

January 2018

Parish Life Survey

**Saint John the Baptist Parish
Newburgh, Indiana**

Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate
Georgetown University
Washington, DC

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Jonathon L. Wiggins, Ph.D.
Florence Emurayeveya, EHJ, M.A.

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Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate

Parish Life Survey **Saint John the Baptist Parish** **Newburgh, Indiana**

Executive Summary

The St. John the Baptist Parish Life Survey was designed by the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA) at Georgetown University. Most of the questions were derived from CARA's database of nationally tested questions, with some questions designed specifically for the parish. The parish distributed the questionnaire to those attending its liturgies over one weekend in November 2017. In all, there were 1,163 valid responses, with an additional five respondents under age 16 not included in the analysis.

Major findings can be summarized as follows:

Demographic Characteristics

- The average age of valid respondents to the in-pew survey at St. John the Baptist Parish is 56. Half are 57 or younger. Nearly two-thirds of respondents (63%) are between ages 45 and 74.
- CARA divides Catholics into four generations, reflective of the age categories used by many other social scientists. The most common generations at St. John the Baptist Parish are the Vatican II (ages 57 to 74 in 2017) and Post-Vatican II (ages 36 to 56) Generations. Examining the generations by ethnicity, half of white or Anglo respondents (51%) belong to the oldest generations, compared to just over a third of those reporting other ethnicities (36%)
- Respondents were invited to choose one racial or ethnic identity as their primary one. Some 93% identify as white, Anglo, or Caucasian, 4% as Asian or Pacific Islander, and 1% or less as either Hispanic or Latino(a) or another ethnic category.
- Fully 98% report English as the primary language used in their homes, 1% identify Spanish, and 1% identify Tagalog or Vietnamese.
- Nearly six in ten respondents to the survey are female (57%) and 43% are male. Eight in ten say they are currently married or remarried. One in ten has never married (10%), one in 20 is widowed (6%), and one in 20 is divorced or separated (4%). Some 27% report having at least one child or stepchild under age 18 living with them.
- One in six (17%) has attained a high school diploma or less, 25% have attended some college or have an associate's degree, and 58% have a bachelor's or graduate degree.

Religious Characteristics of Respondents

- On average, respondents have attended the parish for 22 years, with half having attended 19 years or more. Non-white respondents are more likely than those identifying as white, Anglo or Caucasian to have attended the parish for 15 years or less (58% compared to 45%, respectively).
- Fully 82% identify the parish as their primary place of worship and say they are registered there. Eight percent say they regularly attend the parish but are *not* registered there and another 9% identify as visitors.

Assessment of Parish Life and Needs

- Fully 97% give St. John the Baptist Parish overall a positive evaluation (“good” and “excellent” combined). Some 58% rate it as “excellent.”
- Eight in ten at least “somewhat” agree that they feel engaged in parish life, with 27% agreeing “strongly” that they do.
- Parish efforts to meet people’s spiritual needs receive an “excellent” rating from 41% of respondents.
- More than half of responding parishioners report being attracted to the parish “very much” by the following: its open and welcoming spirit (67%), the sense of belonging they feel there (60%), the quality of the liturgy (59%), and the quality of the preaching (57%).
- Formation for the parish’s children, ministry for youth and young adults, building the sense of community, and ministry for those grieving, sick or homebound are especially likely to receive high priority from respondents. Six-tenths to three-quarters give each “very much” priority.
- Respondents were also invited to choose from a predetermined list the three needs to which parish should give most priority. The three most commonly identified are children’s religious education or formation, youth ministry, and developing a parish sense of community.

Leadership

- Nine in ten give a positive evaluation to the vision provided by parish leaders, with 43% rating it as “excellent.”
- Fully 58% “strongly” agree they would feel comfortable talking with the pastor. This is more than double the percentage CARA usually finds in its in-pew surveys.
- More than a third (36%) “strongly” agree that parishioners are encouraged to have a role in decision making at the parish.

Worship

- Masses and liturgies in general receive a positive evaluation from 96% respondents. Nearly six in ten (58%) rate them as “excellent.”
- Some 69% rate the hospitality or sense of welcome at weekend Masses as “excellent.” Parish outreach to visitors and guests receives an “excellent” evaluation from 51% of respondents.
- Three in four (75%) give an “excellent” rating to the music in general at the parish. The homilies receive an “excellent” evaluation from 56%, with Millennials most likely to rate them highly.
- Seven in ten attend Mass at least once a week and another quarter attend almost every week. Mass attendance varies some by generation, with those of the older generations most likely to attend at least once a week. Fully 86% of those of the oldest generation attend at least weekly, followed by 72% of the Vatican II Generation, 65% of the Post-Vatican II Generation, and 61% of Millennials.

Formation

- Parish efforts to educate parishioners in the faith receive a positive evaluation from nine in ten respondents, with 48% giving these efforts an “excellent” rating.
- Efforts to nurture parishioners’ relationship with Jesus Christ receive an “excellent” rating from 45% respondents.
- Some 36% say the parish is “excellent” at helping them practice gospel values in their daily lives. Three in ten rate efforts to offer a Catholic view on current issues as “excellent.”
- Two in ten say they have attended adult faith formation classes at the parish in the past five years.
- Three-quarters give “very much” priority to children’s religious education or formation (74%), with seven in ten giving as much priority to youth ministry (69%). Half say the parish should place “very much” priority on adult faith formation (50%).

The Parish School

- Nearly nine in ten (88%) agree at least “somewhat” that they support having the parish school be one of the parish’s major priorities. Some 62% “strongly” agree that they support that.
- Among those with school-age children, half “strongly” agree that they intend to send their children to St. John the Baptist School through their eighth grade year.

- Those with school-age children who did *not* send them to the parish school were asked for the reasons they did not do so. Some 57% cited financial considerations or tuition costs, 52% cited the high quality of the local public schools, and 19% cited the quality of education at the parish school.

Evangelization and Parish Outreach

- Efforts to spread the Gospel/evangelize receive a positive rating from 85% respondents. Some 36% give these efforts an “excellent” rating. However, the more involved respondents are with parish ministries and activities, the less likely they are to rate these efforts as “excellent.”
- When asked to evaluate parish outreach to 14 groups, respondents are most likely to give an “excellent” rating to outreach to visitors and guests, new parishioners, and children. They are least likely to give the same rating to outreach to single parents, inactive Catholics, single adults, and those divorced or separated.
- Respondents were asked to choose the top three groups to which the parish should give most priority for outreach. The three most commonly selected groups are teens, young adults, and inactive Catholics.
- Nearly half (46%) give an “excellent” rating to the parish’s outreach to new parishioners.
- Parish outreach to inactive Catholics receives an “excellent” rating from 21%. Nearly half (47%) give “very much” priority to reaching out to inactive Catholics.

Stewardship

- More than nine in ten (94%) agree at least “somewhat” that they understand the concept of stewardship, with 60% agreeing “strongly” that they do.
- Efforts to encourage parishioners to share their time, talents and treasure with the parish receive a positive evaluation from nine in ten. Half rate these efforts as “excellent.”
- Parish efforts to invite participation in ministries receive an “excellent” evaluation from 46% of respondents.
- Just under four in ten (37%) indicate they are “very” likely to volunteer for a parish ministry in the next year.
- Excluding their attendance at Masses, nearly half of respondents are not involved with any ministries or activities at the parish. A quarter are involved with one and nearly three in ten are involved with two or more.

Social Justice

- Outreach to and advocacy for those in need receives a positive rating from 91% of respondents. Some 48% rate these efforts as “excellent.”
- A third (33%) rate parish outreach to those sick or homebound as “excellent.” Visitation of the sick and homebound receives “very much” priority from 60% of respondents.
- Three in ten (29%) rate parish outreach to those in financial need as “excellent.” Providing opportunities for parishioners to help the needy receive “very much” priority from 65%.
- Having the parish actively promote peace and justice opportunities receives “very much” priority from 42% of respondents.
- No unmarried respondents with children or stepchildren under age 18 living with them evaluate parish outreach to single parents as “excellent.” A third (33%) evaluate that outreach as “good.”

Sense of Community

- The sense of community within the parish receives a positive rating from nine in ten respondents. Some 47% give it an “excellent” rating.
- Developing a parish sense of community receives “very much” priority from 65% of respondents.

Parish Communications

- Efforts to communicate with parishioners receive a positive evaluation from nine in ten respondents, with 46% rating these efforts as “excellent.”
- Some 37% “strongly” agree that they feel well informed about what goes on in the parish and 35% agree as strongly that they feel adequately informed about parish finances.
- Responding parishioners are particularly likely to say the following are “very” effective ways of communicating parish news to them: the Sunday bulletins (68%), inserts in the bulletins (60%), and announcements read at Mass (54%). Each of these is related to weekend Mass attendance.
- Among the electronic ways of communicating parish news, respondents are most likely to list email (36%), the parish website (31%), and social media (28%) as “very” effective.

Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate

Parish Life Survey Saint John the Baptist Parish Newburgh, Indiana

Introduction

The St. John the Baptist Parish Life Survey was designed by the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA) at Georgetown University. Most of the questions were derived from CARA's database of nationally tested questions, with some questions designed specifically for the parish. The parish distributed the questionnaire to those attending its liturgies over one weekend in November 2017. In all, there were 1,163 valid responses, with an additional five respondents under age 16 not included in the analysis. Following standard assumptions of statistical inference, a sample size of 1,163 provides a margin of error of approximately ± 2.8 percentage points.¹

Interpreting This Report

Most of the questions in this survey use four point response scales (“not at all,” “only a little,” “somewhat,” “very much”; or “poor,” “fair,” “good,” “excellent”). These scales allow half of the responses to be interpreted as relatively more “negative” (“poor” and “fair,” for example) and half as relatively more “positive” (“good” and “excellent,” for example). In parts of the analysis in this report, these responses are combined to allow for clearer comparisons. However, sometimes examining the most positive response distinguishes important contrasts in level of support.

In addition, readers may also wish to compare the difference between the two extreme responses, say “poor” and “excellent,” to compare the level of intensity with which opposing opinions are held. These comparisons and others may be drawn by referring to the actual percentage responses given in Appendix I. That appendix shows the percentage responses for each item, calculated out of 100%, as well as the percentage of all respondents that did not respond to each question, separately calculated out of 100% for clarity of comparison.

In addition to summarizing the responses to most questions for respondents as a whole, the report also compares the responses of those from selected subgroups. The first section of the report describes the characteristics of the respondents as well as the subgroups that are used in the analyses that follow. Throughout the report, the tables and charts that compare differences between

¹Strictly speaking, it is necessary to know the total population (in this case, the total number of adult parishioners) to calculate margin of error. CARA's standard assumption for its in-pew parish surveys is that about half of parishioners are represented. For obvious reasons, those who are represented in a given in-pew survey are disproportionately more frequent Mass attenders.

and among these various subgroups are presented following the responses for parishioners as a whole in each section.

The margin of error for *differences between subgroups*, such as the differences among those of different generations or those with different levels of involvement, depends on the size of the subgroups being compared. Unless otherwise noted, all subgroup differences described in the graphs of this report are statistically significant: that is, they pass standard tests of statistical inference and can be considered to be “real” differences. In some instances, differences between or among subgroups that are not statistically significant are also noted. These differences should be treated as merely suggestive of real differences that may exist between the subgroups under consideration.

CARA regularly conducts parish surveys through its Parish Life Surveys. Parish Life Surveys are a series of dynamic survey instruments for pastoral planning, including survey data collection, analyses of key stakeholders and demographic groups, and user-friendly reports and products. From the aggregate data collected through the Parish Life Survey services over the past 20 years, CARA has a database of characteristics of parish life gathered from more than 900 parishes nationwide. While this database is not a random sample of parishes, and therefore not necessarily representative of all parishes nationwide, it is the most comprehensive source of data of its kind and covers a broad range of topics important to vibrant parish life.

In this report, where possible, results from St. John the Baptist Parish current Parish Life Survey are compared to the aggregate responses from the Parish Life Survey National Database of Parish Life to put the parish results into a larger national context. Additionally, where available, comparisons are made to findings from a 2012 study of Catholics in-pew at 23 parishes across the country. Finally, comparisons are made to findings from CARA’s nationally representative polls of adult self-identified Catholics conducted since 2012. For all of these comparisons, only differences of 10 percentage points or more are treated as meaningful.

In addition to the quantitative data analyzed in this report, one open-ended question on the survey collected qualitative data (question 102, which can be viewed in Appendix I). For these data, respondents were prompted with a question and given an open box for written comments, rather than select from a set of response options. These comments were analyzed by the parish and so do not appear in this report. In three other questions, space was provided for an “other” response. A summary of these responses do appear in this report, with the responses to one question (question 85), “other” reasons why someone did not send their child to the parish school, appearing in Appendix II.

The results of this survey fairly represent the characteristics and attitudes of people ages 16 and older who attend Mass at St. John the Baptist Parish. It cannot be used to make inferences about populations outside of Mass attendees at the parish; it is not representative of those who do not attend Mass or those who are only involved in parish functions excluding Mass.

Section I: Demographic Characteristics of Respondents

This section of the report includes demographic and other descriptive data for the 1,163 valid respondents to this survey. These data may be helpful in considering who responded to the survey, which populations are represented in the data, and characteristics of those attending Mass on a typical weekend at the parish.

Age and Generation

Valid respondents at St. John the Baptist Parish surveyed in 2017 were born between 1922 and 2001. The average age of respondents is 56 with half saying they are 57 or younger. Although not directly comparable as the national data comes from 2012, this is higher than the median age of 49 among all self-identified Catholics nationally.¹ The most common age range reported is 55 to 64.

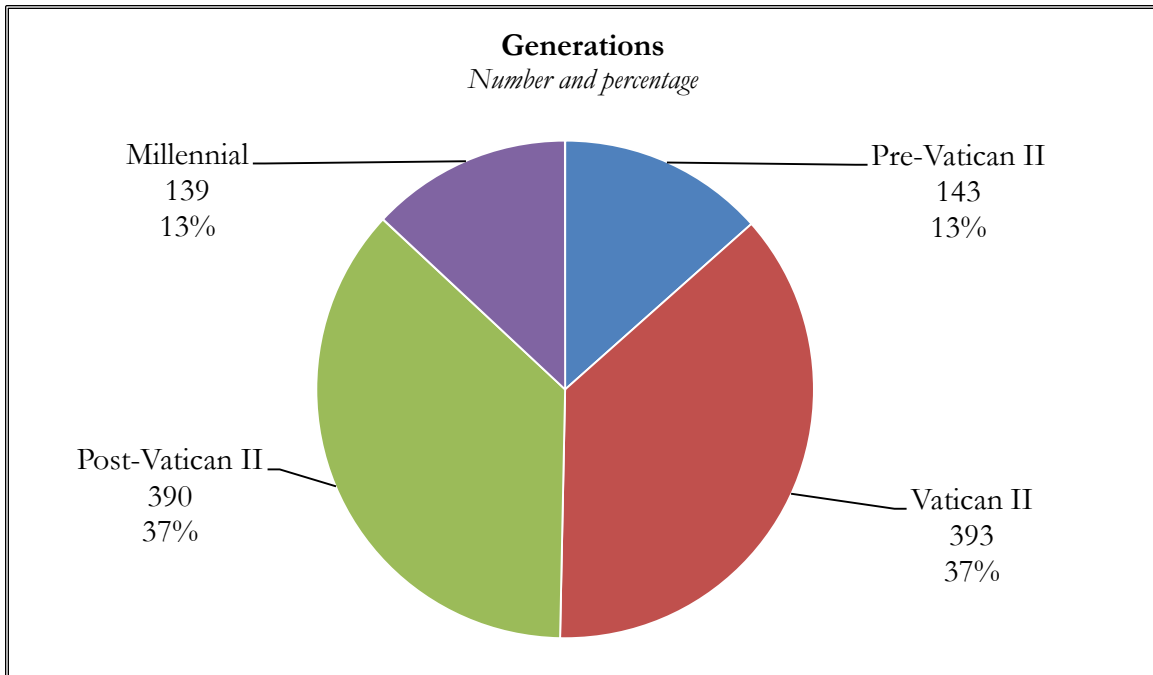
Age in 2017, Compared to Catholics Nationally			
Age Range	St. John the Baptist	Catholics In Pew Nationally*	Catholics Nationally**
18-24***	5%	4%	9%
25-34	7	9	17
35-44	13	20	20
45-54	20	23	19
55-64	23	19	20
65-74	20	15	10
75 or older	14	10	5

**Source: CARA's 2012 Emerging Models study*
***Source: CARA's 2012 Media Use study*
****For comparison purposes, 16 year olds (8 respondents) and 17 year olds (3 respondents) are omitted from this table*

- Overall, St. John the Baptist respondents report being older those responding in-pew nationally. Some 25% of St. John the Baptist respondents are under age 45 compared to 33% of Catholics in pew nationally.
- They differ significantly from Catholics nationally. Some 25% of St. John the Baptist respondents are under age 45 compared to 46% of Catholics nationally.

¹ Source: Mark M. Gray, and Mary L. Gautier. 2012. *Catholic New Media Use in the United States, 2012*.

Important differences between groups in parishes are typically found among those who belong to different generations. CARA divides Catholics into four generations, reflective of the age categories used by many other Catholic researchers. The figure below presents the generations of St. John the Baptist respondents, including the number belonging to each generation. The most common generations among St. John the Baptist respondents are the Vatican II and Post-Vatican II Generations.



- *The “Pre-Vatican II Generation,” ages 75 and over in 2017:* The Pre-Vatican II Generation was born in 1942 or earlier. Its members came of age before the Second Vatican Council. Members of the Pre-Vatican II Generation make up 13% of the respondents at St. John the Baptist Parish. This is in between the percentage among Catholics in-pew nationally (18%) and the percentage among Catholics nationally (10%).
- *The “Vatican II Generation,” ages 57-74 in 2017:* These are the “Baby Boomers” who were born between 1943 and 1960, a time of great demographic and economic growth. They came of age during the time of the Second Vatican Council and their formative years likely spanned that time of profound changes in the Church. Members of the Vatican II Generation at St. John the Baptist Parish represent 37% of respondents. This is only slightly higher than the percentage among Catholics in-pew nationally (35%) and the percentage among Catholics nationally (32%).
- *The “Post-Vatican II Generation,” ages 36-56 in 2017:* Born between 1961 and 1981, this generation, sometimes called “Generation X” or “Baby Busters” by demographers, has no lived experience of the pre-Vatican II Church. Some 37% of those at St. John the Baptist Parish are members of this generation. This is similar to the percentage among Catholics in-pew nationally (39%) and the percentage among Catholics nationally (38%).

- *The “Millennial Generation,” ages 18-35 in 2017:* This generation, born in 1982 or later (up to 1996 among adults), has come of age primarily under the papacies of John Paul II and Benedict XVI. Because some still live with their parents, their religious practice is often closely related to that of their families of origin. Some 13% of respondents at St. John the Baptist Parish belong to the Millennial Generation. This is in between the percentage among Catholics in-pew nationally (8%) and the percentage among Catholics nationally (19%).

Generation, Compared to Catholics Nationally			
Generations	St. John the Baptist	Catholics In Pew Nationally*	Catholics Nationally**
Pre-Vatican II (born 1942 or earlier)	13%	18%	10%
Vatican II (born 1943 to 1960)	37	35	32
Post-Vatican II (born 1961 to 1981)	37	39	38
Millennial (born 1982 to 2000)	13	8	19

**Source: CARA's 2012 Emerging Models study*
***Source: CARA's 2012 Media Use study*

These four generations will be used for comparisons throughout the rest of the report.

