

**ST PIUS X PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL
2004-2005 PARISH SURVEY RESULTS**

RESPONDENT CHARACTERISTICS

SEX	N	%
Female	179	66%
Male	67	26%
Both responded	6	2%
No response	13	5%
Total	265	99%

Marital Status	N	%
Married	188	71%
Never Married	14	5%
Separated	1	1%
Divorced/Single	18	7%
Divorced/Remarried	9	3%
Widowed	27	10%
No Response	8	3%
Total	265	100%

Mass Attendance	N	%
Weekly	150	57%
2-3 x per month	60	23%
Once per month	11	4%
Several x per year	31	12%
Never	7	3%
No Response	6	2%
Total	265	101%

AGE	N	%
< 18	0	0%
18-34	32	12%
35-50	98	37%
51-65	64	24%
66-	59	22%
No Response	12	5%
Total	265	101%

Questions receiving relatively lower “Strongly Agree/Agree” answers or relatively higher “Disagree/Strongly Disagree” answers:

Average percentage of questions answered Strongly Agree or Agree	72%
Average percentage of questions answered Strongly Disagree or Disagree	5%

Question	% Strongly Agree or Agree
Question 20: Parish clergy and pastoral staff welcome and seek to reunite inactive and alienated members	32%
Question 18: The parishioners of St. Pius X welcome and support other parishioners who are separated, divorced, single, or widowed parents.	39%
Question 31: St. Pius X parish provides religious formation for it high school youth and young adults.	44%
Question 25: Involvement in the life of St. Pius X parish through prayer and faith opportunities outside of Sunday Mass contributes to the continued development of my faith.	54%
Question 26: There are sufficient programs and experiences provided by St. Pius X that help me to enrich my relationship with God.	59%
Question 23: Participating in parish programs helps me to feel companionship with God and others.	59%

Question	% Strongly Disagree or Disagree
Question 17: The parishioners of St. Pius X provide an atmosphere of welcome, hospitality, and belonging for fellow parishioners at church services and parish functions.	15%
Question 21: Being a member of St. Pius X contributes to my sense of belonging or connection with others	14%
Question 16: I feel that being part of the St. Pius X community helps me to know who I am and/or strengthens my sense of identity	13%
Question 20: Parish clergy and pastoral staff welcome and seek to reunite inactive and alienated members	10%
Question 25: Involvement in the life of St. Pius X parish through prayer and faith opportunities outside of Sunday Mass contributes to the continued development of my faith.	9%
Question 26: There are sufficient programs and experiences provided by St. Pius X that help me to enrich my relationship with God.	8%
Question 18: The parishioners of St. Pius X welcome and support other parishioners who are separated, divorced, single, or widowed parents.	8%
Question 8: I am satisfied with the life I am living.	6%

Answers to Open-Ended Questions

Question B: If St. Pius X is the parish you most frequently attend, the reasons you most frequently attend St. Pius X Catholic Church are:

N	% of 265	Reason
92	35%	Location/proximity
63	24%	It's my parish
56	21%	Sense of community/welcome/comfort
34	13%	Priests/homilies
30	11%	Children attend school/PSR
27	10%	Long-time member
16	6%	Worship/relationship with God
13	5%	Mass times
5	2%	Range of activities
4	2%	Like the music
2	1%	Kneel at consecration (vs. Seton)

Question 12. Some ways that the parish could further encourage participation in Mass are:

Question 27. Some programs that St. Pius X parish could provide to help me to enrich my relationship with God are:

Question 29. The prayer and formation opportunities that I participate in are:

Community

- 17 Expressed a need for more fellowship or social time among parishioners – 12 of whom mentioned after-Mass socials.
- 10 Stated either that the parish environment is unwelcoming or that more needed to be done to make parishioners feel welcome
- 9 Stated that the parish is doing a good job
- 5 Described a lack of support following a crisis (death of loved one, divorce)
- 4 Mentioned that the parish is cliquish
- 2 Expressed a need for family activities
- 2 Stated a need for stronger support of the school
- 2 Expressed a need for more opportunities for single adults
- 1 Commented on an event in which families of St. Pius X school graduates came together in memory of a former student who had died.
- 1 Expressed concern about losing young adults

- 1 Suggested that the parish recognize notable events, such as anniversaries and births, from the pulpit or in the bulletin
- 1 Expressed opposition to using envelopes for donations
- 1 Expressed a need for information about mental health and health-related issues
- 1 Expressed a need for the parish to be more accepting of gay people
- 1 Shared feeling at home at St. Pius
- 1 Expressed reluctance to getting involved after having been away from church for a while
- 1 Stated satisfaction at being able to go to Mass without having to participate in other parish programs

