

Saint Francis Solanus



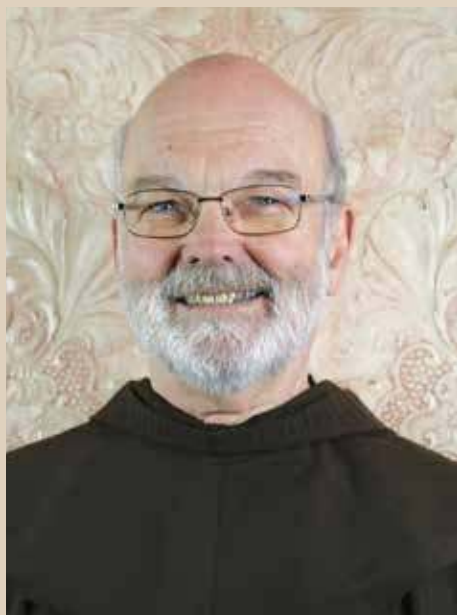
AUGUST 2015

A Look at the Results of Our Parish Survey

As part of St. Francis Solanus' 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 435 completed surveys. This is a 26 percent response rate, which is nearly three 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



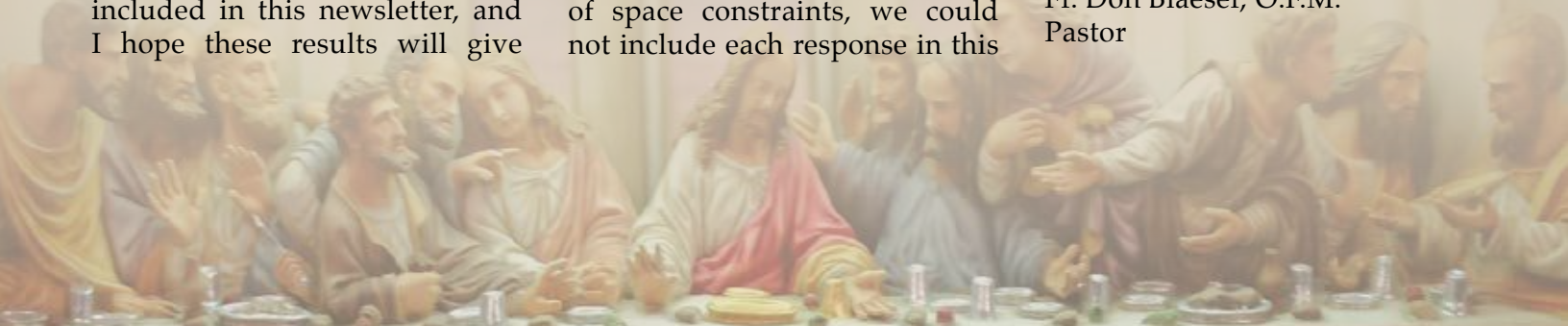
you a clearer vision of how the parish as a whole responded to each specific question. We also asked you to respond to a few open-ended questions. Because of space constraints, we could not include each response in this

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. Francis Solanus. 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.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Fr. Don, OFM".

Fr. Don Blaeser, O.F.M.
Pastor



Liturgy

Which Mass at St. Francis Solanus do you most frequently attend?

- 30% Saturday, 4:30 p.m.
- 7% Sunday, 6:30 a.m.
- 22% Sunday, 8:00 a.m.
- 21% Sunday, 9:30 a.m.
- 20% Sunday, 11:00 a.m.

How often do you attend Mass at St. Francis?

- 56% Every weekend
- 30% Every weekend and some weekdays
- 1% Every weekend and every weekday
- 11% Occasional weekends (once or twice a month)
- 1% Seasonally (Christmas, Easter, etc.)
- 1% I no longer attend Mass

I consider myself a member of...