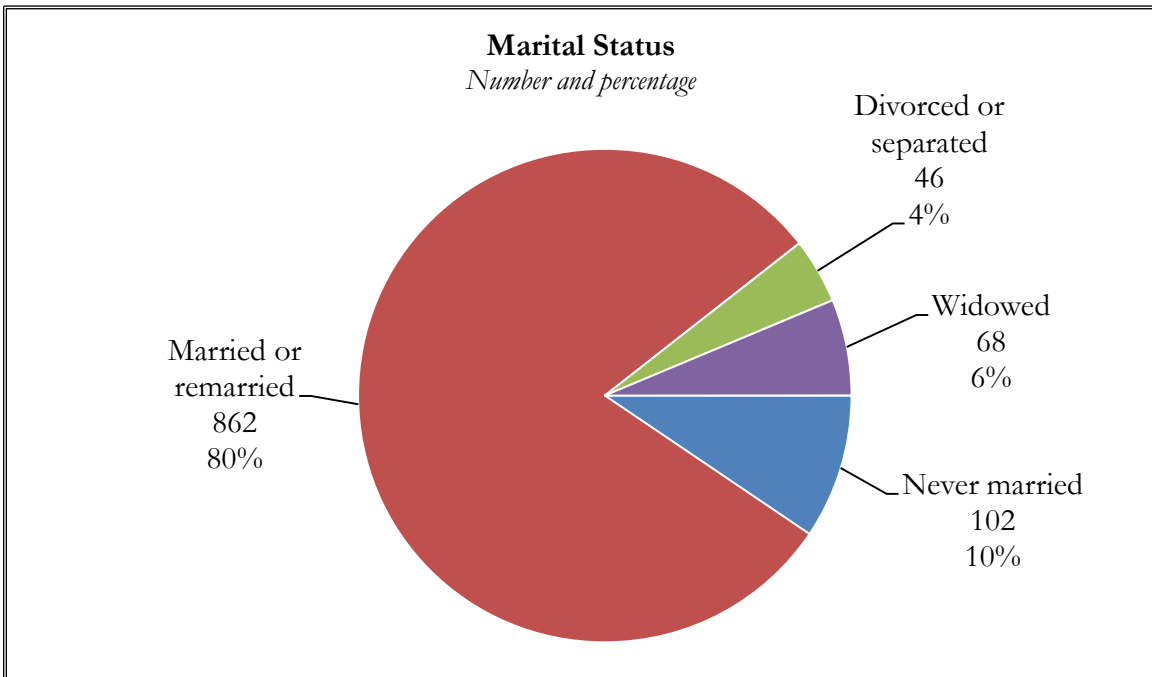
Gender and Marital Status

Nearly six in ten respondents (57%) identify as female. This is slightly less than Catholics nationally in pew (64%) but higher than the percentage of self-identified Catholics nationally identifying as female (51%).

Gender, Compared to Catholics Nationally			
<i>Percentage responding</i>			
	St. John the Baptist	Catholics In Pew Nationally*	Catholics Nationally**
Female	57%	64%	51%
Male	43	36	49

*Source: CARA's 2012 Emerging Models study
**Source: CARA's 2012 Media Use study

Eight in ten respondents are currently married or remarried. One in ten has never married, one in 20 is divorced or separated, and one in 20 is widowed.



Marital status at the parish is compared to the national data in the table below. The percentage married or remarried at St. John the Baptist Parish is higher than the percentage among Catholics in-pew nationally (70%) and the percentage among Catholics nationally (62%).

Marital Status, Compared to Catholics Nationally			
<i>Percentage responding</i>			
Marital Status	St. John the Baptist	Catholics In Pew Nationally*	Catholics Nationally**
Never married***	10%	15%	24%
Married or remarried	80	70	62
Divorced or separated	4	8	9
Widowed	6	7	5

**Source: CARA's 2012 Emerging Models study*
***Source: CARA's 2012 Media Use study*
****The Media Use study includes those responding "living with a partner," who are included in the "never married" category here*

- One in ten has never married, compared to about one in seven in-pew Catholics nationally (15%) and a quarter of adult Catholics nationally (24%).
- One in 20 is divorced or separated, compared to almost one in ten Catholics in pew and nationally.
- One in 20 St. John the Baptist respondents overall has been widowed, compared to about one in 20 of those in pew and nationally.

Differences by Generation

Marital status differs by generation. Members of the Millennial Generation are particularly likely to have never married (57%); those of the Vatican II and Post-Vatican II Generations are most likely to be married (89% each); and those of the Pre-Vatican II Generation are most likely to be widowed (28%).

Marital Status, by Generation				
<i>Percentage responding</i>				
	Pre-Vatican II	Vatican II	Post-Vatican II	Millennial
Single, never married	3%	1%	3%	57%
Married or remarried	67	89	89	42
Divorced or separated	2	4	6	1
Widowed	28	5	1	0

Children in the Household

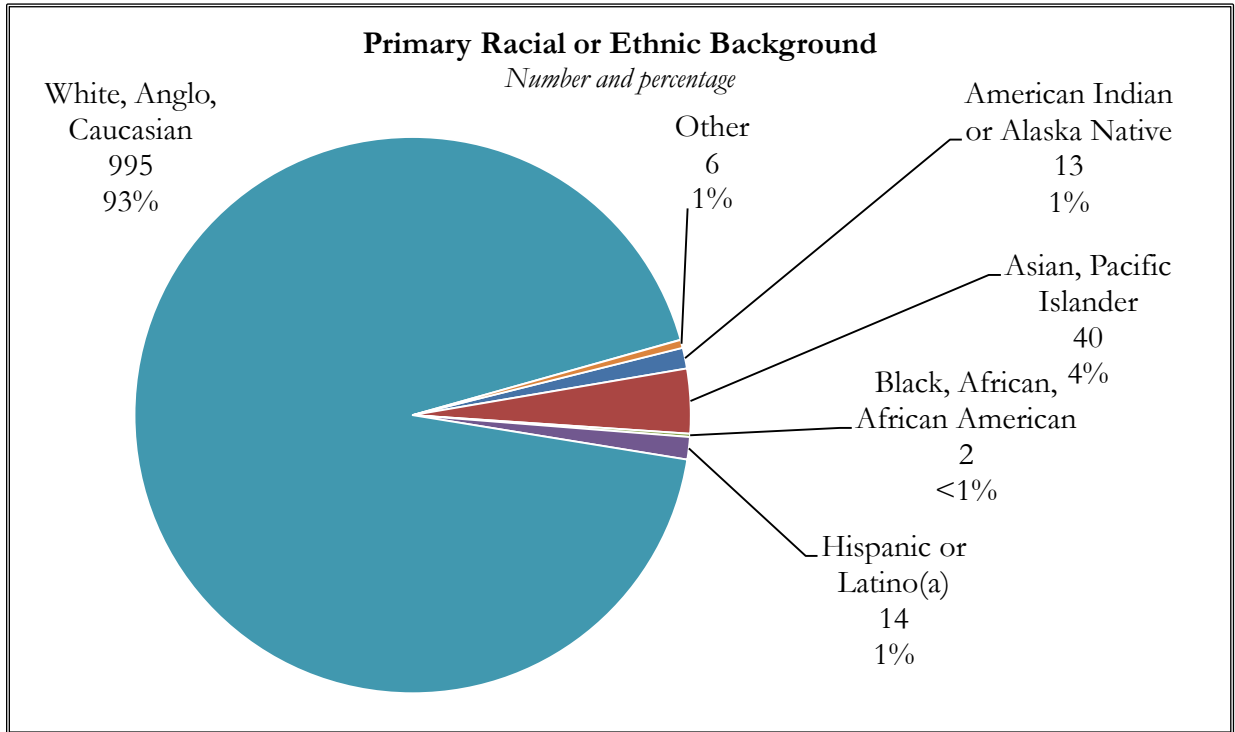
Respondents report having from zero to ten of their children or stepchildren under age 18 living with them. Some 315 respondents (27%) have at least one child (including stepchildren) living with them. Taking into account that in some households two parents may have responded to this question, 202 households (including all married couples and other parents) report 273 children or stepchildren age 12 and younger living with them and 188 ages 13 to 17 living with them.²

Percentage Having Children or Stepchildren Living with You	
<i>Percentage responding</i>	
No children	73%
One child	7
Two children	10
Three or more children	10
Ages 12 or younger	18%
Age 13 to 17	17

² This was calculated using the yes/no response to this question: “Did/will your spouse also complete this survey?”.

Race and Ethnicity

Respondents were invited to identify one primary race or ethnicity. The results for the parish are presented in the figure below.



Among those few identifying an “other” primary race or ethnicity, two respondents identified as two ethnicities (white and Pacific Islander) and one respondent each identified as Indian, Irish, Italian or American.

Due to the relatively small number of respondents identifying as anything other than white, Anglo or Caucasian, comparisons among ethnic groups are difficult. However, in a few places comparisons are made between the following two groups:

- Asian or Pacific Islander (40 respondents or 4%)
- White, Anglo, or Caucasian (995 respondents or 93%)

More than nine in ten St. John the Baptist Parish respondents identify their primary race or ethnicity as white, Anglo, or Caucasian (93%) and almost one in 20 identifies as Asian or Pacific Islander (4%). One percent or less identifies as American Indian or Alaska Native, black or African American, Hispanic or Latino(a), or as an “other” race or ethnicity.

Primary Racial or Ethnic Background			
Primary Race or Ethnic Background	St. John the Baptist	Catholics In Pew Nationally*	Catholics Nationally**
American Indian or Alaska Native	1%	1%	–
Asian or Pacific Islander	4	11	–
Black or African American	<1	3	2%
Hispanic or Latino(a)	1	17	33
White, Anglo, or Caucasian	93	67	60
Other	<1	2	5

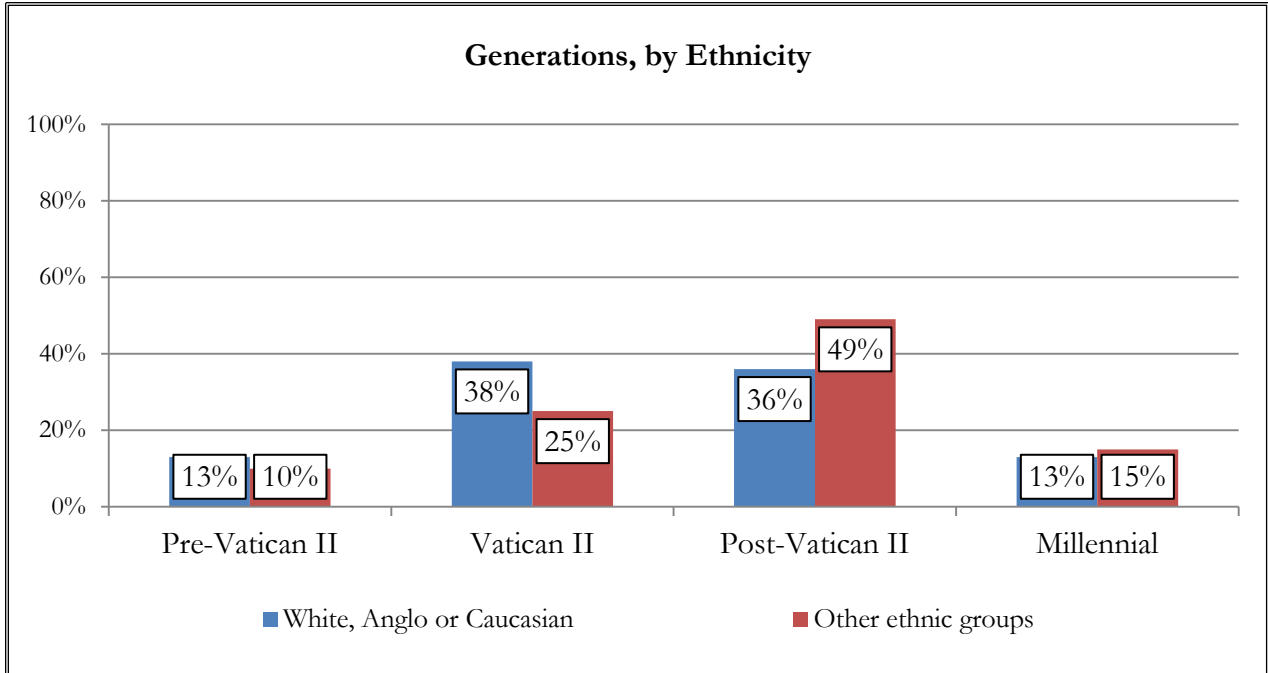
**Source: CARA's 2012 Emerging Models study*
***Source: CARA's 2012 Media Use study*

Comparison to Catholics Nationally

- Compared to those responding in pew nationally, St. John the Baptist respondents are more likely to identify as white, Anglo or Caucasian and *less* likely to identify as Hispanic or Latino(a) or as Asian or Pacific Islander.
- Similarly, in comparison to all Catholics nationally, St. John the Baptist respondents are more likely to identify as white, Anglo or Caucasian and *less* likely to identify as Hispanic or Latino(a) or as Asian or Pacific Islander.

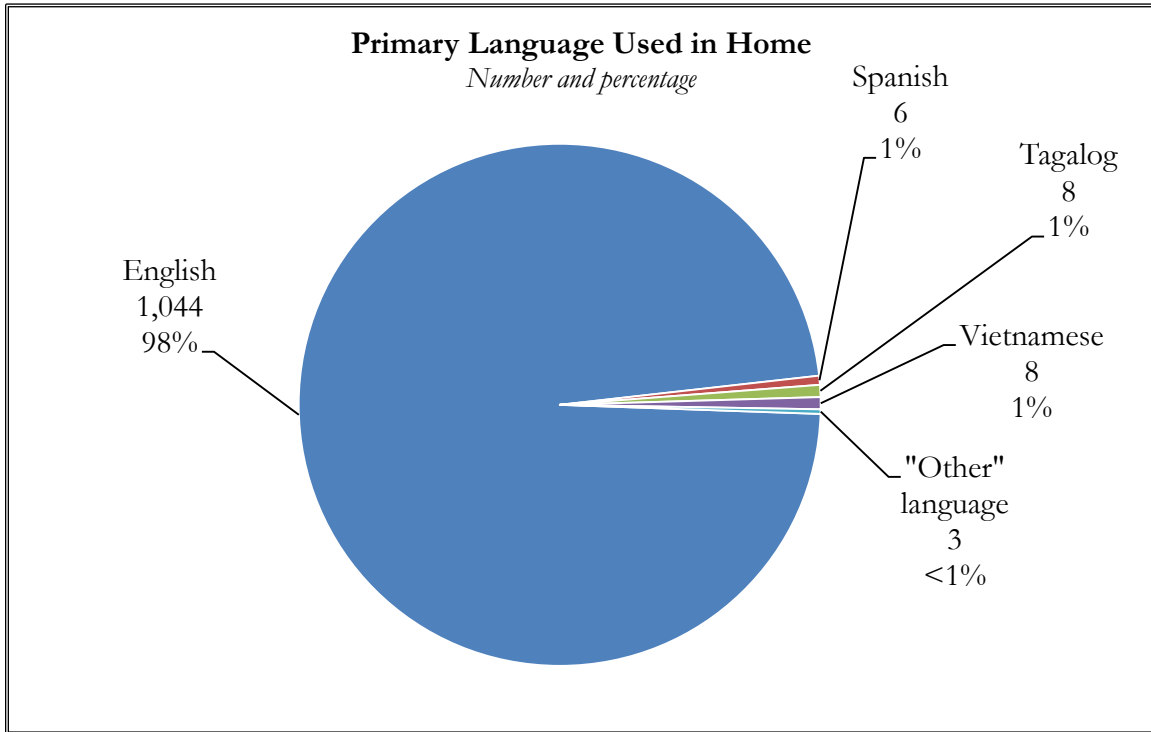
Differences by Generation

Non-white respondents tend to be younger than their white, Anglo, or Caucasian counterparts at the parish. Some 63% of non-white respondents are members of the two youngest generations, compared to 49% of white, Anglo, or Caucasian respondents.



Primary Language Used in Home

Nearly all (98%) say English is the primary language used in their home. One percent each report Tagalog, Vietnamese, and Spanish as the primary language.³ Among those few identifying an “other” language, one respondent each wrote in Romanian, Malaysian, and Visayan.



Differences by Generation

Between 96% and 99% of each generation reports having English as the primary language spoken in their homes.

Differences by Race or Ethnicity

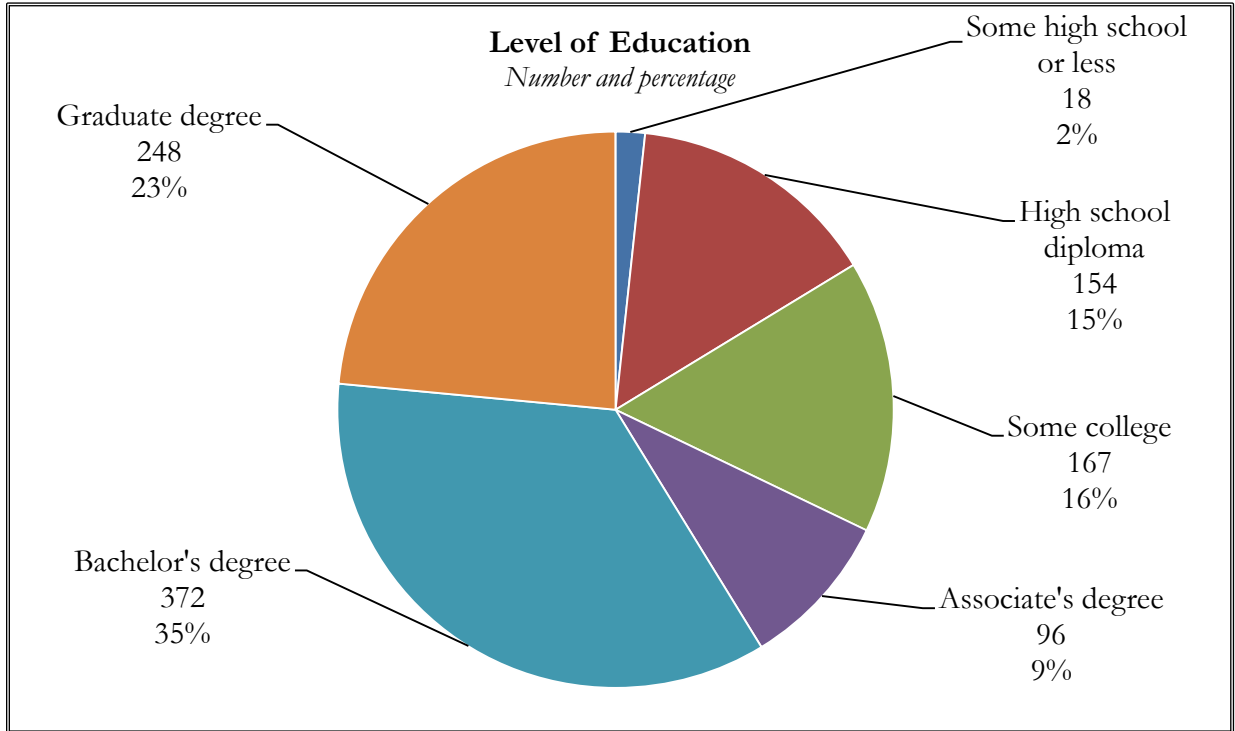
Among Asian or Pacific Islander respondents, 59% identify English as the primary language used in their homes, 22% identify Tagalog, and 19% identify Vietnamese.

Among Hispanic or Latino(a) respondents, 46% identify Spanish as the primary language used in their homes. The remainder identifies English.

³ These total 101% due to rounding error.

Level of Education

One in six (16%) has a high school diploma or less. Another quarter (25%) have attended some college or have an associate's degree. Six in ten (59%) report having a bachelor's or graduate degree.



The level of education among St. John the Baptist respondents is similar to that of those responding in pew nationally. Compared to all Catholics nationally, St. John the Baptist respondents are more likely to have a bachelor's or graduate degree (59% compared to 27%) and *less* likely to have a high school diploma or less (17% compared to 47%).

Level of Education, Compared to Catholics Nationally			
<i>Percentage responding</i>			
Level of Education	St. John the Baptist	Catholics In Pew Nationally*	Catholics Nationally**
Some high school or less	2%	5%	}47%
High school diploma	15	14	
Some college	16	19	}26
Associate's degree	9	9	
Bachelor's degree	35	33	}27
Graduate degree	24	20	

**Source: CARA's 2012 Emerging Models study*
***Source: CARA's 2012 Media Use study*

Differences by Generation

Level of education differs some by generation. Members of the Pre-Vatican II Generation are particularly likely to have a high school diploma or less (37%), with those of the Post-Vatican II Generation most likely to have a bachelor's or graduate degree (74%). It should be noted that Millennials, 65% of whom report a bachelor's or graduate degree, are most likely among the generations to still be in college.

