

CONNECTED IN THE SPIRIT

PASTORAL PLANNING FOR THE ARCHDIOCESE OF INDIANAPOLIS

St. Christopher Parish Assessment Results

The Connected in the Spirit Core team conducted a survey at all masses during the weekend of May 4 and May 5. 1,108 surveys were received. In addition, collaborative meetings were conducted with our Pastoral staff, Pastoral Council, Finance Commission, School Staff, and CCD Catechists to review their ministry areas in greater detail.

From the survey response evaluation, St. Christopher Parish has these strengths.

1. Our Sunday liturgy is excellent led by our pastors, along with an exceptional, music program. Homilies make the gospel come alive and apply theology to everyday life. The vibrant liturgy is uplifting and energizing and the quality of liturgy is excellent with terrific congregation participation. Questions 1 & 12 were rated excellent by 73% with Good/Excellent being greater than 95%.

2. Our Christian service, including our Food Pantry, SVDP and Christmas Giving tree programs provide benefits to the greater community. Many ministry opportunities with a wide variety of activities to get involved which means opportunities to become acquainted with others. There are many pathways to spiritual development. Question 23 rated excellent by 67.5% with Good/Excellent being greater than 95%.

3. Our warm and welcoming parish and our sense of community is a strength. Our dedicated ministers lead by example with a warm, welcoming, and collaborative leadership style. The St. Christopher staff is helpful, pleasant, caring, and devoted. This atmosphere encourages parishioners to participate and to own their parish. The end result is a strong family feeling in the church and a good sense of hospitality. Question 15 rated excellent by 73% with Good/Excellent being greater than 95%.

From the interviews, these additional strengths were identified:

4. Our Catholic school has a dedicated staff that drives excellent ISTEP results while delivering Catholic faith formation to their student.

5. The Parish is financially stable and has met all its Archdiocesan financial obligations while continuing to improve the buildings on campus.

6. The physical plant for St. Christopher Parish is in good condition. The architecture of our Church built in 2000 gives feelings of openness for all attendees. Several meeting rooms are available in the lower level of the Church.

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From the survey response, St. Christopher Parish has these areas for improvement:

1. Young adults – re-energize programs for young adults and young-marrieds. Question 17 had 39% percent “don’t know” and 17% rated as fair.
2. Develop programs to help Parents to teach their children the Catholic faith and values. Question 17 had 67 percent “don’t know” and 17% rated as fair.
3. Encourage additional membership for the Respect for Life Committee. Question 22 had 13 % “don’t know” and 13% rated as fair.
4. Plan for the diminishing number of priests. Question 24 had 38% “don’t know” and 10% rated as fair.

From the interviews, these additional area for improvement were identified

5. New Evangelization - The Parish will renew efforts to reach out to the alienated, inactive and unchurched.
6. Encourage more lay involvement and bring new people in to participate, and to develop better ways to incorporate new volunteers and nurture them to leadership. Enable a congregation that is connected and involved in community affairs.
7. Partner with nearby churches and Catholic parishes,
8. Diversity – Evaluate ways to reach out to our increasingly diverse parish. Grow as community of faith in changing the community of Speedway and maintain friendliness to all.

Thank you for your invaluable input which enabled the Core team to identify the Parish strengths and to identify our improvement areas. These strengths and improvement areas will be input to our discussions with our assigned neighboring parishes in June.

The detailed results of each survey question are attached. The first report contains percentages and the second report contains the gross numbers.

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The Percentage report uses percentages calculated in the following manner.

- Excellent / (Excellent + Good + Fair)
- Good / (Excellent + Good + Fair)
- Fair / (Excellent + Good + Fair)
- Don't Know Responses / Total Responses