- 100% St. Francis Solanus
- 0% St. Peter
- 0% St. Anthony
- 0% St. Rose of Lima
- 0% Blessed Sacrament
- 0% Another church

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

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Needs Improvement
Priests	49%	44%	5%	2%
Greeters	31%	51%	15%	3%
Ushers	34%	56%	8%	1%
Altar Servers	34%	53%	8%	4%
Readers	36%	55%	7%	2%
Cantors	33%	53%	11%	3%
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	40%	53%	5%	2%

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

- 35% Strongly agree
- 18% Neutral
- 2% Strongly Disagree
- 38% Agree
- 7% Disagree

Do you have any suggestions to help enhance our Sunday liturgies? **Top 3 Responses:**

- **Adjust/Improve Music (62 responses)**
- **Adjust/Improve Homilies (39 responses)**
- **Improve Sound System (27 responses)**

Adult Faith Formation

Have you attended an Adult Faith Formation program at St. Francis in the last five years?

- 27% Yes
- 73% No

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

- 80% Yes
- 20% No

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

- 48% Yes
- 52% No

If you would like to attend an Adult Faith Formation program, what areas would you be most likely to participate in? **(Multiple Answers Selected)**

- 37% Church Teachings
- 61% Scriptures/Bible Study
- 22% Ethics and Morality
- 17% Marriage
- 25% Small Faith Sharing Groups
- 50% Practical Ways of Growing in Faith and Prayer
- 18% Retreats
- 8% Other



Parish Life

What is your perception of your role as a member of St. Francis? **(Multiple Answers Selected)**

- 93% To attend Mass
- 64% Participate/volunteer in ministries and social activities
- 89% Support the parish financially
- 65% Share my faith with others
- 5% Other

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

- 53% Very responsive
- 25% Somewhat responsive
- 21% Neutral
- 1% Unresponsive
- 0% Very unresponsive

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

- 61% Very responsive
- 17% Somewhat responsive
- 20% Neutral
- 1% Unresponsive
- 0% Very unresponsive

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

(Multiple Answers Selected)

- | | | | |
|-----|----------|-----|------------|
| 89% | Bulletin | 23% | Website |
| 12% | Facebook | 1% | Twitter |
| 38% | Email | 38% | Newsletter |

What information are you interested in learning more about at our parish? **(Multiple Answers Selected)**

- 50% Parish groups and activities
- 30% Comments from our pastor
- 36% Highlights on parishioners
- 40% Information on the finances of the parish
- 12% Diocesan-wide news
- 53% Information of general Catholic interest
- 50% Explanations of specific Catholic teachings
- 4% Other

Do you use our parish's website?

- 44% Yes
- 56% No

Why or why not? **Top 3 Responses:**

- **Don't use/have computer or Internet (51 responses)**
- **To check liturgical schedules (20 responses)**
- **To read bulletin (17 responses)**

Parish School of Religion (K - 8)

The questions in the shaded area were answered only if one's child/children are currently enrolled in our Parish School of Religion (PSR) program.

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

- 38% Excellent
- 33% Good
- 25% Adequate
- 4% Fair
- 0% Poor

Do you believe that the instruction provided by our PSR program is in line with the teaching of the Catholic Church?

- 79% Yes
- 0% No
- 8% Somewhat
- 13% Unsure

What do you like most about our PSR program?

(Multiple Answers Selected)

- 50% Director, staff and catechists
- 39% The families involved
- 61% The children/families learn about their faith
- 11% Meeting times
- 6% Other

How do you think we can improve our PSR program?

(Multiple Answers Selected)

- 50% Get the parents more involved
- 6% Change the time
- 25% More training and support for the teachers
- 6% Improve the curriculum
- 44% Other

St. Francis Solanus School (Pre-K - 8)

Having a Catholic school is a vital part of St. Francis' mission as a parish.

- 81% Strongly agree
- 14% Agree
- 4% Neutral
- 0% Disagree
- 0% Strongly disagree

Do you have children in Pre-K through 8th grade living in your home?

- 14% Yes
- 86% No

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

- 81% St. Francis Solanus School
- 10% Other Private School
- 10% Public School
- 2% Home School

If you currently have children in Pre-K through 8th grade in your household and they do not attend St. Francis, what is the reason that they don't attend?