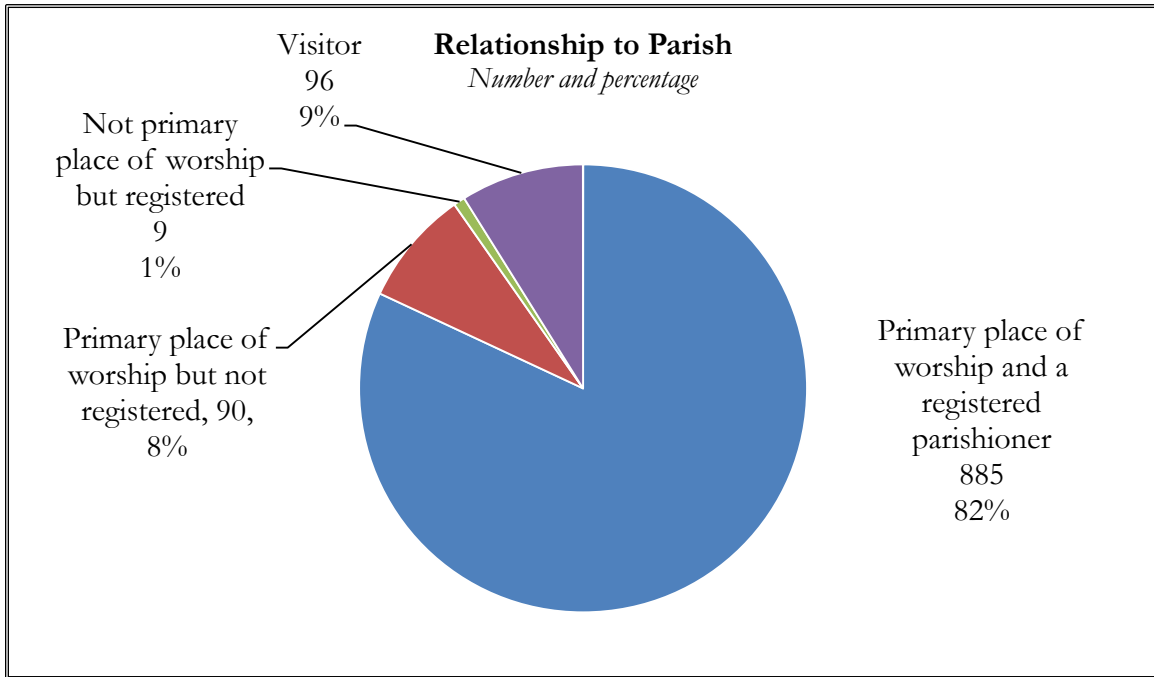
Level of Education, by Generation				
<i>Percentage responding</i>				
Level of Education	Pre-Vatican II	Vatican II	Post-Vatican II	Millennial
Some high school or less	1%	<1%	1%	8%
High school diploma	36	19	7	2
Some college	18	21	8	20
Associate's degree	7	12	9	5
Bachelor's degree	22	28	42	51
Graduate degree	17	20	32	14

Section II: Religious Characteristics of Respondents

This part of the report describes several characteristics of the 1,163 valid respondents to the survey that relate to their religious attributes and parish-related behaviors.

Relationship to the Parish

Of all respondents, 90% report that St. John the Baptist Parish is their primary place of worship and 82% say they are registered there. In the figure below, those two measures are examined in relationship to one another. Some 82% say both that the parish is their primary place of worship and that they are registered there. Eight percent say the parish is their primary place of worship but that they are *not* registered there. About one in ten (9%) is a visitor to the parish (that is they neither are registered at the parish and do not regularly attend Mass there).



In their relationship to their parish, St. John the Baptist respondents are mostly similar to Catholics in pew nationally.

Relationship to the Parish		
	St. John the Baptist	Catholics In Pew Nationally*
Primary place of worship <i>and</i> a registered parishioner	82%	78%
Primary place of worship but <i>not</i> registered	8	13
<i>Not</i> primary place of worship but registered	1	2
Visitor to the parish	9	7

**Source: CARA's 2012 Emerging Models study*

Years at the Parish

Mass attenders were asked to write in the number of years they have attended the parish. On average, respondents have attended the parish for 22 years. The median is 19 years, meaning that half of respondents have attended for 19 years or less.

Years at Parish*	
<i>Percentage responding</i>	
1 year or less	7%
2-5 years	12
6-10 years	12
11-15 years	13
16-20 years	12
21-25 years	7
26-30 years	9
31-35 years	6
36-40 years	7
41-46 years	5
46-50 years	4
51 or more years	5
Average	22
Median	19
Minimum	1
Maximum	81

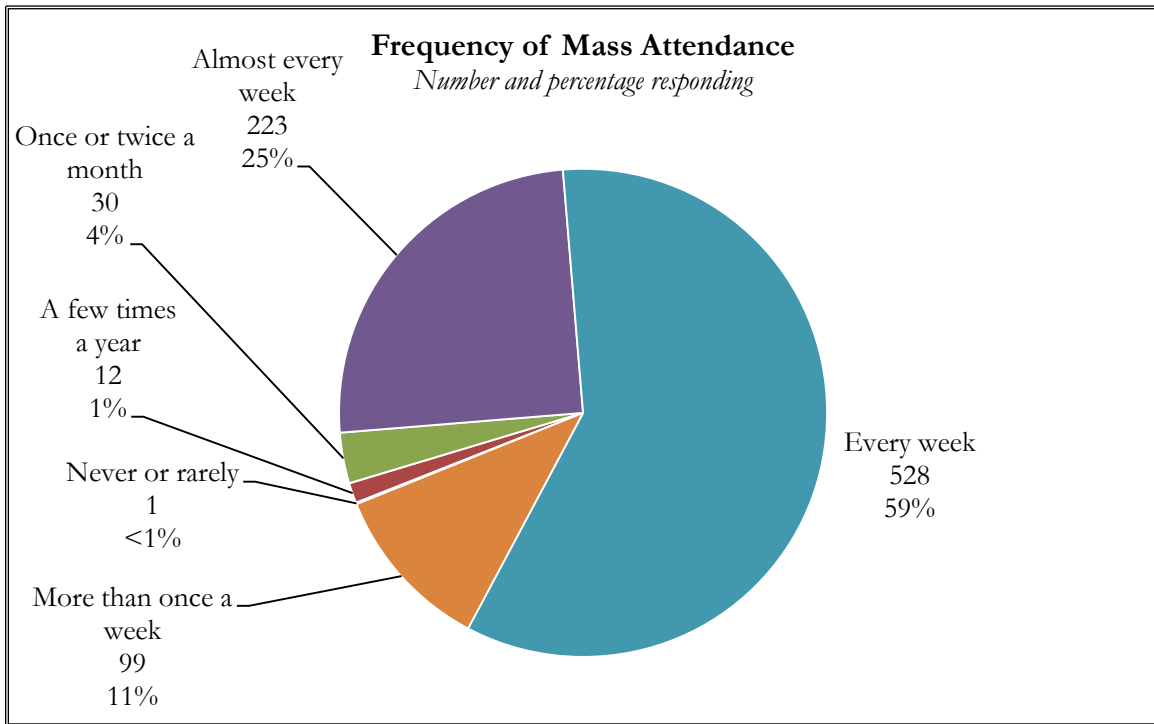
* Those who do not regularly attend the parish were asked to leave the question blank. Those who have attended for less than a year were instructed to write "1."

Differences by Ethnicity

Non-white respondents are more likely than those identifying as white, Anglo or Caucasian to have attended the parish for 15 years or less (58% compared to 43%).

Frequency of Mass Attendance

Seven in ten respondents (70%) report attending Mass at least once a week. An additional quarter (25%) attend almost every week and one in 20 (4%) attends once or twice a month. One percent attends less frequently than that.



Where relevant throughout the rest of the report, comparisons are made between those who attend at least once a week and those who attend less frequently.

Comparison to Catholics Nationally

- Compared to in-pew Catholics nationally (71%), St. John the Baptist respondents are about as likely to attend Mass at least once a week (70%).
- St. John the Baptist respondents (70%) are considerably more likely to attend Mass at least once a week than are self-identified Catholic adults nationally (23%).

About how frequently do you currently attend Mass?

Percentage responding

	St. John the Baptist	Catholics In Pew Nationally*	Catholics Nationally**
Never or rarely	<1%	<1%	32%
A few times a year	1	2	24
Once/twice a month	4	6	10
Almost every week	25	21	11
Every week	59	57	20
More than once a week	11	14	3

**Source: CARA's 2012 Emerging Models study*

***Source: CARA's 2012 Media Use study*

Differences by Generation

Members of the Pre-Vatican II Generation (86%) are most likely to attend Mass at least once a week, followed by those of the Vatican II Generation (72%), Post-Vatican II Generation (65%), and Millennial Generation (61%).

Those of the Millennial (30%) and Post-Vatican II (29%) Generations, on the other hand, are most likely to attend Mass almost every week, followed by those of the Vatican II Generation (24%) and Pre-Vatican II Generation (14%).

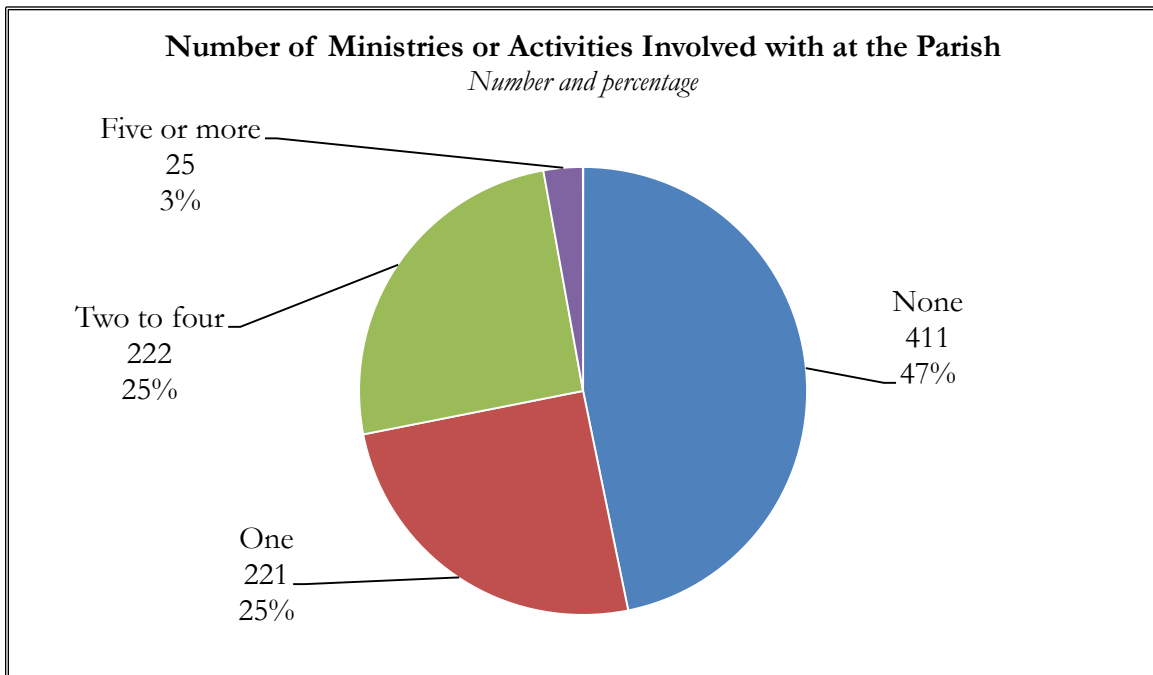
Participation in Parish Formation Programs

Respondents report the following family participation in parish formation programs:

- 21% of respondents have attended adult religious education programs in the past five years at the parish.
- 31% have children who have attended religious education classes in the past five years.

Ministry and Activity Participation

More than half (53%) report being involved with at least one ministry or activity at the parish.



In the remainder of this report, comparisons are made between three groups of respondents according to their involvement in parish activities:

- Those not involved in any parish ministries or activities (411 respondents or 47%)
- Those involved in one parish ministry or activity (221 respondents or 25%)
- Those involved with two or more ministries or activities (247 respondents or 28%)

Comparison to Parishes Nationally

Just over half (53%) report being involved with at least one ministry or activity at the parish. This is similar to the average proportion reported by parishes CARA has worked with in the past (50%).

Number of Ministries or Activities Involved With		
<i>Percentage responding</i>		
	St. John the Baptist	Parishes Nationally*
None	47%	50%
One	25	23
Two or more	28	27

**Source: Cumulative average from parishes conducting CARA Parish Life Surveys*

Section III: Assessment of Parish Life and Needs

Overall, the results of the St. John the Baptist Parish Life Survey are very positive. Twelve particular areas were addressed in the survey instrument. These areas are featured in this section of the report, though readers are advised to consult the response frequencies in Appendix I of this document for response rates and other pertinent information about these data. The areas of parish life addressed are:

- Evaluation of Aspects of Parish Life
- Evaluation of Areas of Weekend Masses
- Evaluation of Parish Efforts
- Effectiveness of Ways of Communicating
- Evaluation of Parish Outreach
- Top Priority for Parish Outreach
- Priority for Parish Needs
- Top Priority for Parish Needs
- Attraction to the Parish
- Likelihood of Future Behaviors
- Attitudes about Parish Life
- Reasons for Not Sending a Child to St. John the Baptist School

Evaluation of Aspects of Parish Life

This section presents the survey’s most general evaluation of parish life. Besides an evaluation of the parish overall, the other items are very general measures of CARA’s seven elements of parish life: community, worship, leadership, faith formation, stewardship, social justice, and evangelization.

Nearly all respondents (97%) give a positive rating (“good” and “excellent” combined) to St. John the Baptist Parish overall.

<i>Please evaluate these aspects of parish life</i>	St. John the Baptist	Catholics In Pew Nationally*
	<i>Percentage responding “Good” or “Excellent”</i>	
St. John the Baptist Parish overall	97%	94%
Masses and liturgies in general	96	94
Sense of community within the parish	91	87
Outreach to and advocacy for those in need	91	–
Encouragement to share your time, talents and treasure with the parish	90	91
Efforts to educate parishioners in the faith	89	91
Vision provided by parish leaders	89	90
Spreading the Gospel/evangelizing	85	88
<i>*Source: CARA’s 2012 Emerging Models study</i>		

- More than nine in ten give a positive evaluation to the parish’s Masses and liturgies in general, sense of community, and outreach and advocacy for those in need.
- Nine in ten or slightly fewer evaluate the following aspects of parish life as “good” or “excellent”: encouragement for parishioners to share their time, talents, and treasure; efforts to educate parishioners in the faith; the vision provided by parish leaders; and efforts to spread the Gospel or evangelize.

Comparison to Parishes Nationally⁴

Respondents at St. John the Baptist Parish do *not* differ significantly from those at parishes nationally in their positive evaluations of aspects of parish life.

⁴ As discussed in the Introduction, only differences of 10 percentage points or more are treated as meaningful.

“Excellent” Evaluations

Nearly six in ten (58%) find St. John the Baptist Parish overall to be “excellent.” The aspect of parish life receiving the highest evaluation is the Masses and liturgies in general, which is also rated as “excellent” by almost six in ten responding parishioners.

<i>Please evaluate these aspects of parish life</i>		
<i>Percentage responding “Excellent”</i>		
	St. John the Baptist	Catholics In Pew Nationally*
Masses and liturgies in general	58%	59%
St. John the Baptists Parish overall	58	58
Encouragement to share your time, talents and treasure with the parish	49	57
Efforts to educate parishioners in the faith	48	55
Outreach to and advocacy for those in need	48	–
Sense of community within the parish	47	46
Vision provided by parish leaders	43	50
Spreading the Gospel/evangelizing	36	45

**Source: CARA’s 2012 Emerging Models study*

Just under half give an “excellent” evaluation to parish efforts to encourage parishioners to share their time, talents and treasure (49%); to educate parishioners in the faith (48%); to reach out to and advocate for those in need (48%); and the sense of community within the parish (47%).

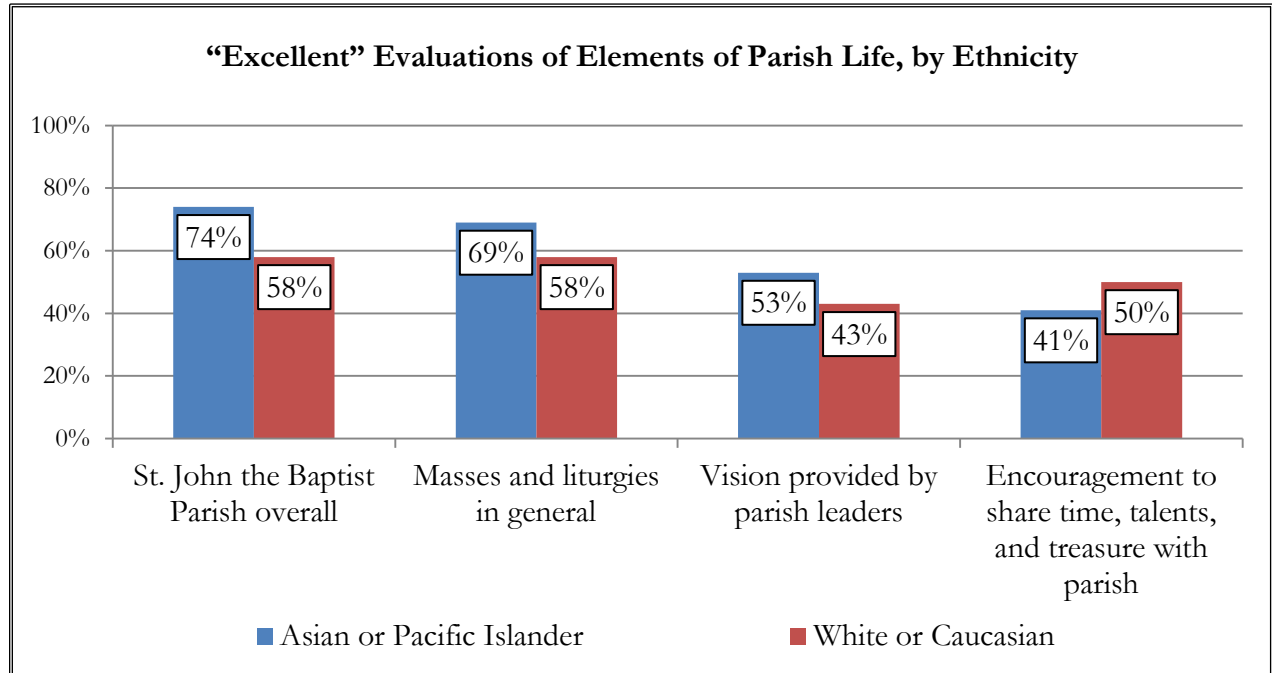
- The vision provided by parish leaders receives an “excellent” evaluation from 43% of respondents.
- Just over a third (36%) say efforts to spread the Gospel or evangelize are rated as “excellent.”

Comparison to Parishes Nationally

Respondents at St. John the Baptist Parish do *not* differ significantly from those at parishes nationally in their “excellent” evaluations of aspects of parish life.

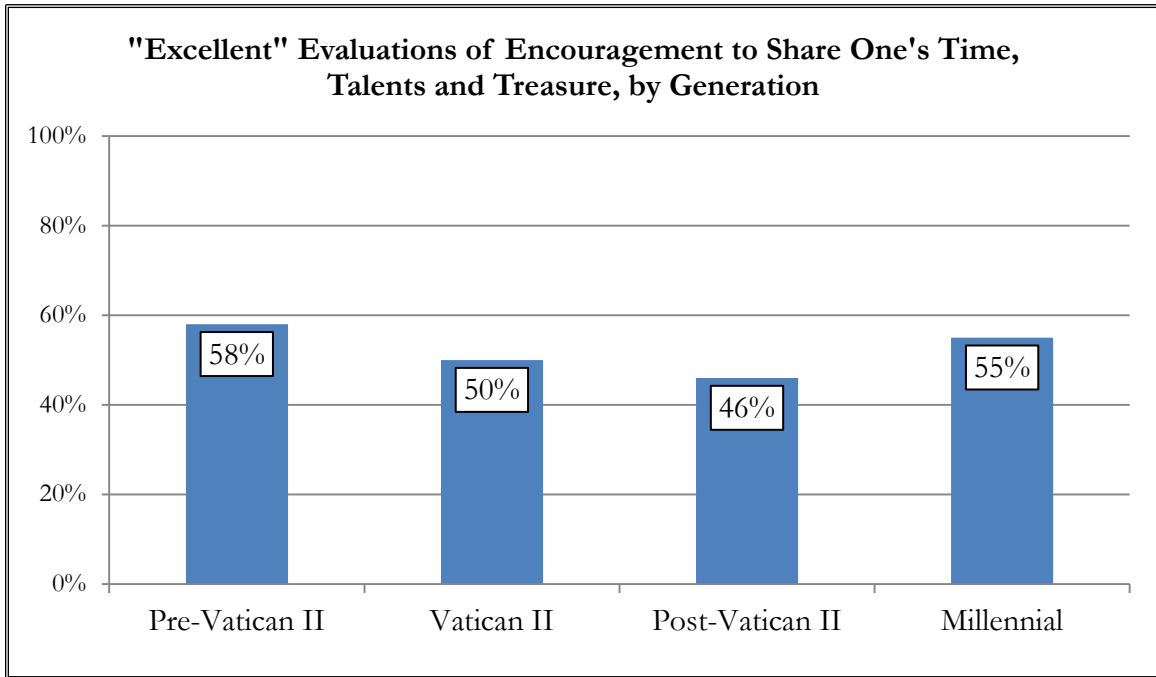
Differences by Ethnicity

Those identifying as Asian or Pacific Islander are especially likely to give an “excellent” rating to the parish overall, Masses and liturgies in general, and the vision provided by parish leaders. White, Anglo, or Caucasian respondents, on the other hand, are slightly more likely to rate as “excellent” efforts to encourage parishioners to share their time, talents and treasure with the parish.



