy (21 responses)
- Liturgical Ministers (16 responses)

Adult Faith Formation

Have you attended an Adult Faith Formation program at St. Augustine in the last five years?
- 27% Yes
- 73% No

If you have attended an Adult Faith Formation program at St. Augustine in the last five years, was it a good experience?
- 68% Yes
- 32% No

If you haven’t attended an Adult Faith Formation program at St. Augustine in the last five years, would you consider attending one in the future?
- 58% Yes
- 42% No
If you would like to attend an Adult Faith Formation program, in what areas would you be most likely to participate? (Multiple Responses Possible)

- 36% Church Teachings
- 46% Scriptures/Bible Study
- 30% Ethics and Morality
- 23% Marriage
- 28% Small Faith Sharing Groups
- 58% Practical Ways of Growing in Faith and Prayer
- 42% Retreats
- 8% Other

Religious Education (Grades 1 - 8)

Only those with children currently enrolled in our Religious Education program answered the questions in the shaded area.

How would you rate the quality of instruction that our students receive in our Religious Education program?

- 49% Excellent
- 45% Good
- 6% Adequate
- 1% Fair
- 0% Poor

Do you feel that the instruction provided by our Religious Education program is in-line with the teaching of the Catholic Church?

- 95% Yes
- 2% No
- 1% Somewhat
- 2% Unsure

What do you like most about our Religious Education program? (Multiple Responses Possible)

- 72% Director, staff and catechists
- 54% The families involved
- 82% The children/families learn about their faith
- 36% Meeting times
- 6% Other

How do you think we can improve our Religious Education program? (Multiple Responses Possible)

- 63% Get the parents more involved
- 9% Change the time
- 48% More training and support for the teachers
- 22% Improve the curriculum
- 23% Other
Youth Ministry (Grades 6 - 12)

Do you have children in 6th through 12th grade living in your home?
21% Yes 79% No

If you have children in 6th through 12th grade living in your home, do they regularly attend Youth Group activities/programs at St. Augustine?
15% Regularly
31% Occasionally
54% Never - If so, why? (32 total responses)
- Did Not Specify (6 responses)
- Not Applicable (6 responses)

Only those with children who regularly participate in our Youth Ministry program answered the questions in the shaded area.

How would you rate the quality of the Youth Ministry program at St. Augustine?
38% Excellent
50% Good
5% Adequate
8% Fair
0% Poor

What do you like most about the Youth Ministry program? (Multiple Responses Possible)
48% The commitment and dedication of the staff
43% The variety of activities offered
80% It involves the youth more in parish life
53% The Christian atmosphere in which they socialize
13% Other

How do you think we can most improve the Youth Ministry program? (Multiple Responses Possible)
63% Involve the youth in the parish more
57% Inform the parishioners more about the program
63% Get more youth involved
37% Offer more activities
29% Improve the current activities
38% Increase the service opportunities
24% Other

Parish Life

What is your perception of your role as a member of St. Augustine? (Multiple Responses Possible)
94% To attend Mass
48% Participate/volunteer in ministries and social activities
81% Support the parish financially
59% Share my faith with others
5% Other

In your experience, how responsive is the PARISH OFFICE STAFF to your needs and requests?
54% Very responsive
23% Somewhat responsive
20% Neutral
2% Unresponsive
1% Very unresponsive
What methods of communication would work best for you and your family to receive parish information? 
(Multiple Responses Possible)

76% Bulletin
11% Facebook
34% Email
76% Announcements at Mass
32% Website
3% Twitter
46% Newsletter

What information are you interested in learning more about at our parish? (Multiple Responses Possible)

54% Parish groups and activities
62% Comments from our pastor
33% Highlights on parishioners
42% Information on the finances of the parish
36% Archdiocesan-wide news
53% Information of general Catholic interest
49% Explanations of specific Catholic teachings
3% Other

Do you use our parish’s website?
46% Yes
54% No

Why or why not? (169 total responses)
- To Obtain Information (39 responses)
- No Computer/Internet (24 responses)

Stewardship

What is your perception of Stewardship (Time, Talent, and Treasure) when it is discussed?

