

St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church

A LETTER FROM OUR PASTOR

The Results of Our Recent Parish Survey

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Dear Parishioners,

As part of St. Margaret Mary's ongoing commitment to develop stewardship as a way of life, we recently conducted a comprehensive parish survey. 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 297 completed surveys, with a response rate of nine 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. Margaret Mary. 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.

Peace and Goodness,

P Sarnicki

Fr. Peter Sarnicki OFM, Conv.
Pastor

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2017 Parish Survey Percentage Report

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. Margaret Mary do you most frequently attend?

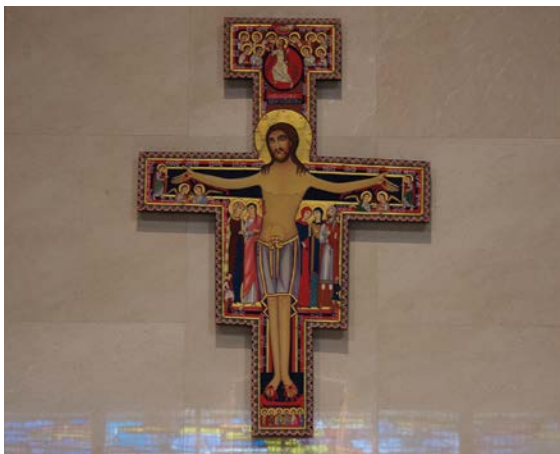
- 27% Saturday, 4:30 p.m.
- 1% Saturday, 6:30 p.m.
- 16% Sunday, 7:00 a.m.
- 34% Sunday, 9:00 a.m.
- 17% Sunday, 11:00 a.m.
- 3% Sunday, 1:00 p.m.
- 3% Sunday, 4:30 p.m.

How often do you attend Mass at St. Margaret Mary?

- 55% Every weekend
- 18% Every weekend and some weekdays
- 5% Every weekend and every weekday
- 16% Occasional weekends (once or twice a month)
- 4% Seasonally (Christmas, Easter, etc.)
- 3% I no longer attend Mass

I consider myself a member of...

- 0% St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Crystal Lake
- <1% St. Mary, Huntley
- <1% St. Monica, Carpentersville
- 0% St. Peter & Paul, Cary
- 0% St. Thomas the Apostle, Crystal Lake
- 98% St. Margaret Mary, Algonquin
- 1% Another church



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

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Needs Improvement
Fr. Peter Sarnicki	68%	25%	5%	2%
Fr. Witold Adamczyk	55%	28%	11%	4%
Fr. Daniel Zdebik	41%	28%	18%	13%
Deacons	51%	41%	6%	2%
Greeters	41%	48%	8%	4%
Ushers	44%	28%	10%	2%
Altar Servers	46%	45%	7%	0%
Lectors	46%	47%	7%	0%
Cantors	48%	42%	8%	2%
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	51%	43%	5%	1%

The music at the Mass I attend enhances my prayer and worship.

- 36% Strongly agree
- 36% Agree
- 18% Neutral
- 7% Disagree
- 4% Strongly Disagree

Adult Faith Formation

Have you attended an Adult Faith Formation program at St. Margaret Mary in the last three years?

- 22% Yes
- 78% No

If you have attended an Adult Faith Formation program at St. Margaret Mary in the last three years, was it a good experience?

- 69% Yes
- 31% No

If you haven't attended an Adult Faith Formation program at St. Margaret Mary in the last three years, would you consider attending one in the future?

- 43% Yes
- 57% No

If you would like to attend an Adult Faith Formation program, in which areas would you be most likely to participate? **(Check all that apply)**

- 43% Church Teachings
- 56% Scriptures/Bible Study
- 30% Ethics and Morality
- 22% Marriage
- 31% Small Faith Sharing Groups
- 55% Practical Ways of Growing in Faith and Prayer
- 27% Retreats
- 13% Other

Religious Education (Pre-K - 8)

Please answer the questions in the shaded area only if your child/children are currently enrolled in our Children's Faith Formation program.