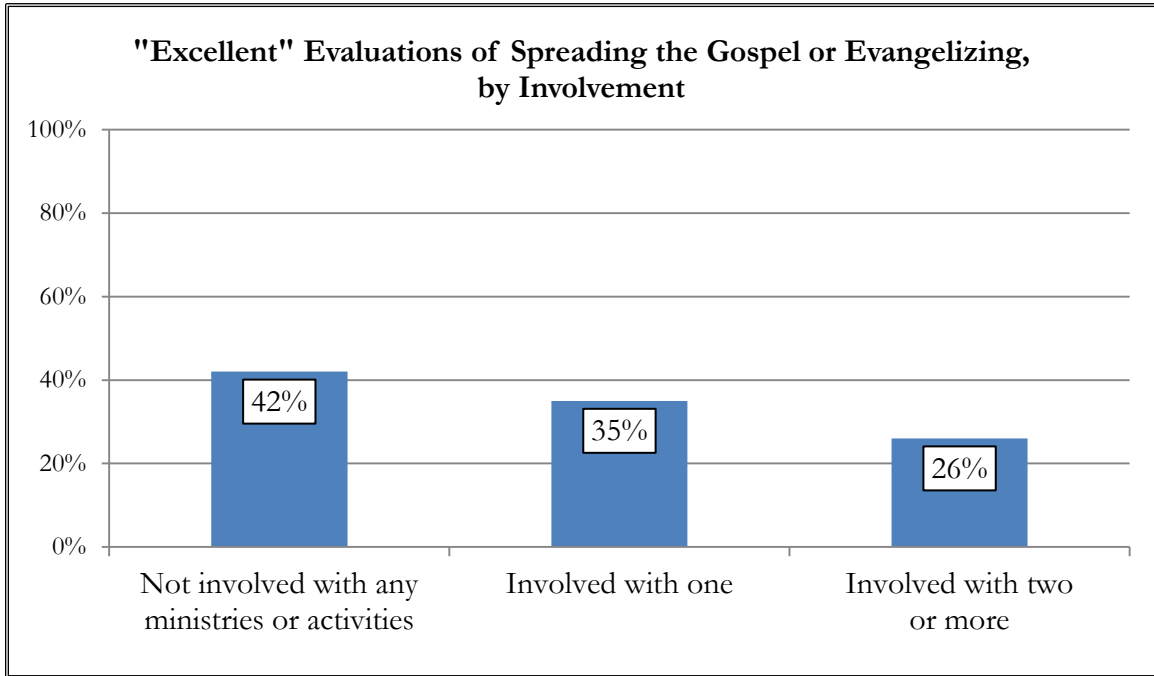
Differences by Generation

Members of the oldest generation, the Pre-Vatican II Generation, are especially likely to evaluate efforts to encourage parishioners to share their time, talents and treasure with the parish as “excellent,” with those of the Post-Vatican II Generation the *least* likely.



Differences by Level of Involvement

The *less* involved respondents are with parish ministries or activities, the more likely they are to give an “excellent” evaluation to parish efforts to spread the Gospel or evangelize.



Differences by Past Participation in Formation Programs

Those whose children have attended religious education classes at the parish in the past five years do *not* differ significantly from others in how they evaluate efforts to educate parishioners in the faith.

Similarly, those who have attended adult religious education classes at the parish in the past five years do *not* differ significantly from others in how they evaluate efforts to educate parishioners in the faith.

Evaluation of Areas of Weekend Masses

Some 94% or 95% give each of the areas of weekend Masses overall listed in the table below a “good” or “excellent” evaluation.

<i>Please evaluate these areas of weekend Masses overall for the Mass you most regularly attend</i>		
<i>Percentage responding “Good” or “Excellent”</i>		
	St. John the Baptist	Catholics In Pew Nationally*
Hospitality or sense of welcome	95%	85%
Homilies	94	87
Music	94	82

**Source: CARA's 2012 Emerging Models study*

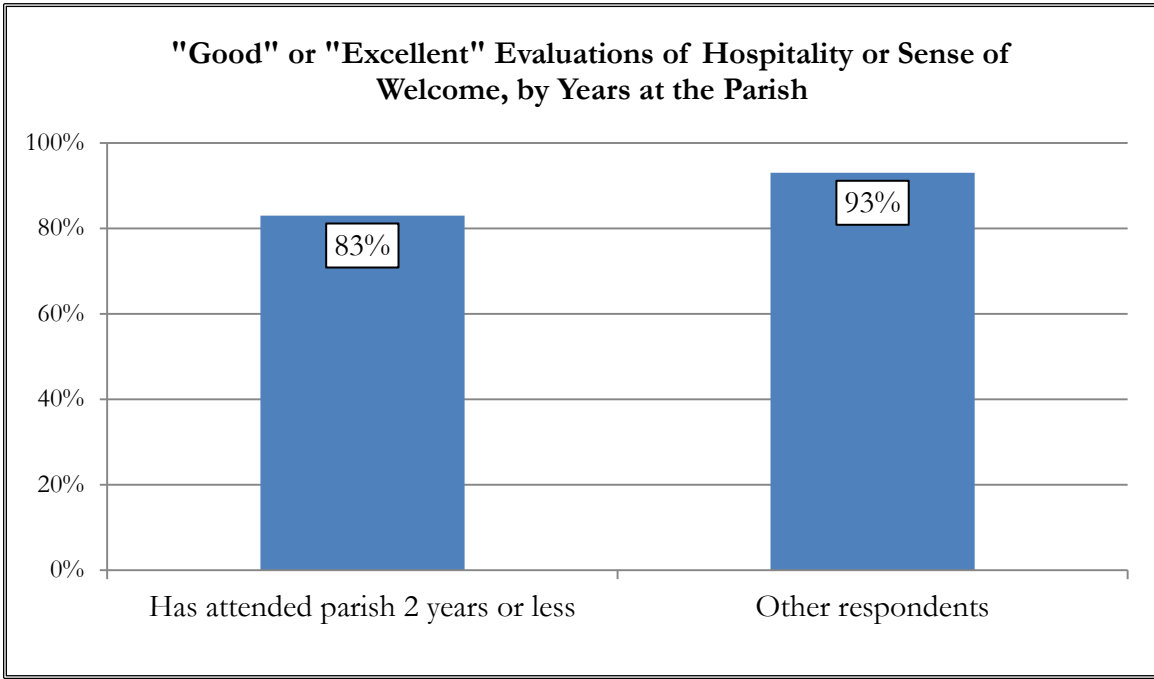
Comparison to Parishes Nationally

Respondents at St. John the Baptist Parish are 10 to 12 percentage points more likely than those at parishes nationally to give a “good” or “excellent” evaluation to the following areas of worship:

- Music (94% compared to 82%)
- Hospitality or sense of welcome (95% compared to 85%)

Differences by Years at the Parish

Newer parishioners, that is those who have attended the parish for two years or less, are *less* likely than others to rate the hospitality or sense of welcome as “good” or “excellent.”



“Excellent” Evaluations

Three in four (75%) say the music at weekend Masses is “excellent”

<i>Please evaluate these areas of weekend Masses overall for the Mass you most regularly attend</i>		
<i>Percentage responding “Excellent”</i>		
	St. John the Baptist	Catholics In Pew Nationally*
Music	75%	48%
Hospitality or sense of welcome	69	49
Homilies	56	48

**Source: CARA’s 2012 Emerging Models study*

- Seven in ten (69%) rate the hospitality or sense of welcome at weekend Masses as “excellent.”
- The homilies at weekend Masses receive an “excellent” evaluation from nearly six in ten respondents (56%).

Comparison to Parishes Nationally

Respondents at St. John the Baptist Parish are 20 to 27 percentage points more likely than those at parishes nationally to give an “excellent” evaluation to the following areas of worship:

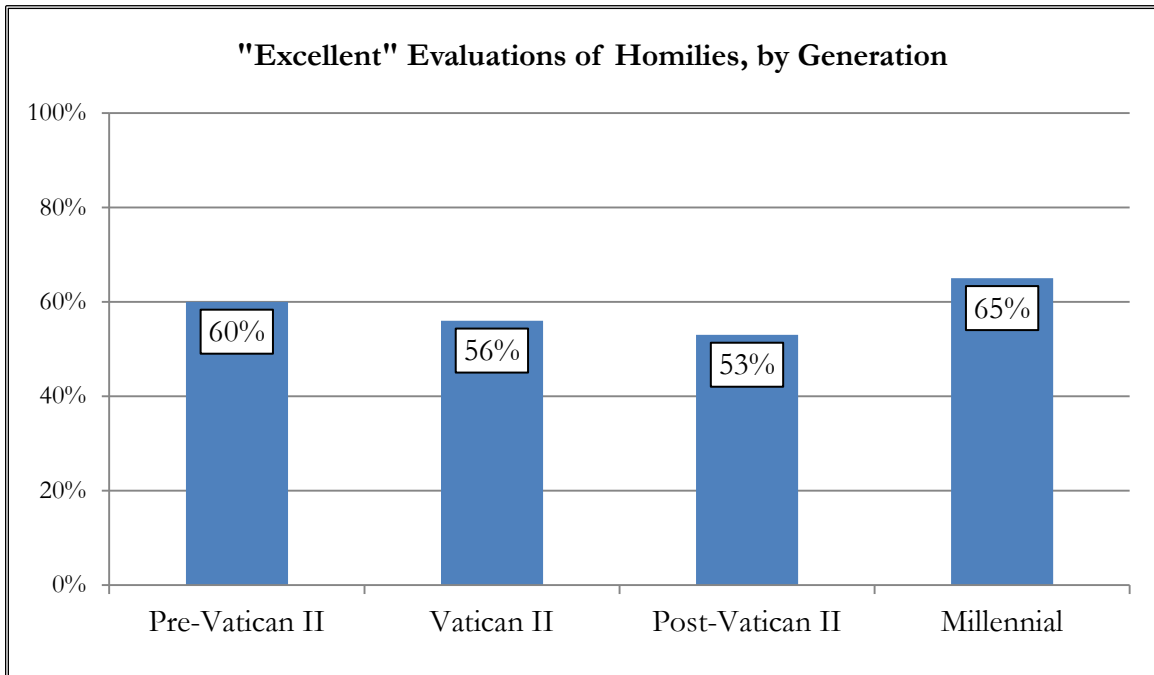
- Music (75% compared to 48%)
- Hospitality or sense of welcome (69% compared to 49%)

Differences by Frequency of Mass Attendance

Those who attend Mass at least once a week do *not* differ significantly from others in how they evaluate the areas of weekend Masses presented in this section.

Differences by Generation

Members of the Millennial Generation are especially likely to rate the homilies as “excellent.”



Differences by Relationship to the Parish

Visitors at the parish do *not* differ significantly from others in how they evaluate the hospitality or sense of welcome at parish liturgies.

Evaluation of Parish Efforts

With one exception, at least 87% of respondents give a positive evaluation to the parish efforts presented in the table below. The one exception, efforts to offer a Catholic view on current issues, receives positive evaluations from 73% of respondents.

<i>Please evaluate parish efforts to:</i>		
<i>Percentage responding "Good" or "Excellent"</i>		
	St. John the Baptist	Parishes Nationally*
Nurture your relationship with Jesus Christ	92%	89%
Communicate with parishioners	91	80
Meet people's spiritual needs	90	83
Help you practice gospel values in your daily life	88	86
Invite you to participate in parish ministries	87	82
Offer a Catholic view on current issues	73	80

**Source: Cumulative average from parishes conducting CARA Parish Life Surveys*

Comparison to Parishes Nationally

Respondents at St. John the Baptist Parish are 11 percentage points more likely than those at parishes nationally to give a "good" or "excellent" evaluation to efforts to communicate with parishioners (91% compared to 80%).

“Excellent” Evaluations

More than four in ten give an “excellent” evaluation to efforts to invite parishioners to participate in parish ministries (46%), communicate with parishioners (46%), nurture one’s relationship with Jesus Christ (45%), and meet people’s spiritual needs (41%).

<i>Please evaluate parish efforts to:</i>		
<i>Percentage responding “Excellent”</i>		
	St. John the Baptist	Parishes Nationally*
Invite you to participate in parish ministries	46%	39%
Communicate with parishioners	46	37
Nurture your relationship with Jesus Christ	45	47
Meet people’s spiritual needs	41	40
Help you practice gospel values in your daily life	36	37
Offer a Catholic view on current issues	29	33

**Source: Cumulative average from parishes conducting CARA Parish Life Surveys*

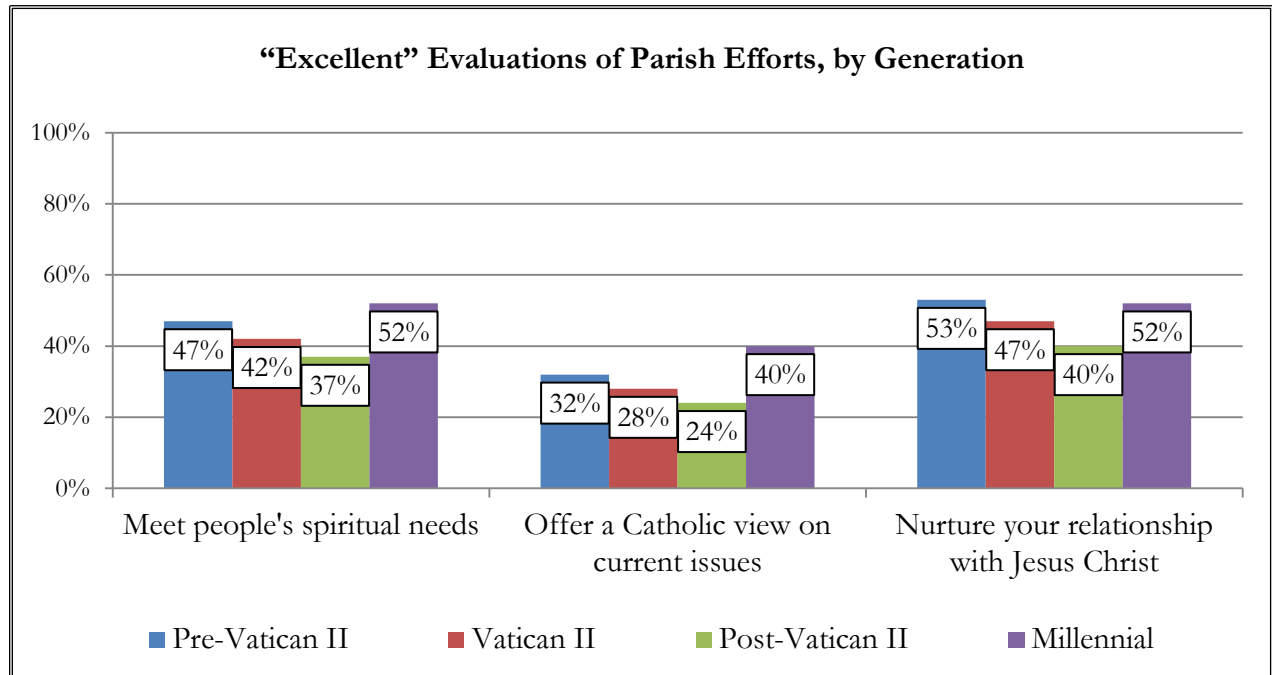
- Just over one-third (36%) say parish efforts to help them practice gospel values in their daily life are “excellent.”
- Efforts to offer a Catholic view on current issues receive an “excellent” evaluation from three in ten respondents (29%).

Comparison to Parishes Nationally

Respondents at St. John the Baptist Parish do *not* differ significantly from those at parishes nationally in their “excellent” evaluations of parish efforts evaluated in the table above.

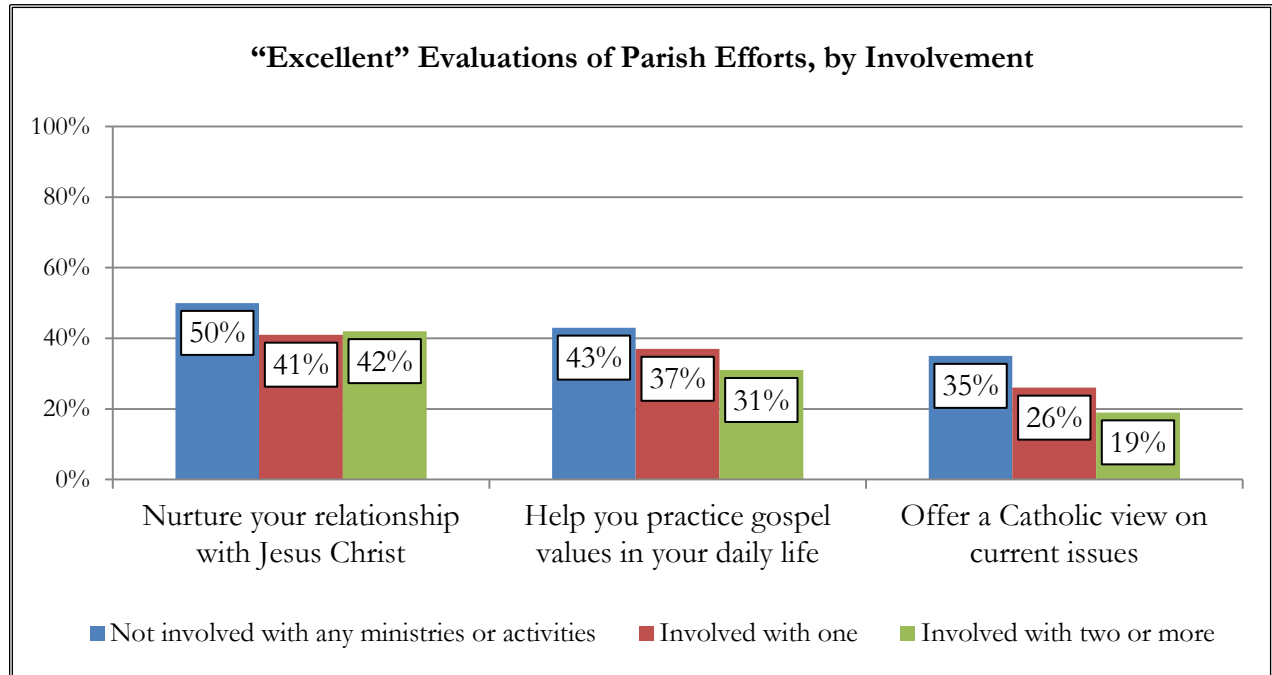
Differences by Generation

Millennials are especially likely to rate parish efforts to meet people’s spiritual needs and to offer a Catholic view on current issues as “excellent.” Those of the Post-Vatican II Generation are *least* likely to evaluate those two parish efforts as “excellent,” as well as parish efforts to nurture one’s relationship with Jesus Christ.



Differences by Level of Involvement

Those *not* involved with any two ministries or activities at the parish are relatively more likely than other respondents to give an “excellent” evaluation to efforts to nurture one’s relationship with Jesus Christ. In addition, the more involved respondents are with parish ministries or activities, the *less* likely they are to give efforts to help parishioners practice gospel values in their daily life and to offer a Catholic view on current events an “excellent” evaluation.



Effectiveness of Ways of Communicating

At least six in ten respondents say each of the ways of communicating listed in the table below are at least “somewhat” effective ways of communicating parish news to them.

<i>How effective are these ways of communicating parish news to you?</i>		
<i>Percentage responding “Somewhat” or “Very”</i>		
	St. John the Baptist	Parishes Nationally*
Sunday bulletins	96%	95%
Inserts in the Sunday bulletins	94	93
Announcements read at Mass	92	90
Fliers and brochures in the church	86	86
Parish newsletter, <i>Frameworks</i>	85	82
Parish Guidebook and Directory	76	–
Email to your work or home address	74	60
Parish website	73	62
Social media (Facebook, Twitter)	64	–
Word of mouth among parishioners	61	56
myParish App	59	–

**Source: Cumulative average from parishes conducting CARA Parish Life Surveys*

Between 92% and 96% say the following are “somewhat” or “very” effective ways of communicating parish news to them: the Sunday bulletins, inserts in the Sunday bulletins, and announcements read at Mass. Likely not coincidentally due to the methods for distributing the survey in pew, each of these ways is related to attending Masses on weekends.

- Fliers and brochures in the church (86%) and the parish newsletter (*Frameworks*) (85%) are seen as at least “somewhat” effective ways of communicating parish news by almost nine in ten respondents.
- About three in four say the following are at least “somewhat” effective for communicating parish news to them: the Parish Guidebook and Directory (76%), email to their work or home address (74%), and the parish website (73%).
- About six in ten report that the following are at least “somewhat” effective for communicating parish news to them: social media (Facebook, Twitter) (64%), word of mouth among parishioners (61%), and the myParish App (59%).