Faith Formation

- 12 Commented that they would like a Bible study session
- 9 Requested religious retreats
- 8 Commented that they would prefer an evening Bible study session
- 6 Requested more opportunities for Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
- 4 Asked specifically for Christ Renews His Parish program
- 4 Commented they like faith sharing groups, with 1 stating that no one should ever be closed out of a faith sharing group due to overcapacity
- 3 Requested continuation of Lenten retreats
- 2 Requested discussion groups with topics such as Passion of the Christ, current topics affecting the Church such as clergy abuse, theology of the body, to help clarify misconceptions
- 2 Requested workshops on prayer and ethical decision making
- 2 Expressed a desire for faith renewal groups
- 2 Suggested evening education programs or symposiums with no particular topic mentioned in the comment
- 2 Suggested faith renewal programs for fallen away Catholics
- 2 Requested that a prayer list be read aloud prior to Mass or a prayer chain be initiated
- 2 Wanted programs that help modern Catholics relate current life to God
- 2 Requested opportunities for evening educational programs
- 1 Expressed a desire for a group that addressed professional working women
- 1 Expressed a desire for a book club that dealt with spiritual and religious themes
- 1 Suggested having more emphasis on Jesus as Savior and friend and less on saints and Mary
- 1 Requested "Sunday school" for children and adults
- 1 Would like an opportunity to work with homeless or tutor less fortunate children
- 1 Suggested that more emphasis be placed on St. Pius X school
- 1 Requested a church library with books, CDs and videos
- 1 Suggested more family enrichment programs especially for those with young children
- 1 Suggested more convenient times for existing programs with avoidance of Monday nights
- 1 Suggested having monthly Masses with discussion of each part of the Mass and why we do what we do at each part

- 1 Desired more preaching about the teaching of the Catholic Church regarding faith and morals
- 1 Suggested spiritual group counseling for target groups with specific needs: infertile couples or those with terminal illness. Specified that this be led by a non-layperson.
- 1 Requested less multiple day commitments and focus on 1 full day or 1 full evening program
- 1 Wanted a youth group started for preschoolers
- 1 Requested and afternoon retreat regarding God, prayer, reason for God to exist.

Mass

- 29 Commented about the treatment of children at Mass
- 15 Commented about music, about 50/50 positive/critical
- 10 Made suggestions concerning a family orientation for Mass, such as allowing small children to participate in some way, having families bring up gifts, have families minister together, have children's Masses
- 8 Expressed satisfaction with Mass at St. Pius X
- 7 Commented about weekday Mass schedule: 1 later for seniors; 5 earlier for working parishioners; 1 requesting Saturday morning
- 5 Shared opinions about homilies
- 5 Expressed a need to encourage greater participation of the assembly
- 5 Commented about Eucharistic ministers: 3 concerning scheduling, 1 concerning the length of time for ministers to receive Communion; 1 suggested having current members share their experiences as way to recruit new ministers
- 3 Suggested there be opportunities for spontaneous petitions from assembly.
- 3 Suggested a need for greeters
- 3 Suggested more guidance/explanation during the Mass
- 2 Requested opportunities for Spanish Masses.
- 2 Requested longer silence after communion
- 2 Suggested dispensing of handshaking during cold/flu season.
- 1 Suggested a need for parishioners to show greater respect of others, in terms of dress, quiet, use of the quieting room.
- 1 Commented that late arrivals are disruptive.
- 1 Commented that there is too much noise before Mass, requested that sign-up tables be kept in the bride's room.
- 1 Requested a 7:00 am Mass on Holy days.
- 1 Expressed that Mass is too much of a ritual
- 1 Expressed a desire for bells at the time of consecration
- 1 Suggested a better amplification system
- 1 Asked that Mass not be stopped for "little noises"
- 1 Suggested having ushers ask families to be gift bearers
- 1 Requested no music during offertory to enable people to hear priest's prayers
- 1 Requested guest speakers
- 1 Requested more frequent notices in the bulletin describing the positions available and their responsibilities
- 1 Suggested that one Mass per month be open for discussion on a particular topic

- 1 Suggested coming out stronger on political/religious issues
- 1 Commented that Mass should be more solemn
- 1 Commented that time for quiet prayer and reflection is hindered by need to hurry to clear the parking lot
- 1 Suggested choosing a few inactive parishioners for washing of feet at Holy Thursday to help them feel invited
- 1 Suggested that the proposal to change the Mass schedule should have positive results
- 1 Suggested a large video screen
- 1 Suggested a microphone for the organist

Parishioner Involvement

- 7 Suggested a need for improved communication about parish programs and volunteer opportunities
- 6 Expressed satisfaction with opportunities for involvement with parish programs
- 5 Stated that they are not able to participate further in parish programs because of family commitments
- 1 Expressed a need for more frequent opportunities to serve
- 1 Suggested a late-night Mass for teenagers
- 1 Suggested a need to encourage more volunteer participation