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

- 46% Excellent
- 46% Good
- 5% Adequate
- 3% 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?

- 92% Yes
- 0% No
- 8% Somewhat
- 0% Unsure

What do you like most about our Religious Education program? **(Check all that apply)**

- 62% Director, staff and catechists
- 47% The families involved
- 56% The children/families learn about their faith
- 21% Meeting times
- 24% Other

How do you think we can improve our Religious Education program?

(Check all that apply)

- 43% Get the parents more involved
- 7% Change the time
- 27% More training and support for the teachers
- 13% Improve the curriculum
- 43% Other

St. Margaret Mary Youth Ministry

Do you have children in 9th through 12th grade living in your home?

- 14% Yes
- 86% No

If you have children in 9th through 12th grade living in your home, do they regularly attend Youth Ministry activities/programs at St. Margaret Mary?

- 26% Regularly
- 32% Occasionally
- 42% Never

Please answer the questions in the shaded area only if your child/children regularly participate in our Youth Ministry program.

How would you rate the quality of the Youth Ministry program at St. Margaret Mary?

- 68% Excellent
- 29% Good
- 4% Adequate
- 0% Fair
- 0% Poor

What do you like most about the Youth Ministry program? **(Check all that apply)**

- 85% The commitment and dedication of the staff
- 70% The variety of activities offered
- 78% It involves the youth more in parish life
- 81% The Christian atmosphere in which they socialize
- 15% Other

How do you think we can most improve the Youth Ministry program? **(Check all that apply)**

- 42% Involve the youth in the parish more
- 62% Inform the parishioners more about the program
- 50% Get more youth involved
- 15% Offer more activities
- 12% Improve the current activities
- 46% Increase the service opportunities
- 31% Other

St. Margaret Mary Catholic School (Preschool - 8)

Having a Catholic school is a vital part of St. Margaret Mary's mission as a parish.

- 64% Strongly agree
- 24% Agree
- 10% Neutral
- 2% Disagree
- <1% Strongly disagree

Do you have children in Preschool through 8th grade living in your home?

- 18% Yes
- 82% No

If you have children in Preschool through 8th grade living in your home, where do they attend school?

- 45% St. Margaret Mary Catholic School
- 0% Other Private School
- 51% Public School
- 4% Home School

If you currently have children in Preschool through 8th grade in your household and they do not attend St. Margaret Mary Catholic School, what is the reason that they don't attend? **(Check all that apply)**

- 10% Transportation is a problem
- 21% More academic options at other school
- 0% Catholic education is not a family priority
- 17% Cost (I would rather put my money to use in other ways)
- 59% Cost (I cannot afford to send my child[ren] to Catholic schools)
- 31% Other

Are you aware that St. Margaret Mary Catholic School has a tuition assistance program for those in need?

- 63% Yes
- 37% No

Please answer the questions in the shaded area only if you have children currently enrolled at St. Margaret Mary Catholic School.

How would you rate the quality of EDUCATION that our students currently receive at St. Margaret Mary Catholic School?

- 67% Excellent
- 21% Good
- 5% Fair
- 0% Adequate
- 7% Poor

How receptive is the FACULTY to meeting your needs?

- 58% Very receptive
- 22% Somewhat receptive
- 3% Neutral/no experience
- 6% Unreceptive
- 11% Very unreceptive

Do you feel that the children who attend our Catholic school are receiving good Catholic moral development?

- 90% Yes
- 2% No
- 5% Somewhat
- 2% Unsure

What do you like about our Catholic school? **(Check all that apply)**

- 68% Great teachers
- 87% The daily emphasis on Christian life
- 79% Catholic education
- 58% Builds community
- 16% Other

How do you think we can improve our Catholic school? **(Check all that apply)**

- 45% Increase the communication with the parents
- 45% Improve the curriculum
- 55% More training for teachers
- 24% Increase the emphasis on Catholic Faith
- 45% Other

Parish Life

What is your perception of your role as a member of St. Margaret Mary? **(Check all that apply)**

- 95% To attend Mass
- 69% Participate/volunteer in ministries and social activities
- 87% Support the parish financially
- 70% Share my faith with others
- 8% Other

In your experience, how responsive is our PASTOR to your needs and requests?