Comparison to Parishes Nationally

Respondents at St. John the Baptist Parish are 11 to 14 percentage points more likely than those at parishes nationally to say the following are at least “somewhat” effective ways of communicating parish news to them:

- Email to your work or home address (74% compared to 60%)
- Parish website (73% compared to 62%)

“Very” Effective Ways of Communicating

The three ways of communicating parish news most commonly evaluated as “excellent” are all related to weekend Mass attendance: the Sunday bulletins (68%), inserts in the Sunday bulletins (60%), and announcements read at Mass (54%).

<i>How effective are these ways of communicating parish news to you?</i>		
<i>Percentage responding “Very”</i>		
	St. John the Baptist	Parishes Nationally*
Sunday bulletins	68%	70%
Inserts in the Sunday bulletins	60	60
Announcements read at Mass	54	57
Fliers and brochures in the church	42	49
Parish newsletter, <i>Frameworks</i>	42	48
Email to your work or home address	36	32
Parish website	31	30
Parish Guidebook and Directory	31	–
Social media (Facebook, Twitter)	28	–
myParish App	23	–
Word of mouth among parishioners	21	21

**Source: Cumulative average from parishes conducting CARA Parish Life Surveys*

Just over four in ten say fliers and brochures in the church (42%) and the parish newsletter (*Frameworks*) (42%) are “very” effective ways of communicating parish news to them.

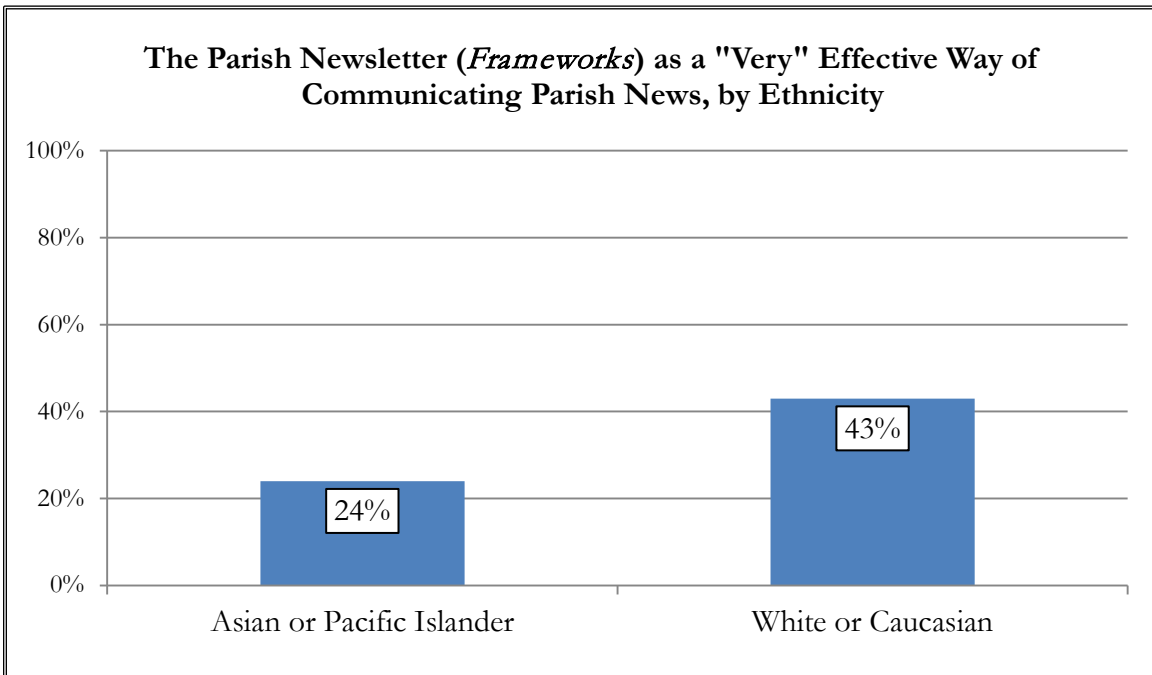
- Among the electronic forms of communication, email to one’s work or home address (36%) is most likely to be rated as a “very” effective way to communicate parish news to parishioners, followed by the parish website (31%), social media (28%), and the myParish App (23%).
- The Parish Guidebook and Directory is seen as an “excellent” way of communicating parish news by three in ten respondents (31%).
- Two in ten (21%) say word of mouth among parishioners is a “very” effective way of communicating parish news to them.

Comparison to Parishes Nationally

Respondents at St. John the Baptist Parish do *not* differ significantly from those at parishes nationally in how effective they say the ways of communicating parish news evaluated in the table above are.

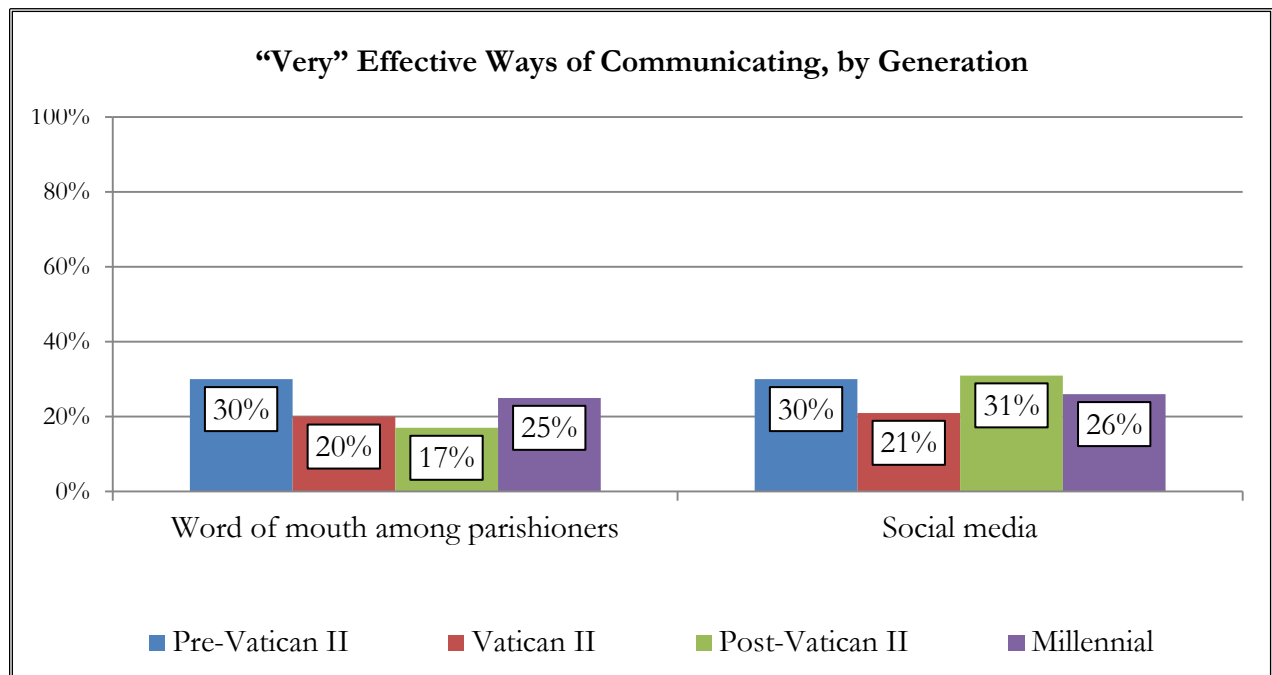
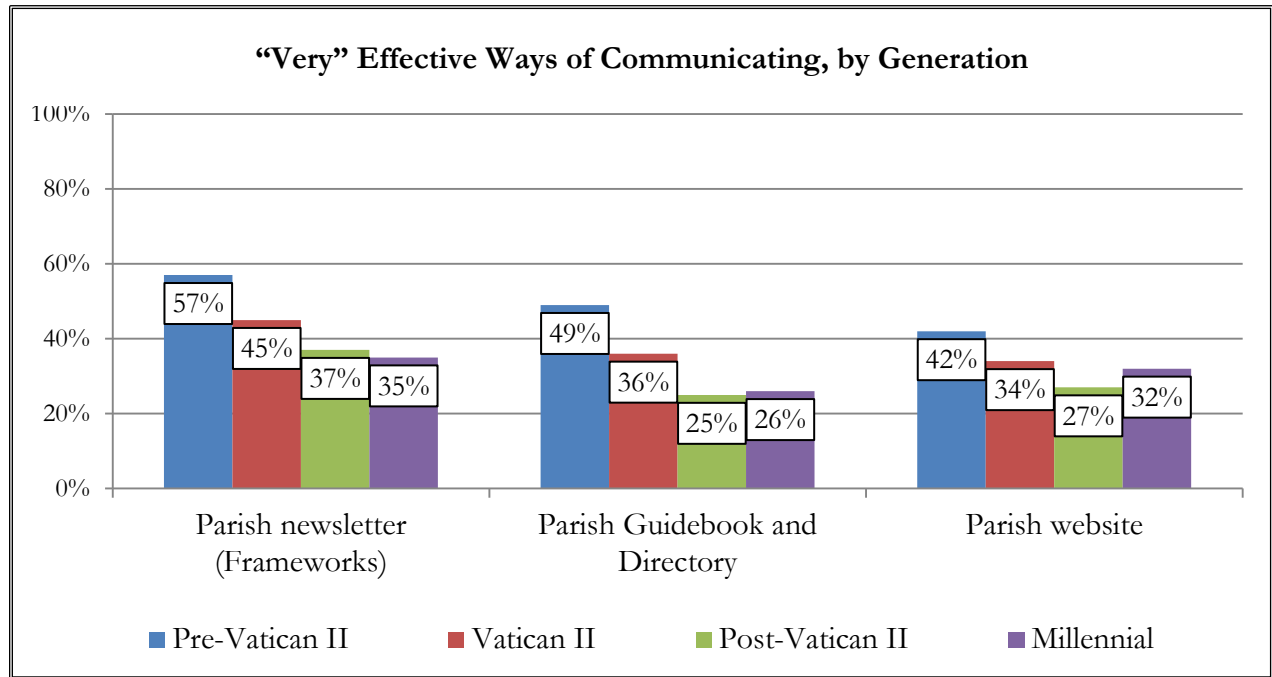
Differences by Ethnicity

Those identifying as white, Anglo or Caucasian are especially likely to report that the parish newsletter (*Frameworks*) is “very” effective for communicating parish news.



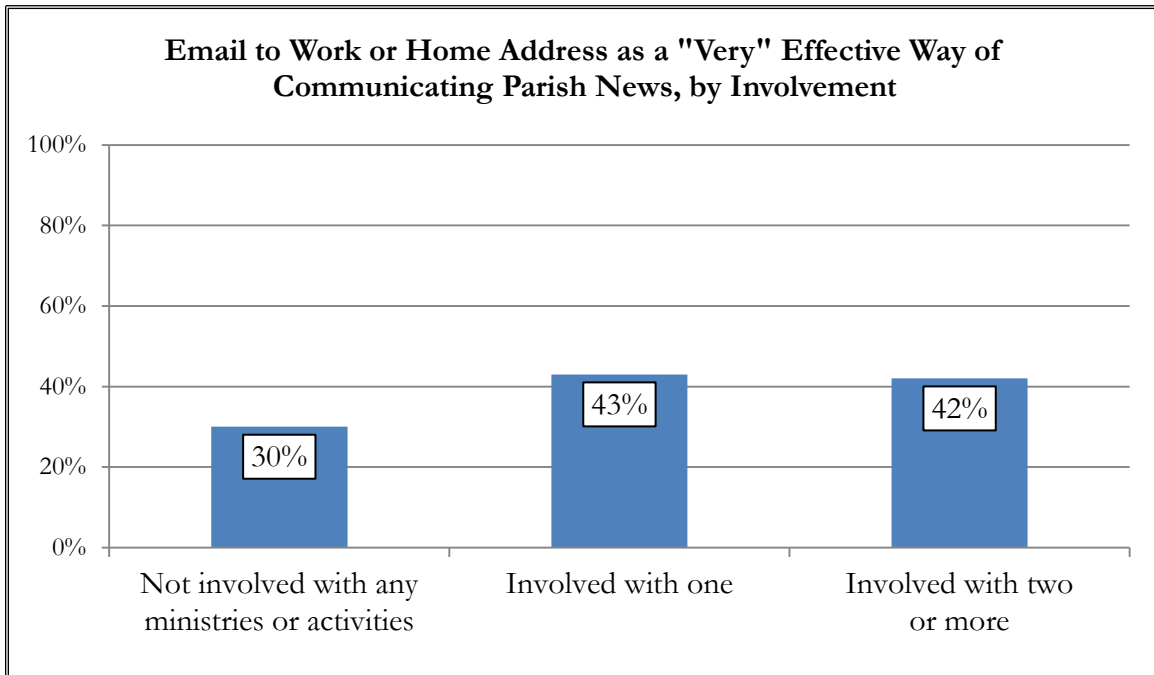
Differences by Generation

Members of the oldest generation are especially likely to report that the parish newsletter (*Frameworks*), Parish Guidebook and Directory, parish website, and word of mouth among parishioners are “very” effective for communicating parish news. In addition, those of the oldest generation and those of the Post-Vatican II Generation are most likely to say social media are a “very” effective way of communicating parish news.



Differences by Level of Involvement

Those involved with at least one ministry or activity at the parish are relatively more likely than other respondents to report that email to one's work or home address is "very" effective for communicating parish news.



Evaluation of Parish Outreach

More than six in ten respondents at St. John the Baptist Parish give a positive evaluation to the parish's outreach to each of the groups presented in the table below.

<i>Please evaluate parish outreach to these groups:</i>		
<i>Percentage responding "Good" or "Excellent"</i>		
	St. John the Baptist	Parishes Nationally*
Visitors and guests	92%	81%
New parishioners	91	70
Children (ages 4 to 12)	88	77
Senior citizens (ages 65 and older)	86	75
Those grieving	84	72
Those sick or homebound	83	80
Teens (ages 13 to 17)	82	73
Those in financial need	81	69
Married couples	78	72
Young adults (ages 18 to 35)	71	67
Those divorced or separated	69	54
Single adults	67	53
Single parents	66	52
Inactive Catholics	62	54

**Source: Cumulative average from parishes conducting CARA Parish Life Surveys*

More than nine in ten say the parish is "good" or "excellent" at reaching out to visitors and guests and to new parishioners. Just over six in ten rate it positively in its outreach to another group related to evangelization, inactive Catholics.

- More than eight in ten give a positive evaluation to parish outreach to children (88%) and teens (82%). Outreach to senior citizens receives a positive rating from 86%, while outreach to young adults is rated positively by 71%.
- More than eight in ten give a positive evaluation to outreach to those grieving (84%), those sick or homebound (83%), and those in financial need (81%).
- Among those groups categorized by their marital status, outreach to married couples (78%) is most likely to receive a positive evaluation, followed by those divorced or separated (69%), single adults (67%), and single parents (66%).

Comparison to Parishes Nationally

Respondents at St. John the Baptist Parish are 11 to 21 percentage points more likely than those at parishes nationally to give a “good” or “excellent” evaluation to parish outreach to the following groups:

- New parishioners (91% compared to 70%)
- Those divorced or separated (69% compared to 54%)
- Single adults (67% compared to 53%)
- Single parents (66% compared to 52%)
- Those grieving (84% compared to 72%)
- Those in financial need (81% compared to 69%)
- Visitors and guests (92% compared to 81%)
- Children (88% percent compared to 77%)
- Senior citizens (86% compared to 75%)

Non-response Rate

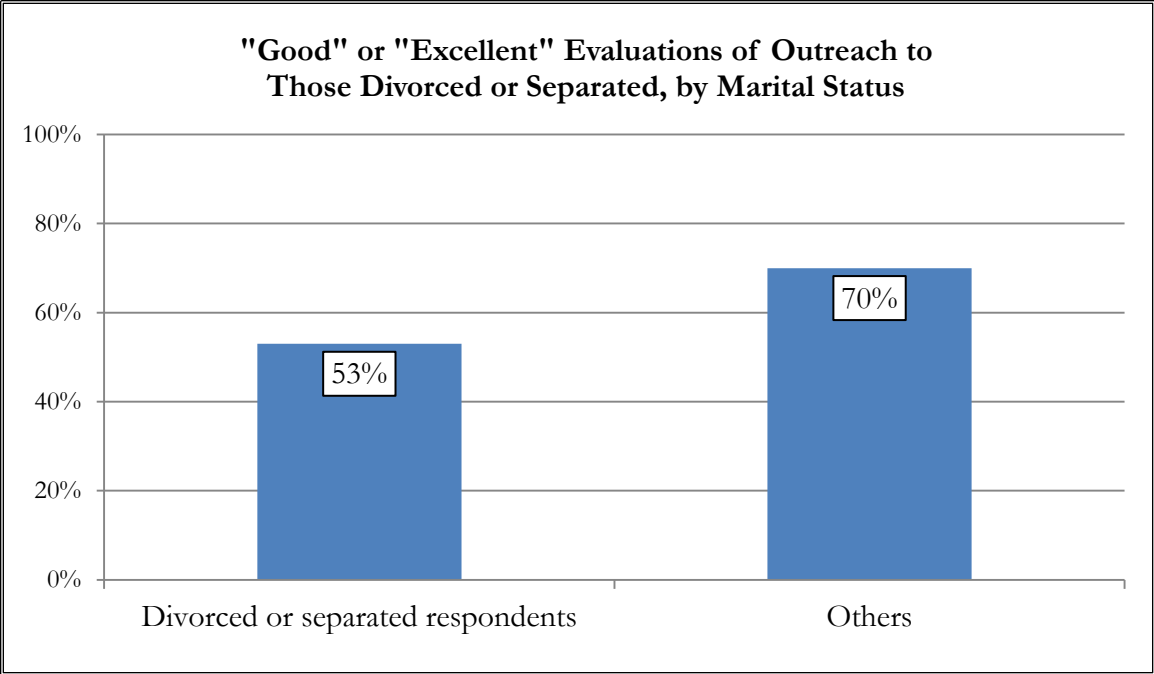
Perhaps due to being unfamiliar with the parish’s efforts to reach out to some groups, non-response rates are more than one-third for outreach to the following groups:

- 44% for single parents
- 40% for single adults
- 38% for those in financial need
- 37% for those divorced or separated
- 36% for inactive Catholics
- 36% for senior citizens
- 34% for those sick or homebound
- 33% for those grieving
- 33% for young adults

While it is impossible to know why a respondent did not provide a response to a question, these high non-response rates might be suggestive that the parish has not made these programs or efforts well known.

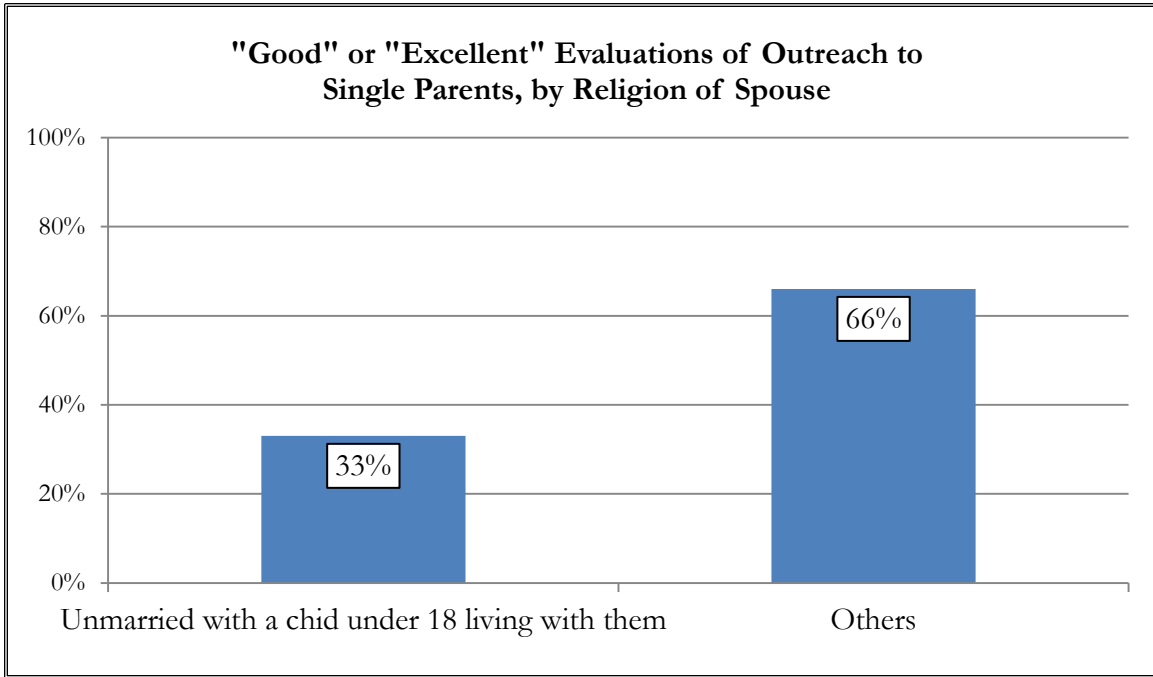
Differences by Marital Status

Divorced or separated respondents are *less* likely than others to give a positive evaluation to parish outreach to those divorced or separated.