- 20% Transportation is a problem
- 20% More academic options at other school
- 0% Catholic education is not a family priority
- 10% Cost (I would rather put my money to use in other ways)
- 10% Cost (I cannot afford to send my child[ren] to Catholic schools)
- 60% Other

Are you aware that St. Francis has a tuition assistance program for those in need?

- 87% Yes
- 13% No

The questions in the shaded area were answered only if one has children currently enrolled at St. Francis Solanus School.

How would you rate the quality of EDUCATION that our students currently receive at St. Francis?

- 67% Excellent
- 28% Good
- 2% Adequate
- 2% Fair
- 0% Poor

How receptive is the FACULTY to meeting your needs?

- 66% Very receptive
- 29% Somewhat receptive
- 3% Neutral/No experience
- 3% Unreceptive
- 0% Very unreceptive

Do you believe that the children who attend St. Francis are receiving good Catholic moral development?

- 88% Yes
- 0% No
- 7% Somewhat
- 5% Unsure

What do you like most about St. Francis Solanus School? (Multiple Answers Selected)

- 73% Great teachers
- 75% The daily emphasis on Christian life
- 75% Catholic education
- 63% Builds community
- 23% Other

How do you think we can improve St. Francis Solanus School? (Multiple Answers Selected)

- 43% Increase the communication with the parents
- 40% Improve the curriculum
- 27% More training for teachers
- 23% Increase the emphasis on Catholic Faith
- 47% Other

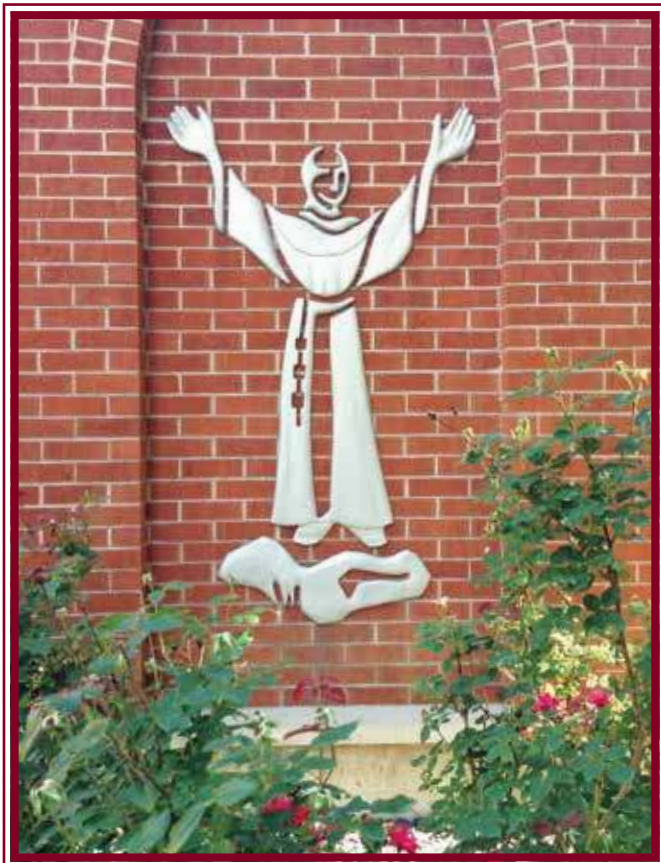
Outreach

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

	Yes	No	Unsure
Active Parishioners	80%	7%	13%
Inactive Parishioners	13%	18%	68%
New Parishioners	49%	7%	44%
Shut-in Parishioners	47%	9%	44%
Non-Catholic Spouses	13%	13%	74%
The Local Community	41%	8%	51%
The Poor	59%	5%	37%
Other Christian Churches	17%	11%	72%
Other Religions	10%	11%	79%

What more can we do as a parish to reach out to those in need? (Multiple Answers Selected)

- 54% Increase communications about parish ministries
- 47% Encourage more parishioner participation
- 48% Be more welcoming
- 46% Get more involved in the community
- 14% Other



Stewardship

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

- 54% Accept it as a core Gospel value and carry it out in my life
- 4% Don't really understand what it means
- 30% Think it's important, but find it hard to implement
- 2% Believe it's not applicable in my life
- 9% Believe that it's just another way to discuss fundraising

Stewardship of Time

How often does your family share a meal?