- 56% Very responsive
- 21% Somewhat responsive
- 19% Neutral
- 3% Unresponsive
- 1% Very unresponsive

In your experience, how responsive is the PARISH OFFICE STAFF to your needs and requests?

- 61% Very responsive
- 23% Somewhat responsive
- 13% Neutral
- 2% Unresponsive
- 1% Very unresponsive

What methods of communication work best for you and your family to receive parish information?

(Check all that apply)

- | | | | |
|-----|-----------------------|-----|-------------|
| 89% | Bulletin | 36% | Web site |
| 12% | Facebook | 1% | Twitter |
| 42% | Email | 39% | Newsletter |
| 50% | Parish Mailings | <1% | YouTube |
| 61% | Announcements at Mass | <1% | Google Plus |

Do you enjoy receiving our parish's new monthly newsletter?

- 87% Yes
- 13% No

What information do you want included in our monthly newsletter? **(Check all that apply)**

- 82% Articles about parish groups and activities
- 76% Comments from our pastor
- 42% Highlights on various parishioners
- 54% Information on the finances of the parish
- 32% Diocesan-wide news
- 53% Articles of general Catholic interest
- 57% Explanations of specific Catholic teachings
- 9% Other

Do you use our parish's website?

- 66% Yes
- 34% No



Outreach

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

	Yes	No	Unsure
Active Parishioners	76%	7%	17%
Inactive Parishioners	14%	17%	69%
New Parishioners	36%	8%	56%
Shut-in Parishioners	45%	4%	51%
Non-Catholic Spouses	7%	14%	79%
The Local Community	38%	12%	50%
The Poor	67%	1%	32%
Other Christian Churches	16%	9%	75%
Other Religions	6%	10%	84%

What more can we do as a parish to reach out to those in need? **(Check all that apply)**

- 53% Increase communications about parish ministries
- 53% Encourage more parishioner participation
- 35% Be more welcoming
- 56% Get more involved in the community
- 12% Other

Stewardship

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

- 61% Accept it as a core Gospel value and carry it out in my life
- 4% Don't really understand what it means
- 25% Think it's important, but find it hard to implement
- 2% Feel it's not applicable in my life
- 7% Feel that it's just another way to discuss fundraising

Stewardship of Time

How often does your family share a meal?

- 64% Daily
- 27% Several days a week
- 2% Once a week
- 6% Less than once a week

Do you say grace before meals?

- 38% Always
- 22% Sometimes
- 14% Usually
- 10% Never
- 16% Occasionally

If you have children at home, do you pray with them on a daily basis (in addition to grace before meals)?

- 24% Always
- 29% Sometimes
- 14% Usually
- 19% Never
- 14% Occasionally

If you are married, do you pray with your spouse on a daily basis (in addition to grace before meals)?

- 9% Always
- 20% Sometimes
- 8% Usually
- 44% Never
- 17% Occasionally

In addition to Sunday Mass and grace before meals, how often do you set aside time for personal prayer?

- 72% Daily
- 17% Weekly
- 4% Monthly
- 5% Every few months
- 3% Never

If you have children, do you discuss vocations (Religious Life, Single Life, Married Life) within your family?

- 71% Yes
- 29% No

Stewardship of Talent

In how many parish ministries, committees, programs or events are you actively involved?

- 34% 0
- 24% 1
- 18% 2
- 10% 3
- 13% 4 or more

Beyond participating in weekly Masses, how do you rate your involvement in St. Margaret Mary?