Differences by Marital Status of Parent

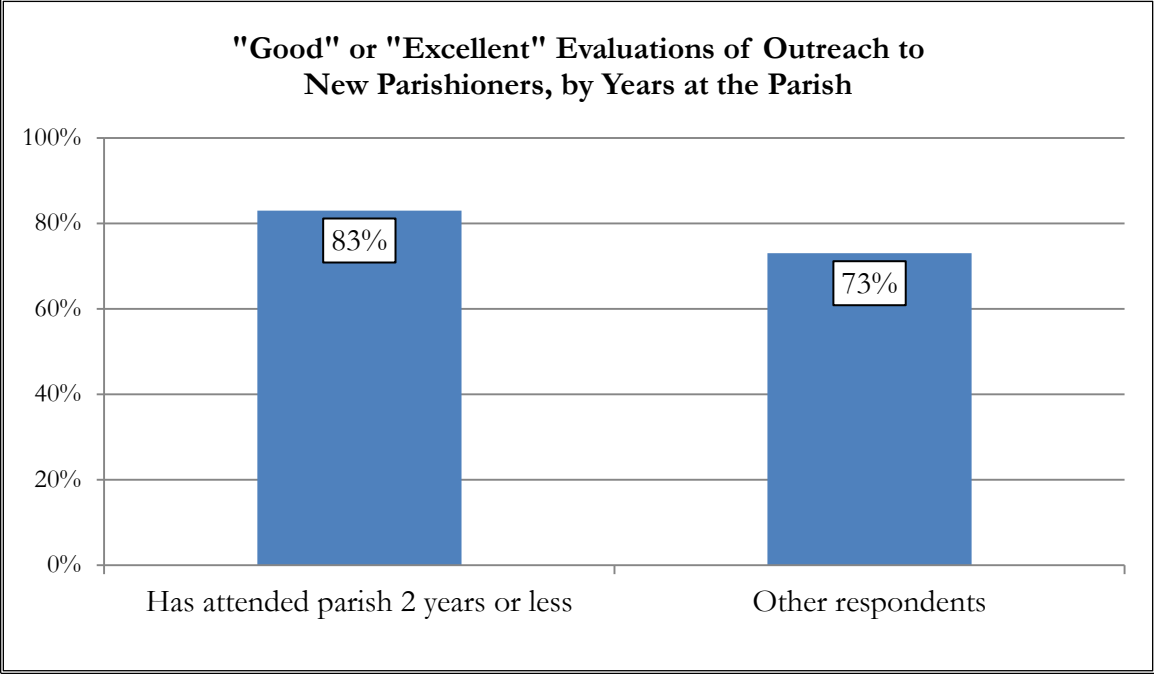
Unmarried respondents with a child under age 18 living with them (36 of whom responded to this question) are half as likely as others to give a positive evaluation to parish outreach to single parents.⁵



⁵ As will be presented later, 33% responded that outreach to single parents is “good,” with none responding “excellent.”

Differences by Years at the Parish

Newer parishioners, that is those who have attended the parish for two years or less, are more likely than others to evaluate parish outreach to new parishioners as “good” or “excellent.”



“Excellent” Ratings

More than four-tenths of respondents give an “excellent” rating to parish outreach to visitors and guests (51%) and new parishioners (46%). Two in ten give as high an evaluation to outreach to inactive Catholics.

Please evaluate parish outreach to the following groups:
Percentage responding “Excellent”

	St. John the Baptist	Parishes Nationally*
Visitors and guests	51%	39%
New parishioners	46	29
Children (ages 4 to 12)	42	33
Teens (ages 13 to 17)	37	30
Senior citizens (ages 65 and older)	36	34
Those grieving	36	31
Those sick or homebound	33	38
Married couples	30	26
Those in financial need	29	28
Young adults (ages 18 to 35)	25	27
Those divorced or separated	23	19
Single adults	22	17
Inactive Catholics	21	19
Single parents	20	17

**Source: Cumulative average from parishes conducting C.A.R.A. Parish Life Surveys*

About four in ten give an “excellent” evaluation to parish outreach to children (42%) and teens (37%). Outreach to senior citizens receives an “excellent” rating from 36%, while outreach to young adults is rated as highly by 25%.

- Roughly a third give an “excellent” evaluation to outreach to those grieving (36%), those sick or homebound (33%), and those in financial need (29%).
- Among those groups categorized by their marital status, outreach to married couples (30%) is most likely to receive an “excellent” rating, followed by those divorced or separated (23%), single adults (22%), and single parents (20%).

Comparison to Parishes Nationally

Respondents at St. John the Baptist Parish are 12 to 17 percentage points more likely than those at parishes nationally to give an “excellent” evaluation to parish outreach to the following groups:

- New parishioners (46% compared to 29%)
- Visitors and guests (51% compared to 39%)

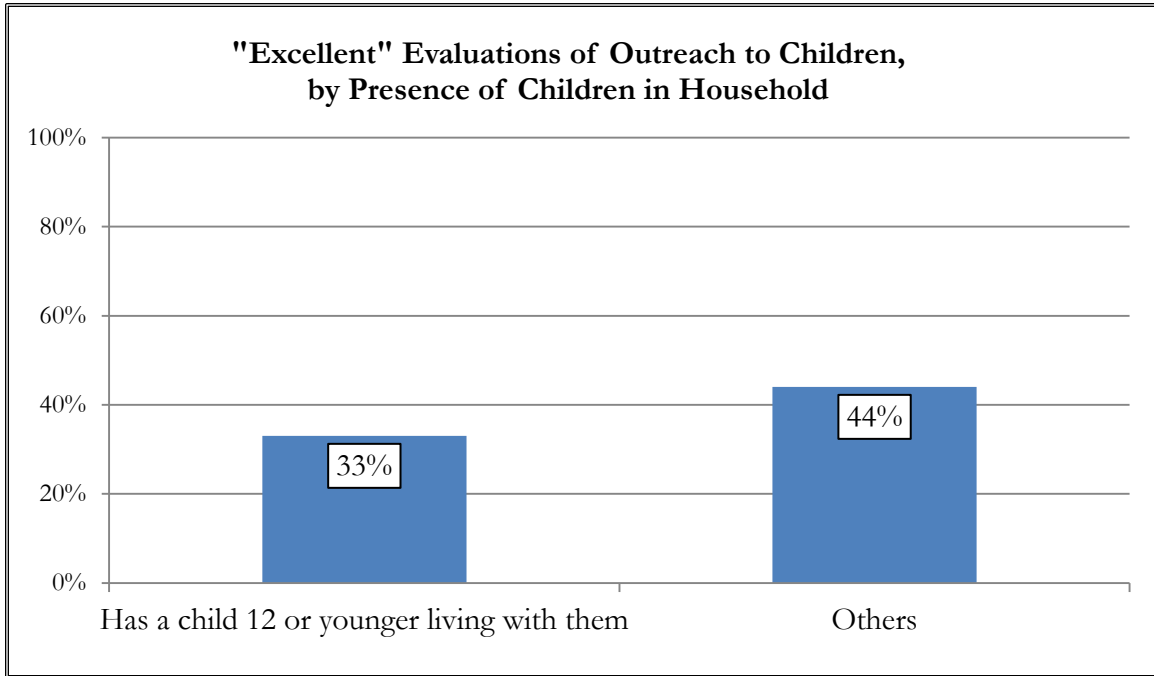
Differences by Age Group

Those ages 18 to 35 are slightly more likely than others to give an “excellent” evaluation to parish outreach to young adults (30% compared to 24%).

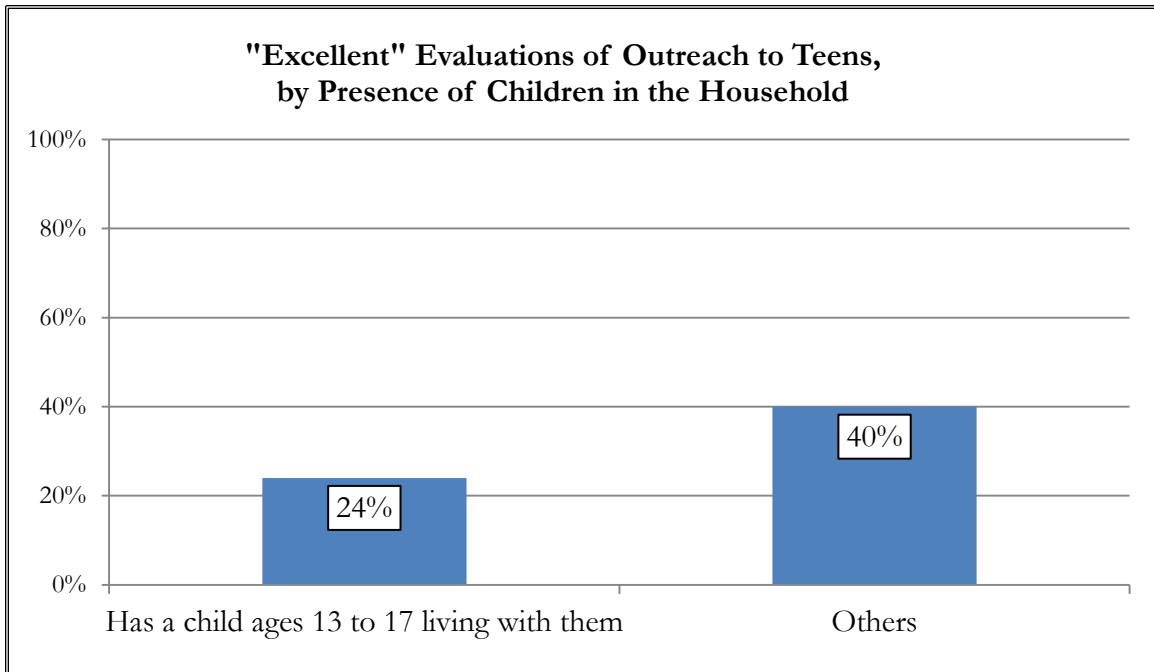
Those ages 65 or older do *not* differ significantly in how they evaluate parish outreach to senior citizens.

Differences by Children Present in the Household

Respondents with children or stepchildren ages 12 or younger living with them are *less* likely than others to give an “excellent” evaluation to parish outreach to children ages 12 or younger.

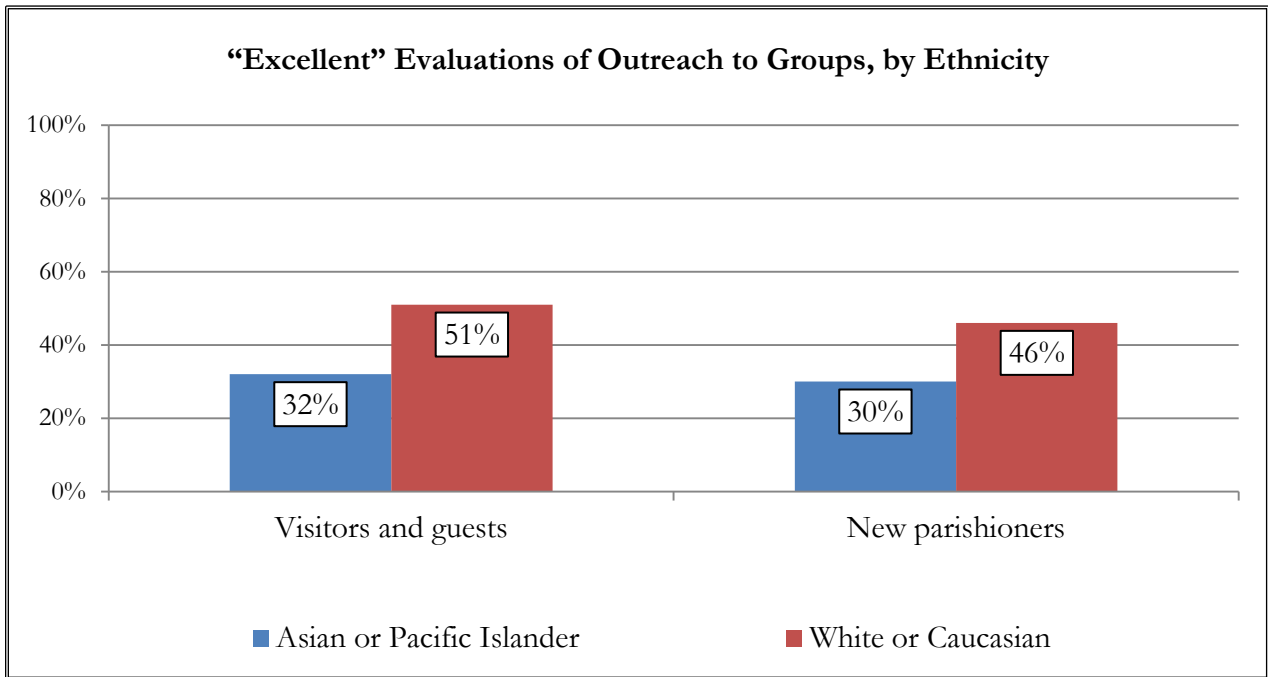


Similarly, those with children or stepchildren ages 13 to 17 living with them are *less* likely than others to give an “excellent” evaluation to parish outreach to teens.



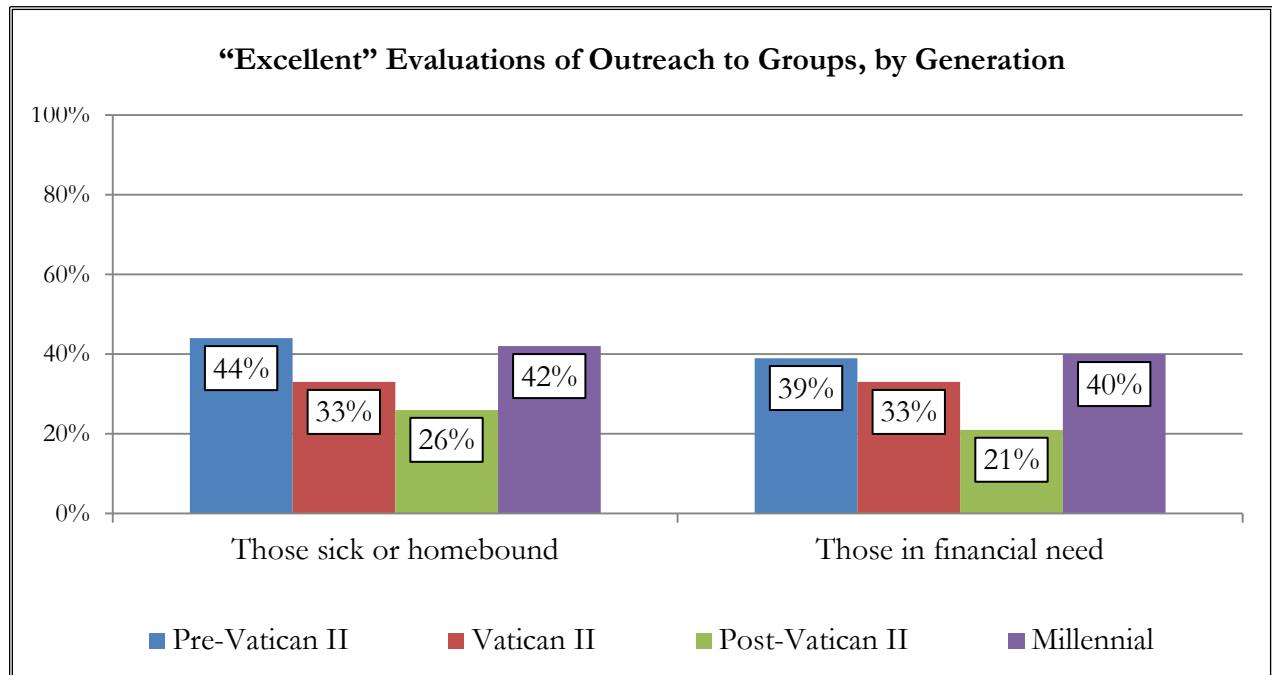
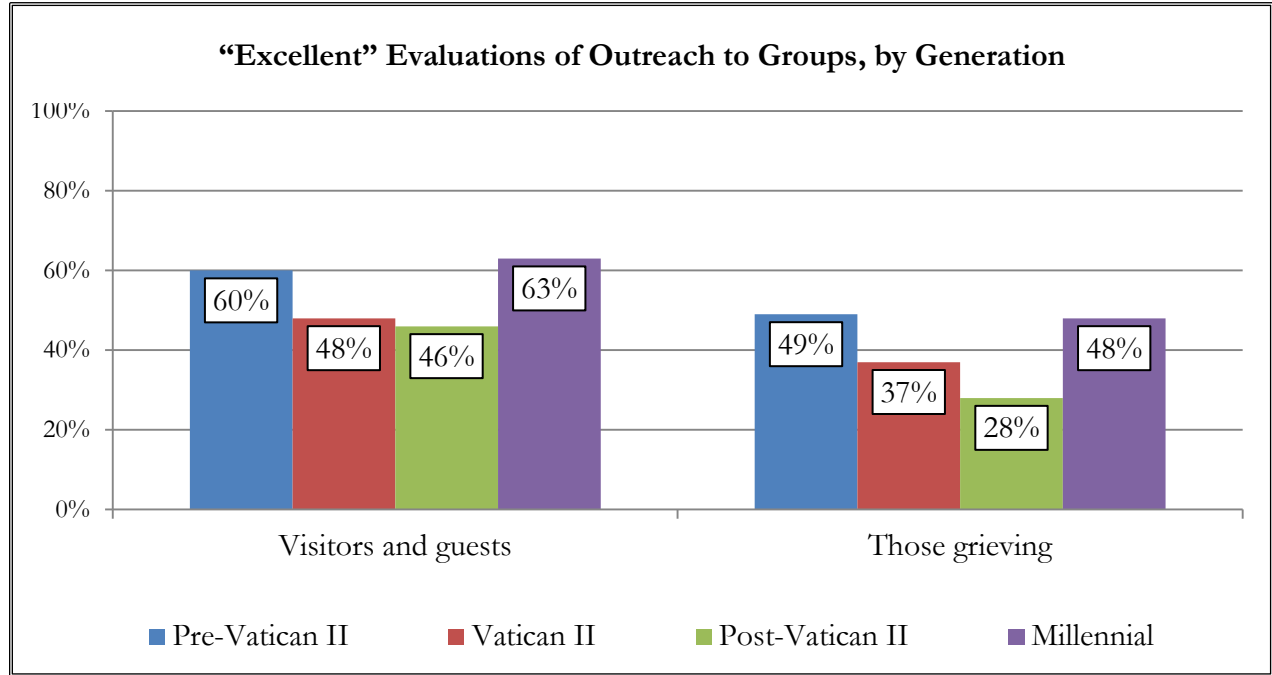
Differences by Ethnicity

Those identifying as white, Anglo or Caucasian are more likely than those identifying as Asian or Pacific Islander to give an “excellent” evaluation to parish outreach to visitors and guests and to new parishioners.