Total number of Surveys

1108

Part A: SACRAMENTAL LIFE OF THE PARISH

	Excellent	Good	Fair	D/K
1. Sunday liturgy	73.66%	24.61%	1.73%	0.63%
2. Sacrament of Penance	43.48%	48.60%	7.92%	25.90%
3. Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)	60.35%	35.59%	4.06%	53.34%
4. First Eucharist/First Penance	66.10%	31.34%	2.56%	36.64%
5. Funerals	62.85%	35.07%	2.08%	48.01%
6. Weddings	61.74%	34.01%	4.25%	55.42%
7. Confirmation	57.60%	36.57%	5.83%	48.92%
8. Sacrament of the Sick	61.55%	32.92%	5.52%	55.87%
9. Infant Baptism	67.44%	30.85%	1.71%	41.79%
10. Devotions (such as Stations of the Cross, Rosary, Morning Office, etc.)	47.30%	42.05%	10.65%	34.75%
11. Training of sacramental ministers	42.63%	48.07%	9.30%	60.20%
12. Music	74.57%	21.83%	3.59%	4.51%
13. Other				

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St. Christopher Parish Assessment Results

Part B: EVANGELIZATION, CATECHESIS AND CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

	Excellent	Good	Fair	D/K
14. The parish understands the church's vision of evangelization.	49.89%	41.83%	8.28%	16.06%
15. The parish is a warm and welcoming parish.	72.95%	22.34%	4.71%	4.24%
16. A comprehensive and well integrated catechetical program exists for children.	53.26%	41.25%	5.49%	39.17%
17. The needs of youth and young adults are addressed effectively.	36.44%	46.52%	17.04%	39.08%
18. The parish provides adult faith enrichment opportunities.	47.20%	44.66%	8.15%	14.71%
19. Parental programs are strong, well-attended and meet the needs of parents.	35.16%	47.53%	17.31%	67.15%
20. The parish supports Catholic elementary and high school education.	61.44%	32.73%	5.83%	14.80%

Part C: STEWARDSHIP AND JUSTICE

	Excellent	Good	Fair	D/K
21. Parishioners are educated in stewardship where all disciples share their time, talent and treasure.	44.73%	45.68%	9.60%	14.44%
22. The parishioners are educated on social justice and respect life issues and encouraged to advocate to those in need.	42.84%	43.78%	13.38%	13.00%
23. The parish reaches out to serve people in need.	67.58%	28.99%	3.43%	7.85%
24. In future planning, the parish takes into account the diminishing number of priests.	44.36%	45.23%	10.40%	37.55%

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Gross Number report

Total number of Surveys **1108**

Part A: SACRAMENTAL LIFE OF THE PARISH

	Excellent	Good	Fair	D/K	Tot
1. Sunday liturgy	811	271	19	7	1108
2. Sacrament of Penance	357	399	65	287	1108
3. Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)	312	184	21	591	1108
4. First Eucharist/First Penance	464	220	18	406	1108
5. Funerals	362	202	12	532	1108
6. Weddings	305	168	21	614	1108
7. Confirmation	326	207	33	542	1108
8. Sacrament of the Sick	301	161	27	619	1108
9. Infant Baptism	435	199	11	463	1108
10. Devotions (such as Stations of the Cross, Rosary, Morning Office, etc.)	342	304	77	385	1108
11. Training of sacramental ministers	188	212	41	667	1108
12. Music	789	231	38	50	1108

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Part B: EVANGELIZATION, CATECHESIS AND CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

	Excellent	Good	Fair	D/K	Tot
14. The parish understands the church's vision of evangelization.	464	389	77	178	1108
15. The parish is a warm and welcoming parish.	774	237	50	47	1108
16. A comprehensive and well integrated catechetical program exists for children.	359	278	37	434	1108
17. The needs of youth and young adults are addressed effectively.	246	314	115	433	1108
18. The parish provides adult faith enrichment opportunities.	446	422	77	163	1108
19. Parental programs are strong, well-attended and meet the needs of parents.	128	173	63	744	1108
20. The parish supports Catholic elementary and high school education.	580	309	55	164	1108

Part C: STEWARDSHIP AND JUSTICE

	Excellent	Good	Fair	D/K	Tot
21. Parishioners are educated in stewardship where all disciples share their time, talent and treasure.	424	433	91	160	1108
22. The parishioners are educated on social justice and respect life issues and encouraged to advocate to those in need.	413	422	129	144	1108
23. The parish reaches out to serve people in need.	690	296	35	87	1108
24. In future planning, the parish takes into account the diminishing number of priests.	307	313	72	416	1108