- 75% Daily
- 17% Several days a week
- 4% Once a week
- 4% Less than once a week

Do you say grace before meals?

- 79% Yes
- 21% No

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

- 45% Yes
- 55% No

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

- 26% Yes
- 74% No

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

- 78% Daily
- 14% Weekly
- 3% Monthly
- 3% Every few months
- 1% Yearly
- 1% Never

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

- 56% Yes
- 44% No

Stewardship of Talent

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

31%	0	26%	1
20%	2	13%	3
10%	4 or more		

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

6%	Very involved
28%	Moderately involved
37%	Somewhat involved
24%	Rarely involved
5%	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
29%	Health issues
10%	Usually unaware of opportunities within the parish
45%	Not enough time due to family and work responsibilities
0%	Transportation
13%	Haven't yet made the effort to get involved
0%	Lack of babysitting services

Are you satisfied with your PERSONAL level of involvement in parish ministries?

73%	Satisfied with my current level of involvement
27%	Would like to become more involved

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

50%	Satisfied with current level of involvement
18%	Would like to become more involved
32%	Not applicable

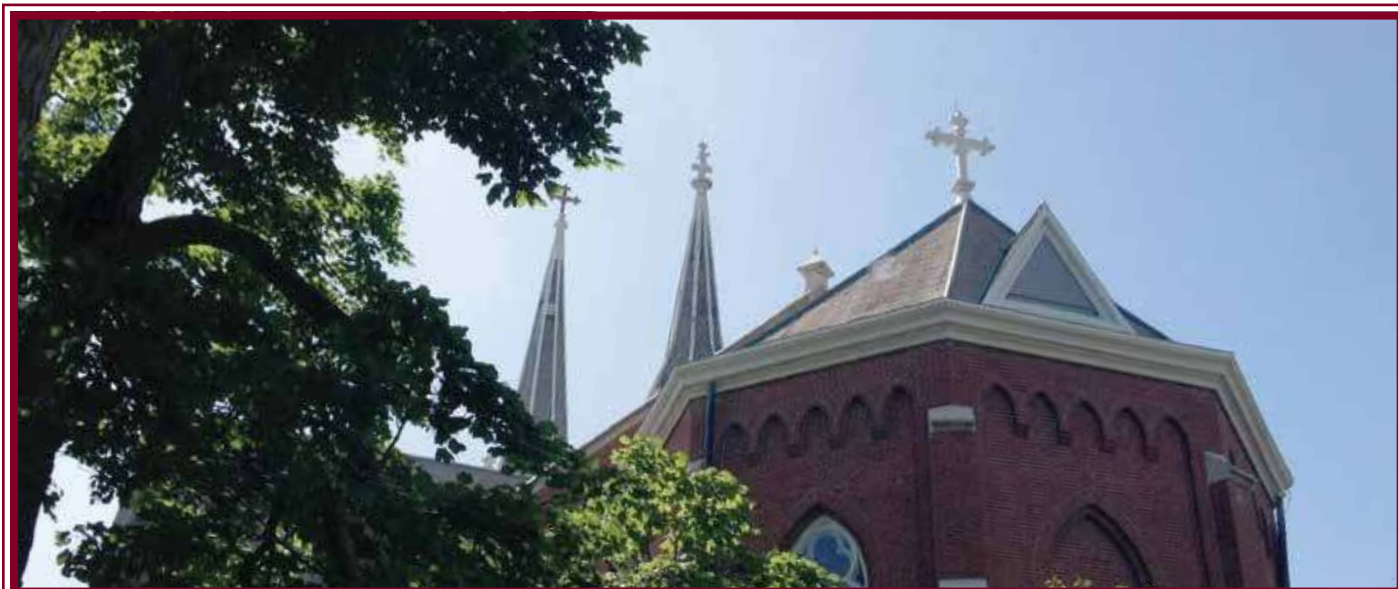
At what times would you most likely be able to attend parish functions? (Multiple Answers Selected)