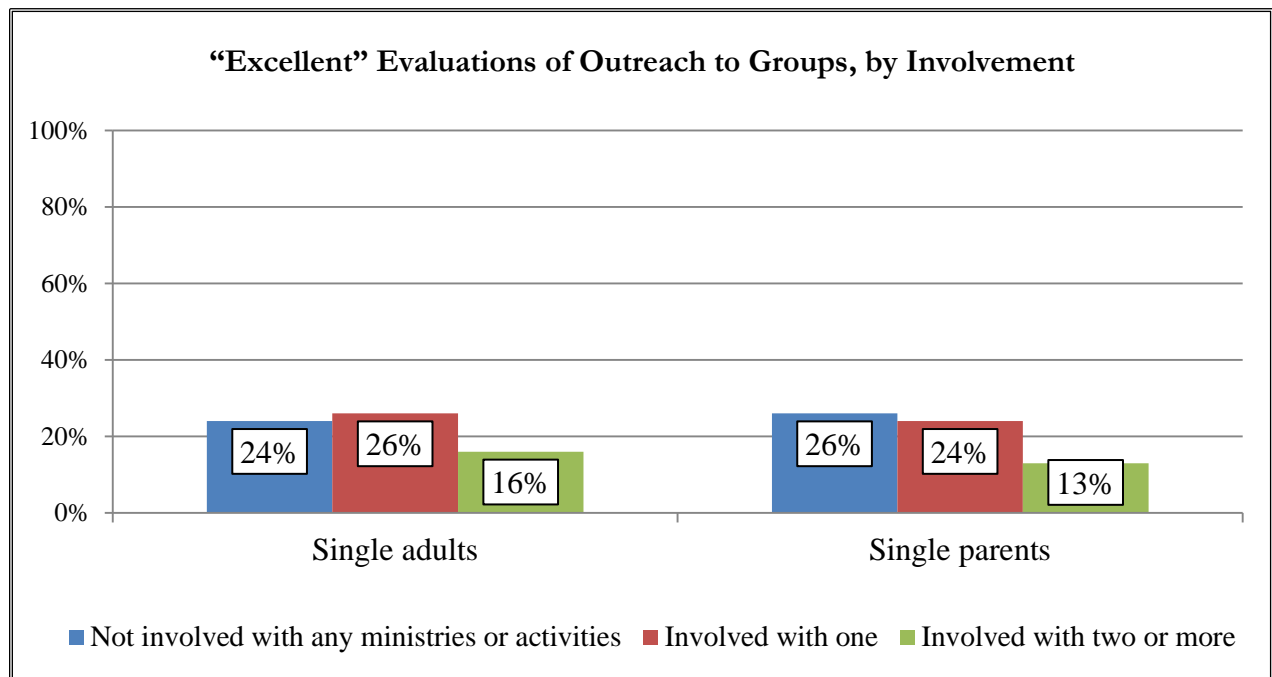
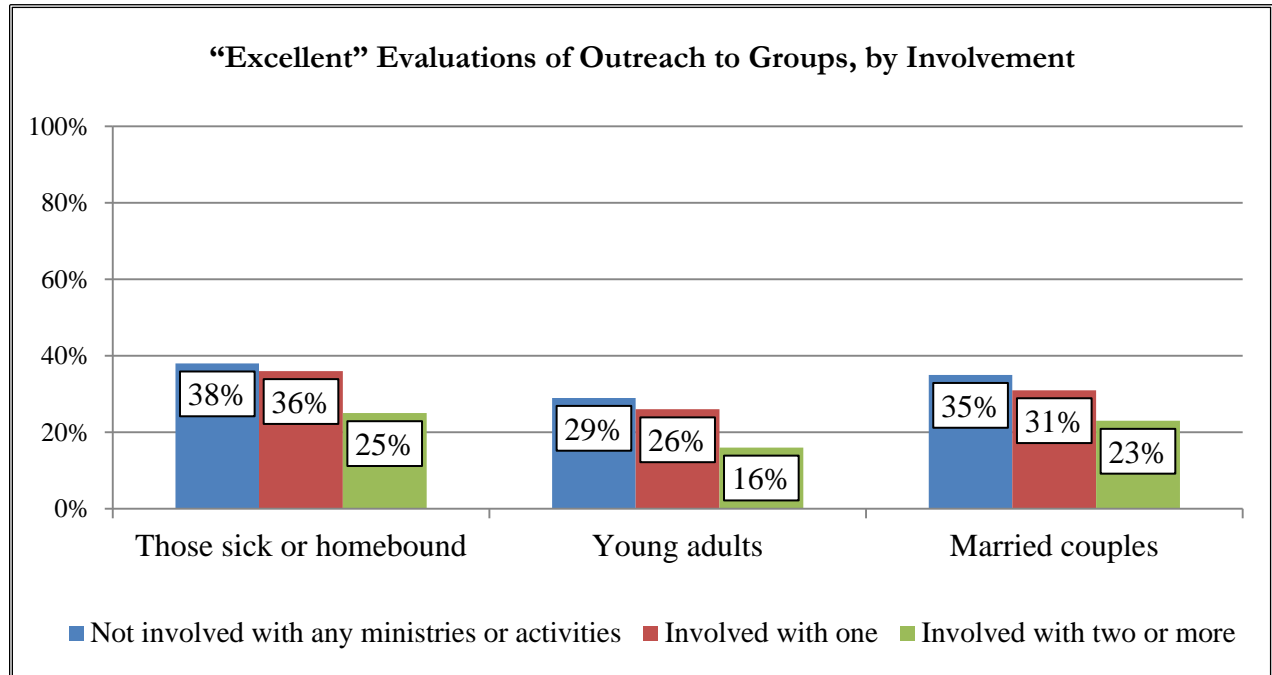
Differences by Generation

Members of the oldest and youngest generations are especially likely to evaluate parish outreach to the groups presented in the figures below as “excellent.” Members of the Post-Vatican II Generation are *least* likely to rate these efforts as “excellent.”



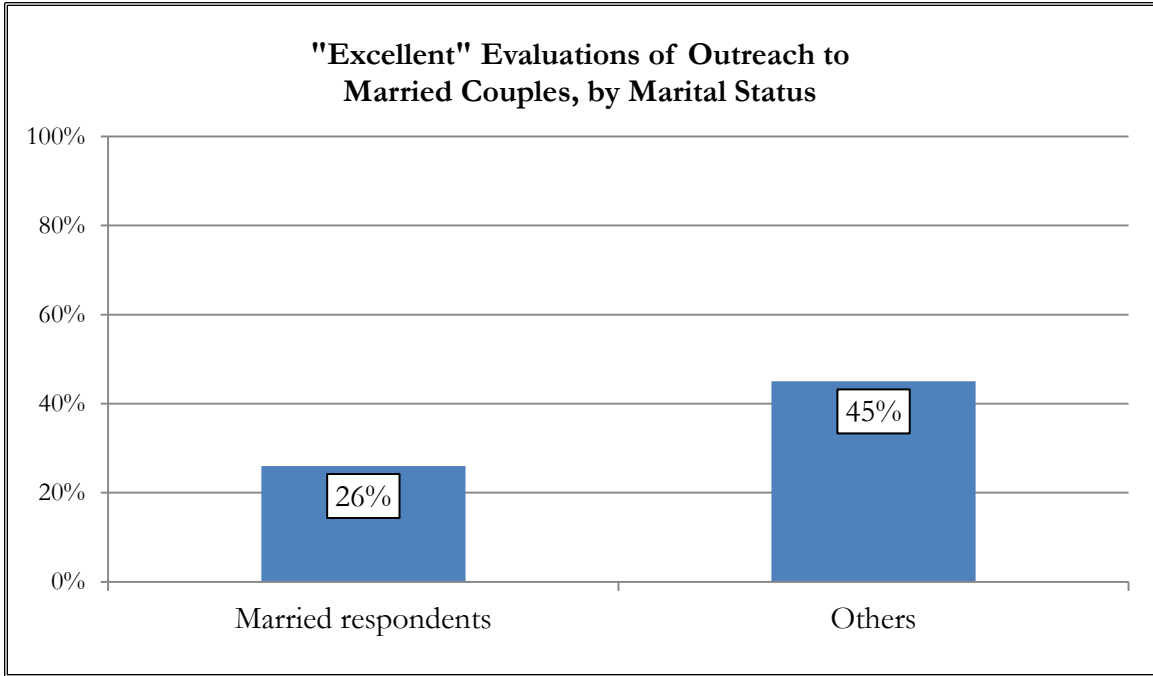
Differences by Level of Involvement

Those most involved in parish life, that is those involved with at least two ministries or activities at the parish, are relatively *less* likely than others to give an “excellent” evaluation to parish outreach to the groups presented in the figures below.



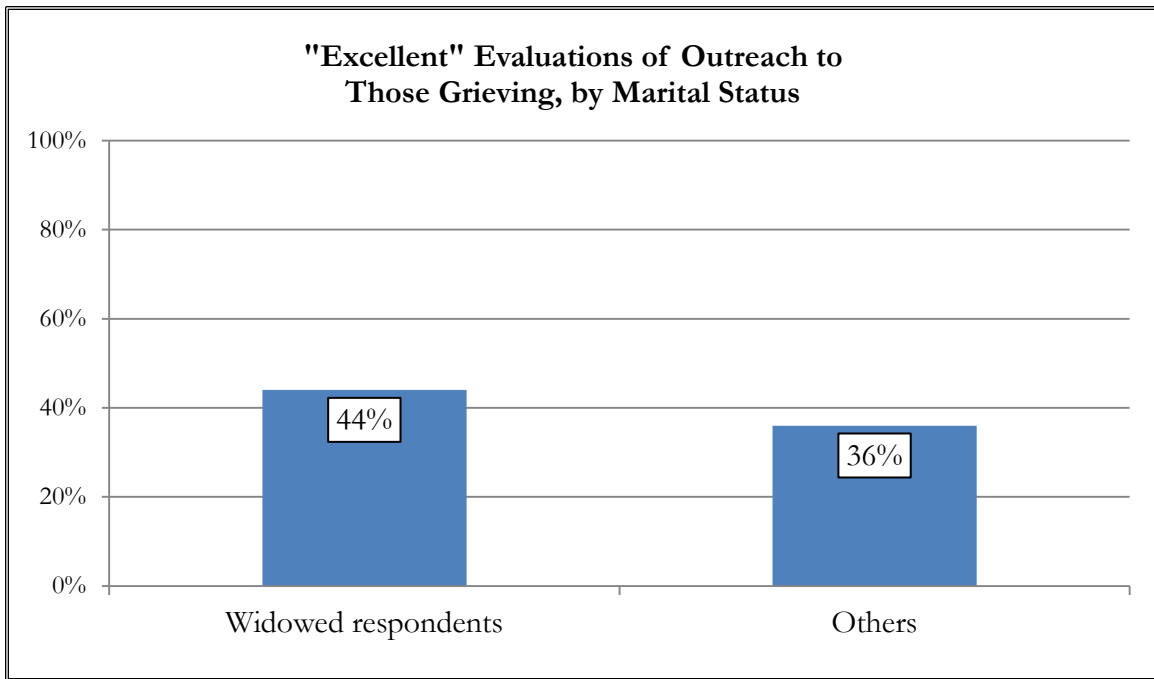
Differences by Marital Status

Married respondents are *less* likely than others to give an “excellent” evaluation to parish outreach to married couples.



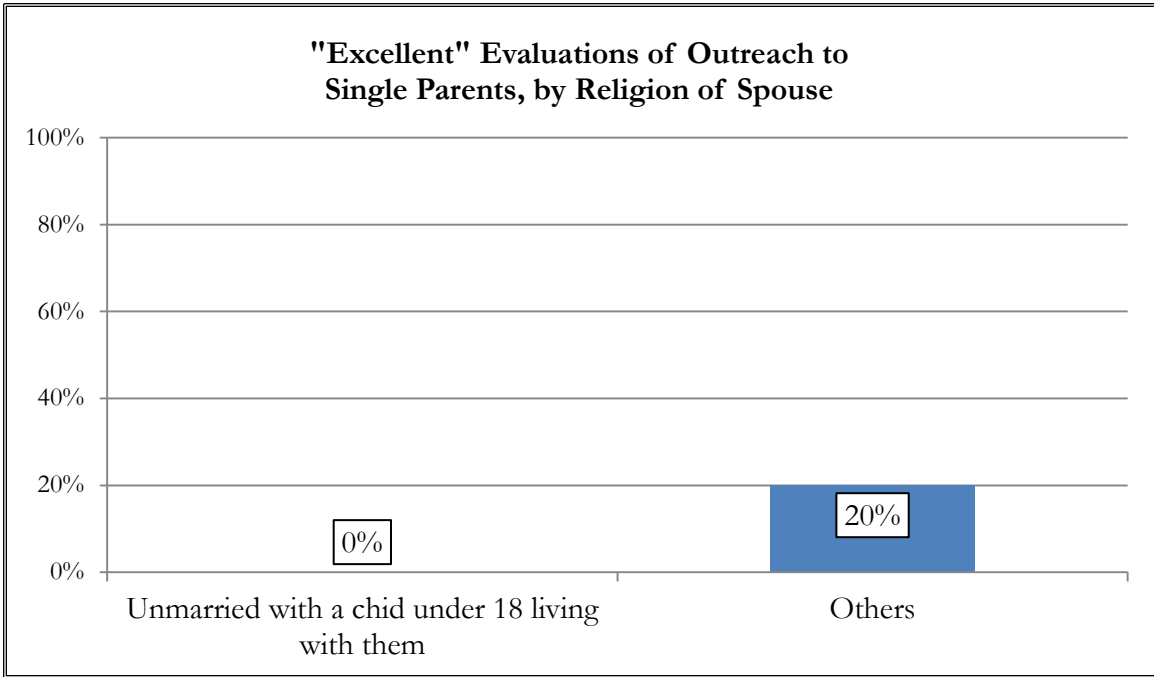
Single respondents do *not* differ significantly from others in their evaluations of parish outreach to single adults.

Widowed respondents are slightly more likely than others to give an “excellent” evaluation to parish outreach to those grieving.



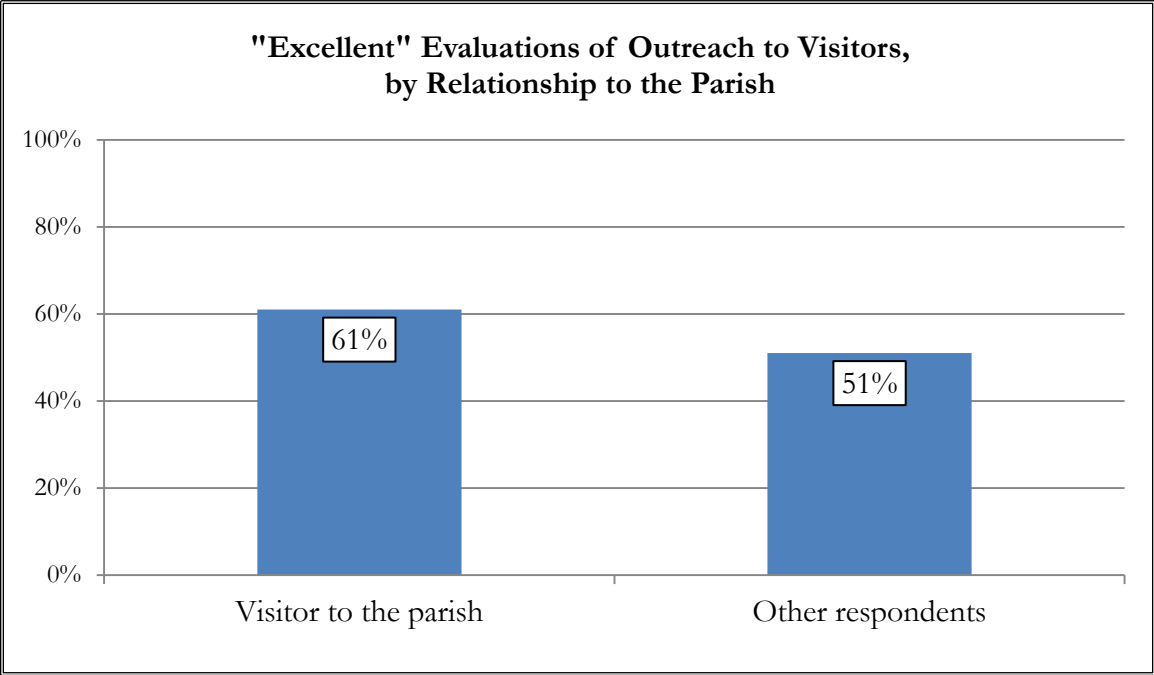
Differences by Marital Status of Parent

No unmarried respondents with a child under age 18 living with them (36 of whom responded to this question) give an “excellent” evaluation to parish outreach to single parents, compared to 20% of other respondents.



Differences by Relationship to the Parish

Visitors at the parish are more likely than others to give parish outreach to visitors an “excellent” evaluation.



Top Priorities for Parish Outreach

Respondents were asked to choose the three groups from the list in the previous section that the parish should give most priority to for outreach.⁶ Outreach to teens and young adults is listed as a top priority by 37% to 39% of respondents. Fewer list outreach to children (20%) and senior citizens (14%) among their top three priorities.

Groups Listed Among One's Top Three Priority for Outreach	
	One of their Three Top Priority
Teens (ages 13 to 17)	39%
Young adults (ages 18 to 35)	37
Inactive Catholics	34
Those sick or homebound	26
Children (ages 4 to 12)	20
Those divorced or separated	19
Married couples	18
Those grieving	18
Those in financial need	18
New parishioners	15
Senior citizens (ages 65 and older)	14
Single parents	13
Single adults	10
Visitors and guests	4

Some 34% list outreach to inactive Catholics among their top three priority groups. Fewer list new parishioners (15%) or visitors and guests (4%).

- Twenty-six percent list those sick or homebound among their top three priorities for outreach. Some 18% list those grieving and those in financial need.
- Among those groups categorized by their marital status, 19% list those divorced or separated and 18% list married couples among their top three priority groups for outreach. Slightly fewer list single parents (13%) or single adults (10%).

⁶ 27% did not provide a response to this series of questions.

Differences by Generation

Members of the Pre-Vatican II Generation are most likely to list these five groups as one of their top three priorities for parish outreach:

- Inactive Catholics (35%)
- Senior citizens (29%)
- Those sick and homebound (29%)
- Young adults (28%)
- Those divorced or separated (23%)

Those of the Vatican II Generation are most likely to list these five groups as one of their top three priorities for parish outreach:

- Teens (35%)
- Young adults (33%)
- Inactive Catholics (31%)
- Those sick or homebound (27%)
- Those divorced or separated (23%)

Post-Vatican II Generation members are most likely to list these five groups as one of their top three priorities for parish outreach:

- Teens (47%)
- Inactive Catholics (36%)
- Young adults (36%)
- Those sick or homebound (26%)
- Children (21%)

Millennials are most likely to list these five groups as one of their top three priorities for parish outreach:

- Young adults (52%)
- Teens (41%)
- Inactive Catholics (34%)
- Those sick or homebound (25%)
- New parishioners (22%)

Priority for Parish Needs

At least two in three place at least “somewhat” priority on each of the needs listed in the table below.

<i>What priority do you give the following for the parish?</i>		
<i>Percentage responding “Somewhat” or “Very Much”</i>		
	St. John the Baptist	Parishes Nationally*
Children’s religious education/formation	96%	91%
Youth ministry	95	88
Developing a parish sense of community	95	91
Adult faith formation	93	86
Young adult ministry	93	90
Visitation of the sick and homebound	93	90
Provide opportunities for parishioners to help the needy	93	87
Ministry to those grieving	93	91
Ministry to the divorced and separated	86	82
Actively promote peace and justice opportunities	85	–
Outreach to inactive Catholics	84	73
Being a leading resource for community issue	82	–
Ministry to LGBTQ	66	–

**Source: Cumulative average from parishes conducting CARA Parish Life Surveys*

More than nine in ten give “somewhat” or “very much” priority to these parish needs: children’s religious education or formation, youth ministry, developing a parish sense of community, adult faith formation, young adult ministry, visitation of the sick and homebound, providing opportunities for parishioners to help the needy, and ministry to the grieving.

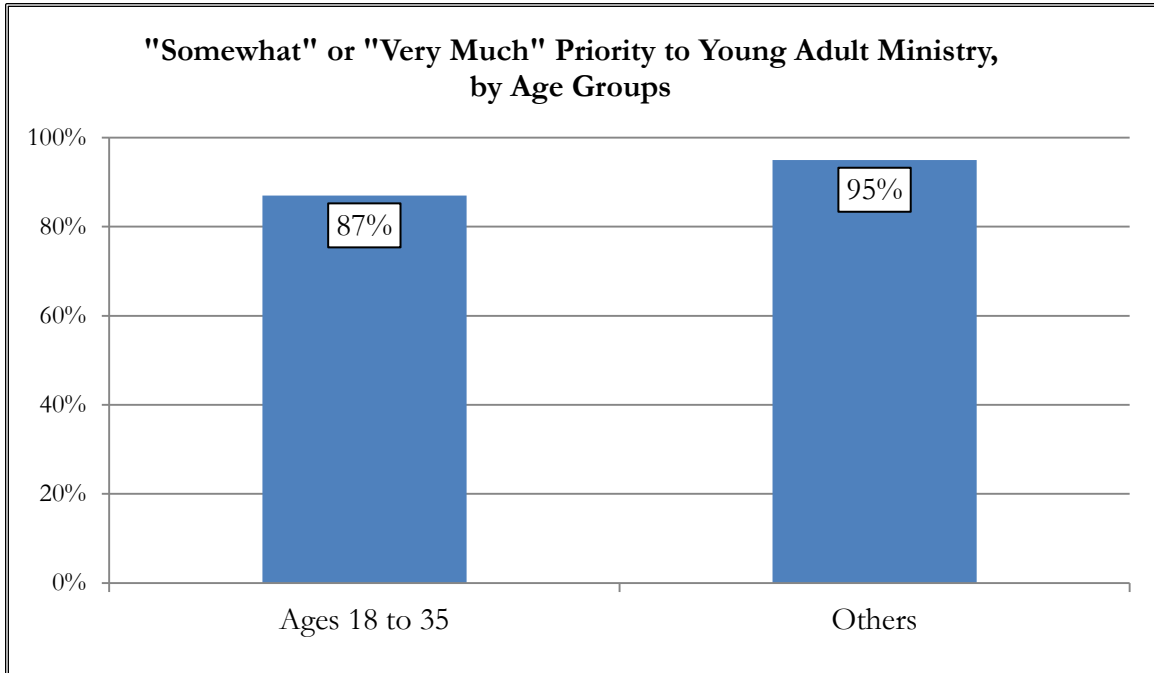
- More than eight in ten give at least “somewhat” priority to ministry to the divorced or separated, actively promoting peace and justice activities, outreach to inactive Catholics, and being a leading resource for community issues.
- Ministry to LGBTQ is given at least “somewhat” priority by two in three respondents.

