

Summary of Data Received from All Saints Questionnaire

December 2015

One hundred forty-six (146) questionnaires were returned with 75% coming from ages 50+. Most were married in permanent/year-round homes and attending Mass at All Saints regularly for the past 3-10+ years.

Reasons for attending All Saints ranged from:

- Smaller, friendly, welcoming community
- Location
- Rural setting
- Convenient Mass times
- Recommendation of friends
- New parish
- Music
- An alternative when St. Thomas closes for the season

Changes noted over the past several years at All Saints:

- Mass times and fewer daily Masses
- Attendance has grown
- Concern with being assimilated into town parishes

93% feel at home at All Saints naming:

- Friendly and spiritual community including clergy and parishioners
- Music with everyone singing

83% feel the same about All Saints as when they first came but named several things that have changed, including:

- Church being crowded (parish has grown)
- Knowing more people and having become more involved
- Having a more diverse age group
- Having a decrease in opportunities of faith formation

Suggestions most offered for ways All Saints can develop its own identity include:

- New dedicated worship space
- Larger welcoming space in order to promote community
- Space for social activities and meetings
- Separate programs and activities for various age groups

The biggest challenges seen at All Saints being clustered with St. Francis were:

- Keeping its own identity
- Working to eliminate the feeling that St. Francis has priority

The most mentioned things that people would NEVER want to change at All Saints are:

- The clergy, their homilies, youthfulness and energy
- Friendly, inclusive feeling of congregation
- Rural location that is simple and peaceful
- Music in which the congregation participates

The most mentioned things that people would like to see changed at All Saints are:

- MORE SPACE, including; separate worship space with a confessional, space for musicians and a crying room/nursery
- Kneelers / pews
- Different Mass times and more daily Masses
- Music at all Masses
- More activities / faith formation classes sponsored by All Saints
- Additional confession opportunities
- Bible study
- Faith sharing groups, retreats

60% have invited others to visit All Saints

98% feel that All Saints is family oriented

94% feel that All Saints does enough to support St. Francis of the Lakes Catholic School

69% feel that All Saints could offer more opportunities to help with community

89% feel connected to All Saints through the bulletin

81% feel that email is helpful

66% like the pulpit announcements

57% use the church website (www.blccnorth.org)

70% feel that there are enough opportunities to get to know other parishioners – However, additional suggestions include more social activities such as get-togethers, pot-lucks and study courses for all ages

Most respondents felt that All Saints was serving the spiritual needs of the congregation adequately

THANK YOU! Many thanks to the people who took time to share their thoughts of how All Saints should continue to grow in the future. While this flyer is only able to summarize the data, the Long Range Planning Committee is dedicated to responding to all individual concerns/suggestions at various times in the coming months.

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE? It was overwhelmingly clear that space is a primary concern. So, a plan for increasing dedicated worship space with attention to separate gathering space and classroom/meeting space is the priority. We will immediately begin formulating a committee which will begin this process.

Some of the suggestions that were made have already been implemented:

- A new camera and sound system has been ordered for the back-room, when additional seating for Mass is needed
- A dedicated All Saints staff person has been assigned to oversee Sunday school each Sunday morning
- There is currently a bible study offered through the church, call the office for more information if interested
- All Saints has hired a music leader and will continue to explore other ideas to expand the music ministry
- A music board has been put up in church for song numbers
- The Long Range Planning Committee will have a “bulletin box” in the bulletin each week, in the new year, to answer specific questions/concerns/issues raised in the questionnaire.

The summary is also available on the website at www.blccnorth.org under the All Saints tab. The full survey results are available at the parish office upon request.

The Long Range Planning Committee will continue to work toward growing All Saints within the community and will update the parish as often as possible on changes as we move forward into the future. Thank you.