



Saint Anastasia Parish

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Rev. Michael A. Colagreco, Pastor

Over a Century of Catholic Tradition in Our Community

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Dear Parishioners,

Greetings to you! This past Lent, our parish participated in the Disciple Maker Index (DMI) Survey issued by Catholic Leadership Institute of Malvern. The purpose of this survey was to provide Archbishop Perez and us with a snapshot of our parish vis-a vis faith. It was done in conjunction with the worldwide synod initiated by Pope Francis. I am grateful to the 575 parishioners who participated in the survey. This report represents an overview of the survey results.

The 575 responses to the survey represent 36% of the 1,600 “average Sunday Mass-going Parishioners” which was deemed the likely universe of respondents. According to the “Complete Guide to Acceptable Survey Response Rate” web site (see link [The Complete Guide to Acceptable Survey Response Rates \(genroe.com\)](http://genroe.com), this is considered an average response rate and therefore should be deemed a reliable representation of the survey universe. The overwhelming number of responses came via our website (96%). Only 22 responses came via the paper survey. This suggests a wide access to the internet and facility with computers and mobile devices.

In general, the respondents are very satisfied with the parish and with their spiritual journey. The pastor and staff get very good marks from the respondents. They grade the Sunday Mass experience high, including the quality of the music and the homilies. Interestingly, the respondents gave lower marks to their desire to engage in proselytizing activities, sharing their experience with others, inviting others to attend Mass or a parish function as well as encouraging others to consider a religious vocation and the priesthood. It seems that our respondents tend to worship and experience their faith in a more private fashion.

The following are some of the percentage results from the survey.

Respondents strongly support the parish and staff (% agree or strongly agree)

- Parish pastor (85%)
- Parish staff (76%)
- Parish in general (87%)
- Opportunities to serve (80%)

Sunday Mass Experience

- Parish is welcoming (78%)
- Vibrant and engaging Sunday Mass (73%)
- The music offering deepens my Mass experience (65%)
- Homilies connect with my daily life experience (79%)

Faith Journey

- My spiritual journey is growing at a strong or steady pace (37%)
- I am growing in my faith but wish to grow more (34%)
- Happy where I am with my faith (16%)
- Stalled or in decline (13%)

Spiritual Practices

- Engage in prayer (Daily 65%) (Weekly 17%)
- Bible study and prayer group (Never 66%) (Once or twice a year 11%)
- Mass attendance (Daily 13%) (Weekly 71%)
- Seek pastoral counseling or spiritual direction (Never 86%)
- Class or workshop about the Catholic faith (Never 75%)
- Attend a retreat (Never 79%)
- Eucharistic adoration and Catholic devotions (between 60% and 80% at least once a year – separate from Sunday Mass)

Missionary Impulse

- Invited someone to Mass (Never 45%)
- Invited someone to consider the priesthood or religious life (Never 90%)
- Prayed with someone (Daily, weekly, or at least once a year 78%)
- Attend a parish social event (Daily, weekly, or at least once a year 51%)

As you see our parish community has many strengths, we also have areas for growth. The information from this survey will be helpful to create steps for moving forward. You will be hearing more about this in the Fall. I also want to thank Jim Murphy for his work with the data and this report.

As we look with hope to the future, let us pray for our parish that we will remain faithful to the Mission of Jesus and our Parish Mission so that, “we may grow as one parish community.”

Sincerely,

Father Colagreco