64% Accept it as a core Gospel value and carry it out in my life
11% Don’t really understand what it means
28% Think it’s important, but find it hard to implement
3% Feel it’s not applicable in my life
9% Feel that it’s just another way to discuss fundraising

Stewardship of Time

How often does your family share a meal?
64% Daily
21% Several days a week
8% Once a week
7% Less than once a week

Outreach

Do you feel that St. Augustine does a good job reaching out to the following groups:

Yes  No  Unsure
---  ---  ----
Active Parishioners  88%  3%  9%
Inactive Parishioners  22%  18%  60%
New Parishioners  44%  8%  48%
Shut-in Parishioners  18%  8%  75%
Non-Catholic Spouses  16%  10%  74%
The Local Community  47%  6%  47%
The Poor  55%  5%  40%
Other Christian Churches  27%  8%  65%
Other Religions  20%  10%  70%
Do you say grace before meals?
66% Yes 34% No

If you have children at home, do you pray with them on a daily basis (in addition to grace before meals)?
43% Yes 57% No

If you are married, do you pray with your spouse on a daily basis (in addition to grace before meals)?
37% Yes 63% No

In addition to Sunday Mass and grace before meals, how often do you set aside time for personal prayer?
85% Daily
8% Weekly
3% Monthly
2% Every few months
0% Yearly
2% Never

If you have children, do you discuss vocations (Religious Life, Single Life, Married Life) within your family?
66% Yes 34% No

**Stewardship of Talent**
In how many parish ministries, committees, programs or events are you actively involved?
56% 0 21% 1
8% 2 7% 3
7% 4 or more

Beyond participating in weekly Masses, how do you rate your involvement in St. Augustine?
14% Very involved
26% Moderately involved
27% Somewhat involved
19% Rarely involved
14% Never involved

What single reason (if any) has most prevented you from more participation in parish ministries?
2% Not interested in what the parish offers
16% Health issues
10% Usually unaware of opportunities within the parish
57% Not enough time due to family and work responsibilities
2% Transportation
12% Haven’t yet made the effort to get involved
1% Lack of babysitting services

Are you satisfied with your PERSONAL level of involvement in parish ministries?
78% Satisfied with my current level of involvement
22% Would like to become more involved
Are you satisfied with your FAMILY’S level of involvement in parish ministries?
54%  Satisfied with current level of involvement
21%  Would like to become more involved
25%  Not applicable

At what times would you most likely be able to attend parish functions? (Multiple Responses Possible)
24%  Saturday mornings
34%  Saturday evenings
43%  After the Sunday Mass I attend
11%  Sunday evenings
13%  Weekday mornings
24%  Weekday evenings
10%  Weekday afternoons

Stewardship of Treasure
Each parishioner is responsible for supporting our parish financially.
48%  Strongly agree
42%  Agree
9%  Neutral
1%  Disagree
0%  Strongly disagree

How often do you make financial contributions to St. Augustine?
81%  Every week
4%  Every other week
5%  Once a month
2%  Monthly (for all the weeks in the month)
1%  Never
8%  Other

How do you determine the amount you contribute in the offertory collection?
7%  I give a certain dollar amount based on a percentage of my income.
38%  I have chosen a certain dollar amount in some other way.
4%  I base the amount on what I think the parish needs.
33%  I give whatever I can afford that week.
18%  I don’t have a system that determines how much I give.
0%  I don’t financially support the parish.

What is your perception of our parish’s current financial position?
34%  We are easily able to pay our operating bills and put aside money in savings.
35%  We are easily able to pay our operating bills.
6%  We barely generate enough revenue to pay our operating bills.
5%  We are not generating enough revenue to pay our operating bills.
20%  I am unaware of the state of our parish finances.

Demographics

Gender
14%  Male 53%  Female
33%  Husband and Wife Completed Together

Marital Status
11%  Single 70%  Married
13%  Widowed 6%  Divorced
1%  Separated

What is your annual household income?
5%  $0 - $9,999
13%  $10,000 - $29,999
21%  $30,000 - $49,999
17%  $50,000 - $74,999
16%  $75,000 - $99,999
22%  $100,000 - $199,999
6%  $200,000 and above
Age (Multiple Responses Possible)
1% 18-29 7% 30-39
14% 40-49 18% 50-59
32% 60-69 34% 70+

How long have you been a registered parishioner at St. Augustine?
4% 0 - 1 year 6% 2-3 years
7% 4-5 years 12% 6-10 years
71% More than 10 years

I wish St. Augustine would… (199 total responses, written responses collected and grouped according to likeness; top 3 categories listed)
- Church Building and Grounds (26 responses)
- Improvements/Changes to Liturgy (22 responses)
- Ministry/Activity Suggestions (16 responses)

General Information
The things I like best about St. Augustine Catholic Church are... (479 total responses, written responses collected and grouped according to likeness; top 3 categories listed)
- Clergy (89 responses)
- Homilies (42 responses)
- Music (42 responses)