15%	Saturday mornings
17%	Saturday evenings
33%	After the Sunday Mass I attend
14%	Sunday evenings
17%	Weekday mornings
50%	Weekday evenings
16%	Weekday afternoons

Stewardship of Treasure

Each parishioner is responsible for supporting our parish financially.

50%	Strongly agree
44%	Agree
6%	Neutral
0%	Disagree
0%	Strongly disagree



How often do you make financial contributions to St. Francis?

- 54% Every week
- 6% Every other week
- 15% Once a month
- 16% Monthly (for all the weeks in the month)
- 1% Never
- 8% Other

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

- 7% 0% of my annual income
- 35% 1% - 2% of my annual income
- 23% 3% - 4% of my annual income
- 18% 5% - 6% of my annual income
- 6% 7% - 8% of my annual income
- 9% 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?

- 17% 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.
- 1% I base the amount on what I think the parish needs.
- 16% I give whatever I can afford that week.
- 10% 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?

- 8% We are easily able to pay our operating bills and put aside money in savings.
- 22% We are easily able to pay our operating bills.
- 26% We barely generate enough revenue to pay our operating bills.
- 5% We are not generating enough revenue to pay our operating bills.
- 39% I am unaware of the state of our parish finances.

Demographics

Gender

- 14% Male 45% Female
- 40% Husband and Wife Completed Together

Marital Status

- 10% Single 67% Married
- 17% Widowed 7% Divorced
- 0% Separated

What is your annual household income?

- 4% \$0 - \$9,999
- 24% \$10,000 - \$29,999
- 21% \$30,000 - \$49,999
- 22% \$50,000 - \$74,999
- 13% \$75,000 - \$99,999
- 14% \$100,000 - \$199,999
- 2% \$200,000 and above

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

- 2% 18-29 8% 30-39
- 8% 40-49 21% 50-59
- 27% 60-69 40% 70+

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

- 1% 0 - 1 year 5% 2-3 years
- 10% 4-5 years 28% 6-10 years
- 55% More than 10 years



St. Francis Solanus

ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH

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General Information

The things I like best about St. Francis Solanus Catholic Church are... *Top 3 Responses:*

- Buildings/Church Grounds (120 responses)
- Priests/Deacons (81 responses)
- Friendly/Caring People (81 responses)

I wish St. Francis would... *Top 3 Responses:*

- Increase Ministry Opportunities (48 responses)
- Adjust/Improve Music (34 responses)
- Improve Buildings/Church Grounds (31 responses)

“As a parish embraces stewardship as a way of life, the members of the stewardship parish recognize their responsibility not only to their own parish, but also to the diocese, the community and the Universal Church. Strengthening the pillars of hospitality, prayer, formation and service make us faithful disciples to the love given us freely by our loving God. As faithful stewards, our only response to these gifts received is gratitude. Living stewardship is a disciple’s response to our God, who has given us everything that is good!”

— From *The Pillars of Parish Stewardship* (Diocese of Wichita Office of Stewardship)

Liturgy Schedule

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 p.m. | **Sunday:** 6:30, 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.

Weekday Mass: M, T, W, Th, F, 6:30 a.m. | M, T, W, Th, F, S, 8:00 a.m. | W, F, 8:35 a.m. during school year

Confessions: Saturdays 8:30 a.m., 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Holy Days of Obligation: Vigil 5:30 p.m.; Holy Day: 6:30 a.m.; 8:35 a.m. on school days; 8:00 a.m. during summer; 5:30 p.m.