- 13% Very involved
- 25% Moderately involved
- 41% Somewhat involved
- 14% Haven't made the effort yet to get involved
- 8% Never involved

What single reason (if any) has most prevented you from more participation in parish ministries?

- 3% Not interested in what the parish offers
- 21% Health issues
- 10% Usually unaware of opportunities within the parish
- 52% Not enough time due to family and work responsibilities
- 2% Transportation
- 10% 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?

- 70% Satisfied with my current level of involvement
- 30% Would like to become more involved

Are you satisfied with your FAMILY'S level of involvement in parish ministries?

- 45% Satisfied with current level of involvement
- 24% Would like to become more involved
- 31% Not applicable

At what times would you most likely be able to attend parish functions? **(Check all that apply)**

- 21% Saturday mornings
- 29% Saturday evenings
- 48% After the Sunday Mass
- 20% Sunday evenings I attend
- 17% Weekday evenings
- 47% Weekday mornings
- 17% Weekday afternoons

Stewardship of Treasure

Each parishioner is responsible for supporting our parish financially.

- 59% Strongly agree
- 34% Agree
- 5% Neutral
- 1% Disagree
- 1% Strongly disagree

How often do you make financial contributions to St. Margaret Mary?

- 58% Every week
- 6% Every other week
- 14% Once a month
- 15% Monthly (for all the weeks in the month)
- 1% Never
- 6% Other

My household's gross annual financial contribution to the parish offertory represents:

- 4% 0% of my annual income
- 44% 1% - 2% of my annual income
- 22% 3% - 4% of my annual income
- 20% 5% - 6% of my annual income
- 4% 7% - 8% of my annual income
- 4% 9% - 10% of my annual income
- 2% 11% or more of my annual income

How do you determine the amount you contribute in the offertory collection?

- 16% I give a certain dollar amount based on a percentage of my income.
- 54% I have chosen a certain dollar amount in some other way.
- 0% I base the amount on what I think the parish needs.
- 18% I give whatever I can afford that week.
- 11% I don't have a system that determines how much I give.
- 1% I don't financially support the parish.

What is your perception of our parish's current financial position?

- 5% We are easily able to pay our operating bills and put aside money in savings.
- 13% We are easily able to pay our operating bills.
- 43% We barely generate enough revenue to pay our operating bills.
- 15% We are not generating enough revenue to pay our operating bills.
- 25% I am unaware of the state of our parish finances.

Demographics

Gender

12% Male 48% Female
40% Husband and Wife Completed Together

Marital Status (Check one)

6% Single 76% Married
11% Widowed 6% Divorced
<1% Separated

What is your annual household income?

3% \$0 - \$9,999
11% \$10,000 - \$29,999
18% \$30,000 - \$49,999
23% \$50,000 - \$74,999
14% \$75,000 - \$99,999
25% \$100,000 - \$199,999
6% \$200,000 and above

Age (You may check more than one box if husband and wife completed the survey together)

1% 18-29 6% 30-39
16% 40-49 26% 50-59
25% 60-69 33% 70+

How long have you been a registered parishioner at St. Margaret Mary?

2% 0-1 year 6% 2-3 years
6% 4-5 years 8% 6-10 years
21% 11-20 years 57% More than 20 years

General Information

The things I like best about St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church are... *(Top 3 Responses)*

Clergy & Staff (87)
Ministries/Activities (55)
Parishioners (49)

I wish St. Margaret Mary would... *(Top 3 Responses)*

Suggestions for Clergy (35)
Mass/Liturgy (35)
Improve/Add Ministries/Activities (35)

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Monday - Thursday: 7:00 & 8:30 a.m. | **Friday:** 7:00 & 9:15 a.m. | **First Friday:** 7:30 p.m. in Polish
Saturday: 8:30 a.m., 4:30 p.m. (6:30 p.m. in Polish)
Sunday: 7:00, 9:00, 11:00 a.m. & 4:30 p.m. (1:00 p.m. in Polish)