

St. Mary's Church-wide Survey
May 2010

This survey was done as a tool to communicate with & from the congregation after a challenging 2009 with the departure of a beloved Associate Minister followed closely by a three month sabbatical by the senior pastor. The Vestry wanted to assess the level of satisfaction and/or issues of discontent among the congregation while identifying recommendations for any perceived needed improvements. Parishioners were also provided an opportunity to express their interest in participating in specific areas of church life (to be reviewed individually & not summarized here).

Two-hundred & seventy-four (274) surveys were mailed out by first class postage, with postage paid return envelopes provided.

Sixty (60) were returned, a 21% response rate (considered high for this type of questionnaire); of these fifty-one (51) or 85% were signed.

The surveys were filled out by parishioners with the following monthly church attendance patterns (which generally represent ongoing church attendance):

| | # of average monthly attendances | % of total |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------|
| Saturday 5 PM: | 17.5 | 5.4 |
| Saturday Celtic (Monthly): | 7.5 | 2.3 |
| Sunday 8AM: | 25.0 | 7.8 |
| Sunday 10 AM: | 165.5 | 51.3 |
| Sunday Monthly Joy Mass | 14.0 | 4.3 |
| Wednesday Bi-weekly Men's | 4.0 | 1.2 |
| Wednesday Weekly Healing | 21.5 | 6.7 |
| Thursday Weekly AM | 40.5 | 12.6 |
| Holidays (2x/year) | <u>27.0</u> | <u>8.4</u> |
| TOTAL | 322.5 | 100.0 |

Question 3: What most nurtures your spiritual connection to God:

| | # Mentions | % Total Mentions |
|-------------------|------------|------------------|
| Liturgies | 20 | 22 |
| Community Support | 14 | 16 |
| Music/choir | 12 | 13 |
| Sermons | 10 | 11 |
| SVS | 6 | 7 |
| Garden | <u>5</u> | <u>6</u> |
| | 67 | 75 |

TOTAL of all mentions 89

Question 5: Aspects particularly enjoyed:

| | # Mentions | % Mentions |
|-----------------------|------------|------------|
| Liturgies | 25 | 19 |
| Sermons | 21 | 16 |
| Music/choir | 21 | 16 |
| Events | 17 | 13 |
| SVS/clergy | 16 | 12 |
| Organization/office | <u>14</u> | <u>10</u> |
| | 114 | 86 |
| TOTAL of all mentions | 134 | |

Question 6: Hopes:

| | # Mentions | % Mentions |
|-----------------------|------------|------------|
| Growth | 15 | 19 |
| Young Families | 11 | 14 |
| Financial security | 7 | 9 |
| Spiritual growth | 5 | 6 |
| Welcoming | <u>5</u> | <u>6</u> |
| | 43 | 54 |
| TOTAL of all mentions | 80 | |

Question 7: Areas where needs are not being met, need for improvement, special concerns (there were no dominate themes other than related to sermons):

| | # Mentions | % Mentions |
|---------------------------------|------------|------------|
| More spiritual/biblical sermons | 6 | 10 |
| Less politics in sermons | 3 | 5 |
| More pastoral caring | 3 | 5 |
| Less Music at times | <u>3</u> | <u>5</u> |
| | 15 | 25 |
| TOTAL of all mentions | 58 | |

Question 8: Comments on pledging & Stewardship (many miscellaneous):

| | # Mentions | % Mentions |
|-----------------------|------------|------------|
| Runs smoothly | 9 | 21 |
| Pledging Gracefully | <u>6</u> | <u>14</u> |
| | 15 | 35 |
| TOTAL of all mentions | 43 | |