Comparison to Parishes Nationally

Respondents at St. John the Baptist Parish are 11 percentage points more likely than those at parishes nationally to say the parish should give outreach to inactive Catholics (84% compared to 73%) at least “somewhat” priority.

Differences by Age Group

Those ages 18 to 35 are slightly *less* likely than others to say the parish should give “somewhat” or “very much” priority to young adult ministry.



“Very Much” Priority

Seventy-four percent give “very much” priority to children’s religious education or formation and 69% give as high a priority to youth ministry. Some 59% place as much priority on youth ministry and 50% on adult faith formation.

<i>What priority do you give the following for the parish?</i>		
<i>Percentage responding “Very Much”</i>		
	St. John the Baptist	Parishes Nationally*
Children’s religious education/formation	74%	70%
Youth ministry	69	59
Developing a parish sense of community	65	60
Provide opportunities for parishioners to help the needy	65	53
Ministry to those grieving	62	58
Visitation of the sick and homebound	60	55
Young adult ministry	59	62
Adult faith formation	50	46
Outreach to inactive Catholics	47	35
Ministry to the divorced and separated	45	40
Actively promote peace and justice opportunities	42	–
Being a leading resource for community issues	36	–
Ministry to LGBTQ	30	–

**Source: Cumulative average from parishes conducting CARA Parish Life Surveys*

Nearly two in three (65%) say the parish should place “very much” priority on developing a parish sense of community.

- Providing opportunities for parishioners to help the needy receives “very much” priority from 65% of respondents. Some 42% give as much priority to actively promoting peace and justice opportunities.
- Between 60% and 62% say the parish should give “very much” priority to ministry to those grieving and visitation of the sick and homebound. Fewer give as much priority to ministry to the divorced and separated (45%) and ministry to LGBTQ (30%).
- Outreach to inactive Catholics is given “very much” priority by 47% of respondents.
- Some 36% say being a leading resource for community issues should be “very much” a priority.

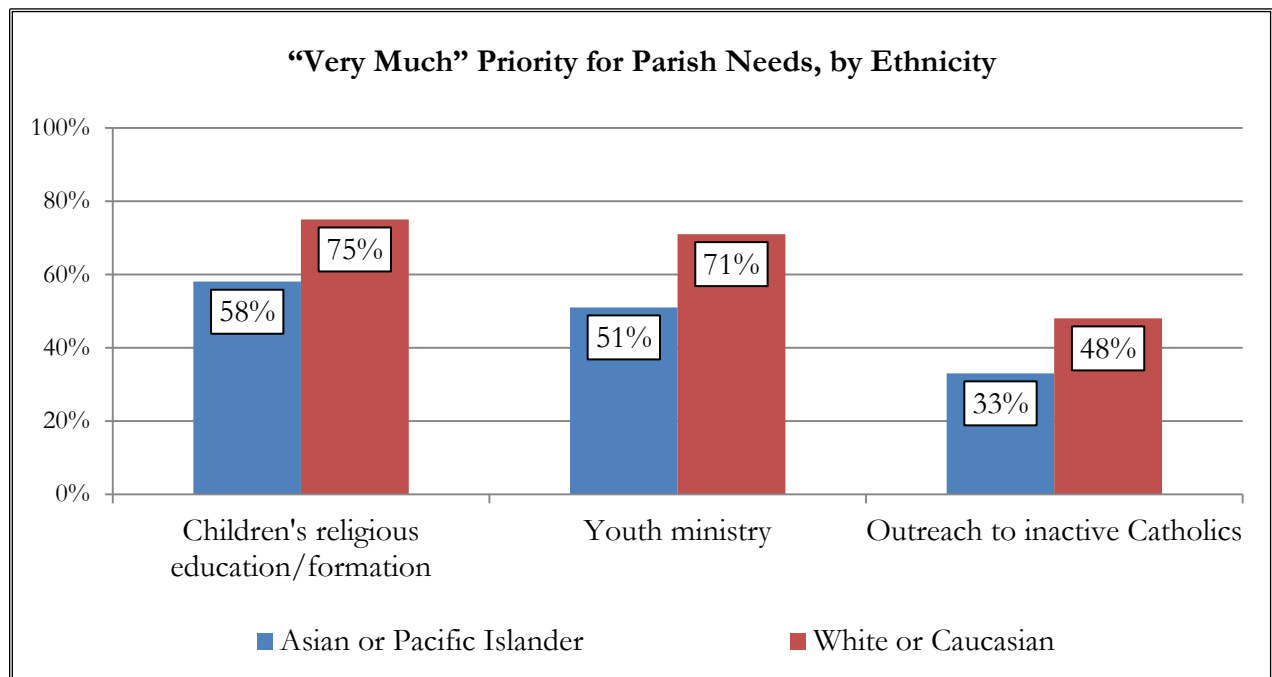
Comparison to Parishes Nationally

Respondents at St. John the Baptist Parish are 10 to 12 percentage points more likely than those at parishes nationally to say the parish should give the following “very much” priority:

- Provide opportunities for parishioners to help the needy (65% compared to 53%)
- Outreach to inactive Catholics (47% compared to 35%)
- Youth ministry (69% compared to 59%)

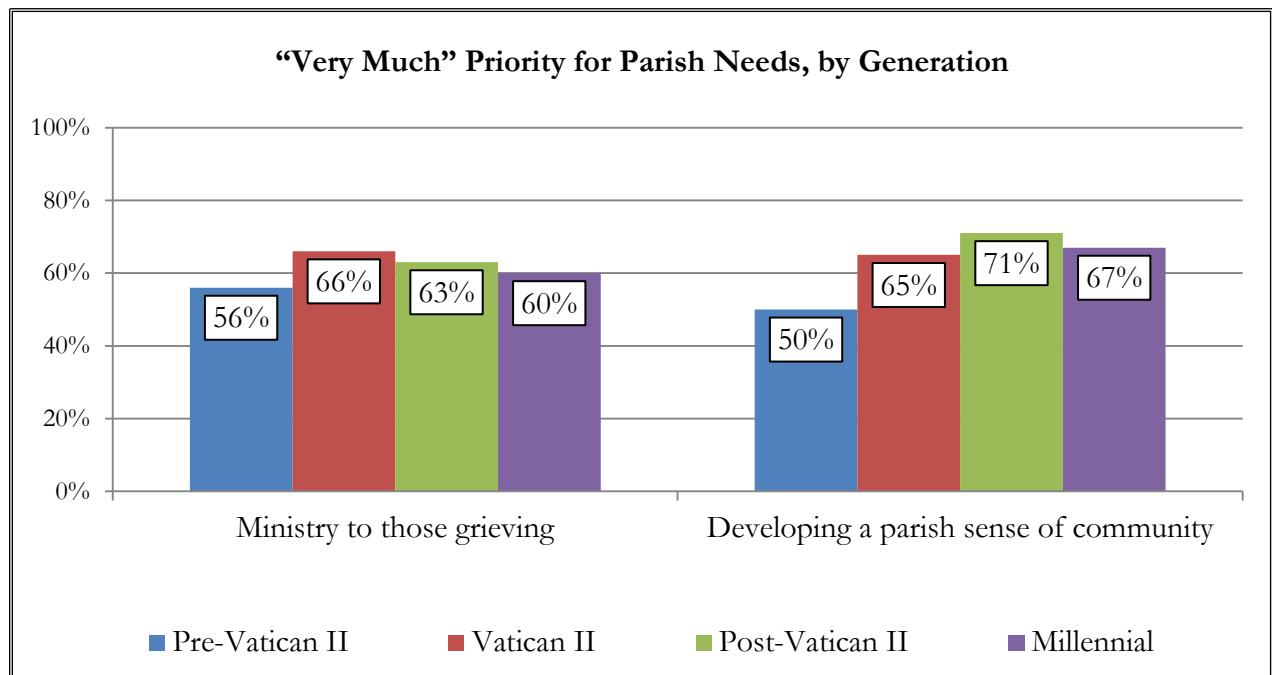
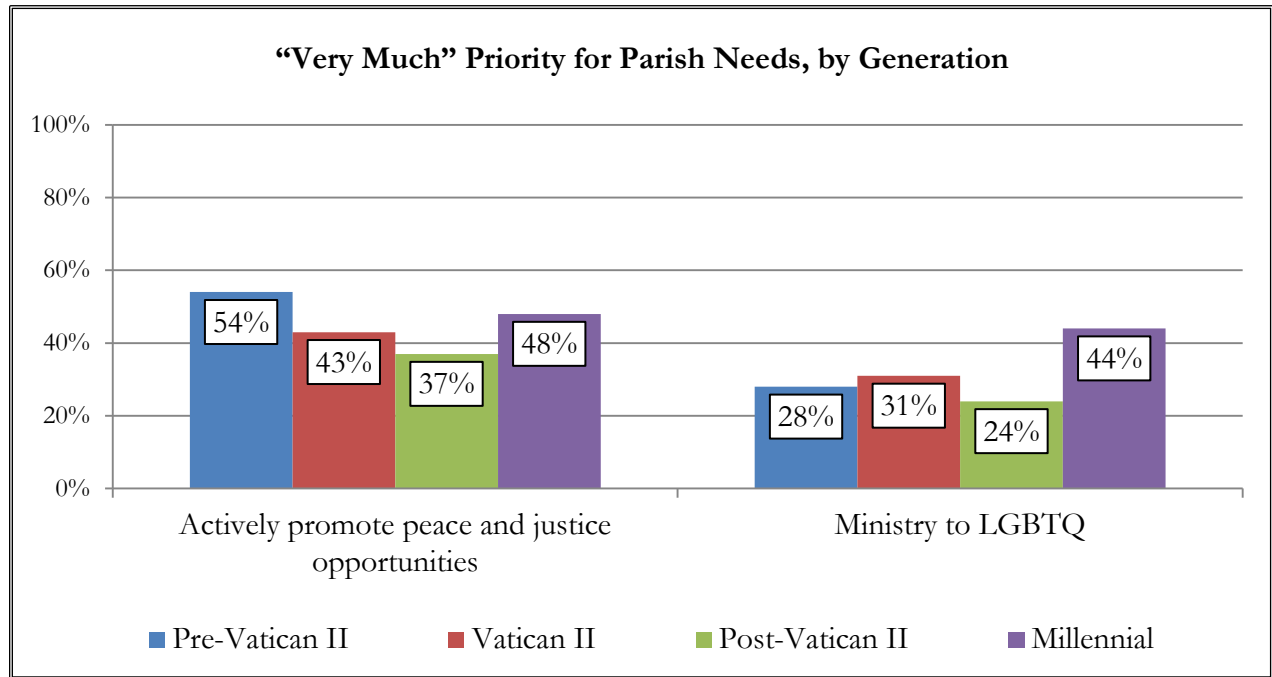
Differences by Ethnicity

Those identifying as white, Anglo, or Caucasian are especially likely to say the parish should give “very much” priority to the parish needs presented in the table below.



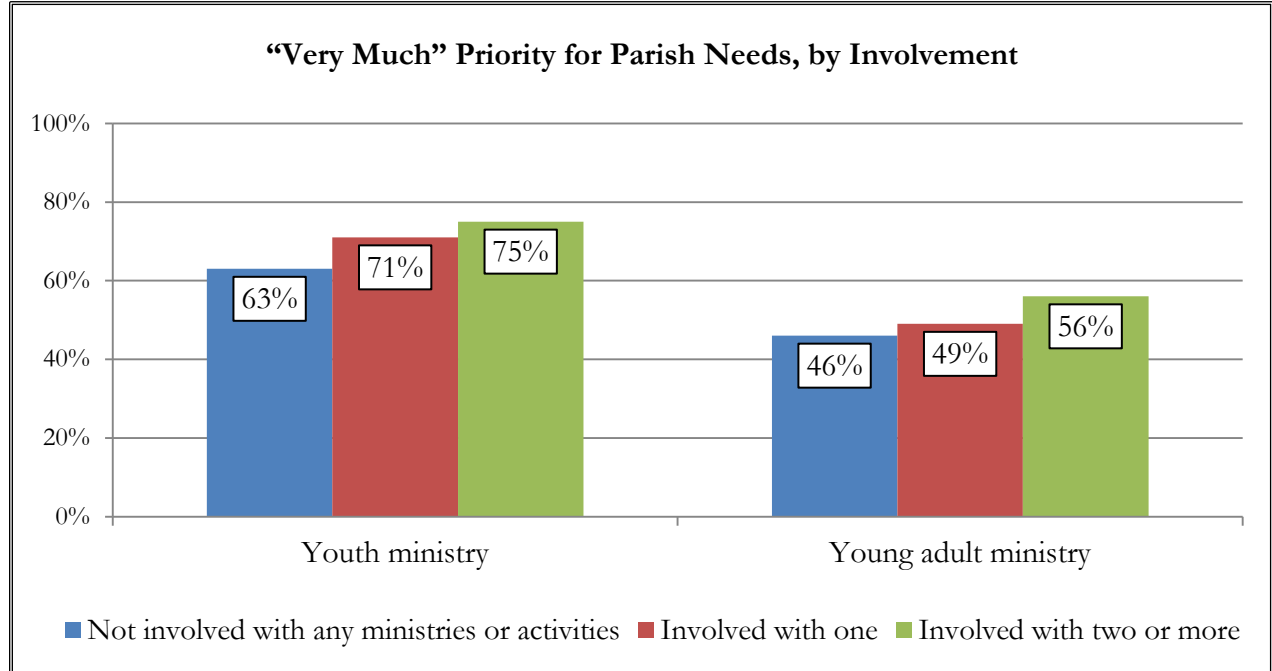
Differences by Generation

Members of the oldest generation are most likely to say the parish should give “very much” priority to actively promoting peace and justice opportunities, with those of the youngest generation most likely to give as much priority to ministry to LGBTQ. In addition, those of the oldest generation are *least* likely to give “very much” priority to ministry to those grieving and to developing a parish sense of community.



Differences by Level of Involvement

The more involved respondents are with ministries or activities at the parish, the more likely they are to give “very much” priority to youth ministry and young adult ministry.



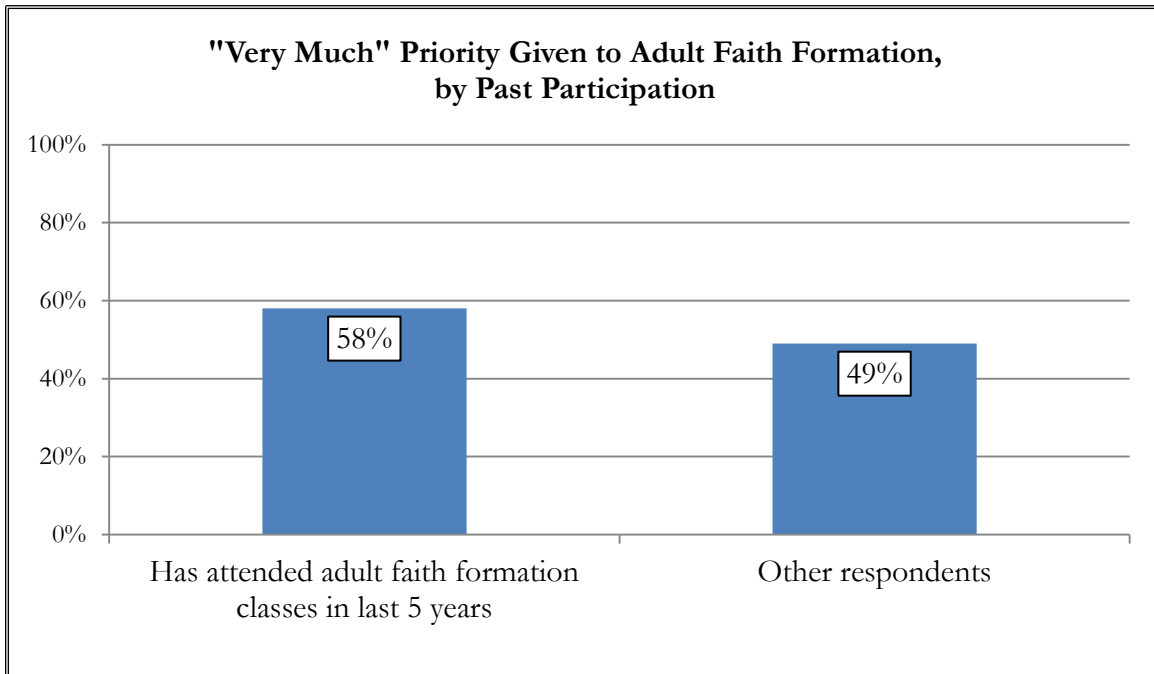
Differences by Marital Status

Divorced or separated respondents do *not* differ significantly in the priority they place on ministry to the divorced or separated.

Differences by Past Participation in Formation Programs

Those whose children have attended religious education classes at the parish in the past five years do *not* differ significantly from others in how much priority they say the parish should give to children's religious education/formation and youth ministry.

Respondents who have attended adult religious education classes at the parish in the past five years (21% of all respondents) are more likely than others to say the parish should give "very much" priority to adult faith formation.



Top Priorities for Parish Needs

Respondents were asked to choose the three needs from the list in the previous section that the parish should give most priority to.⁷ Children’s religious education or formation is listed as a top priority by 55% of respondents. Fewer list youth ministry (33%), young adult ministry (23%), or adult faith formation (16%).

Needs Listed Among One’s Top Three Priorities	
	One of their Three Top Priorities
Children’s religious education/formation	55%
Youth ministry	33
Developing a parish sense of community	33
Outreach to inactive Catholics	28
Provide opportunities for parishioners to help the needy	25
Visitation of the sick and homebound	24
Young adult ministry	23
Adult faith formation	16
Ministry to those grieving	14
Actively promote peace and justice opportunities	11
Being a leading resource for community issues	11
Ministry to the divorced and separated	11
Ministry to LGBTQ	7

Developing a parish sense of community is listed among their top three priorities by a third.

- Outreach to inactive Catholics is listed among the top three priorities by 28%.
- A quarter list providing opportunities for parishioners to help the needy among their top three priorities. Some 11% list actively promoting peace and justice opportunities.
- Visitation of the sick and homebound is listed by 24% of respondents. Fewer list ministry to those grieving (14%), being a leading resource for community issues (11%), ministry to the divorced and separated (11%), and ministry to LGBTQ (7%).

⁷ 22% did not provide a response to this series of questions.

Differences by Generation

Members of the Pre-Vatican II Generation are most likely to list these five needs as one of their top three priorities for parish needs:

- Visitation of the sick and homebound (36%)
- Outreach to inactive Catholics (33%)
- Children's religious education/formation (26%)
- Provide opportunities to help the poor and needy (26%)
- Ministry to the divorced and separated (25%)

Those of the Vatican II Generation are most likely to list these five needs as one of their top three priorities for parish needs:

- Children's religious education/formation (42%)
- Youth ministry (36%)
- Young adult ministry (27%)
- Provide opportunities to help the poor and needy (26%)
- Outreach to inactive Catholics (26%)

Post-Vatican II Generation members are most likely to list these five needs as one of their top three priorities for parish needs:

- Youth ministry (39%)
- Children's religious education/formation (36%)
- Provide opportunities to help the poor and needy (35%)
- Developing a parish sense of community (33%)
- Outreach to inactive Catholics (30%)

Millennials are most likely to list these five needs as one of their top three priorities for parish needs:

- Children's religious education/formation (40%)
- Provide opportunities to help the poor and needy (37%)
- Developing a parish sense of community (36%)
- Youth ministry (33%)
- Young adult ministry (33%)

Attraction to the Parish

Those attending Mass at the parish report being especially attracted to the parish by the quality of the liturgy, its open and welcoming spirit, the quality of the preaching, and the sense of belonging they feel there. More than nine in ten say these elements attract them “somewhat” or “very much.”

<i>How much do the following attract you to the parish?</i>		
<i>Percentage responding “Somewhat” or “Very Much”</i>		
	St. John the Baptist	Parishes Nationally*
The quality of the liturgy	94%	89%
Its open, welcoming spirit	93	86
The quality of the preaching	92	87
The sense of belonging you feel here	91	86
Its opportunities for spiritual growth	88	81
Its religious education/formation for children and youth	76	74
Its faith formation for adults	73	66
Its commitment to social justice and peace	73	71
St. John the Baptist School	68	—

**Source: Cumulative average from parishes conducting CARA Parish Life Surveys*

Some 88% report being at least “somewhat” attracted by the parish’s opportunities for spiritual growth. Slightly fewer say they are at least “somewhat” attracted by its religious education/formation for children and youth (76%) and its faith formation for adults (73%).

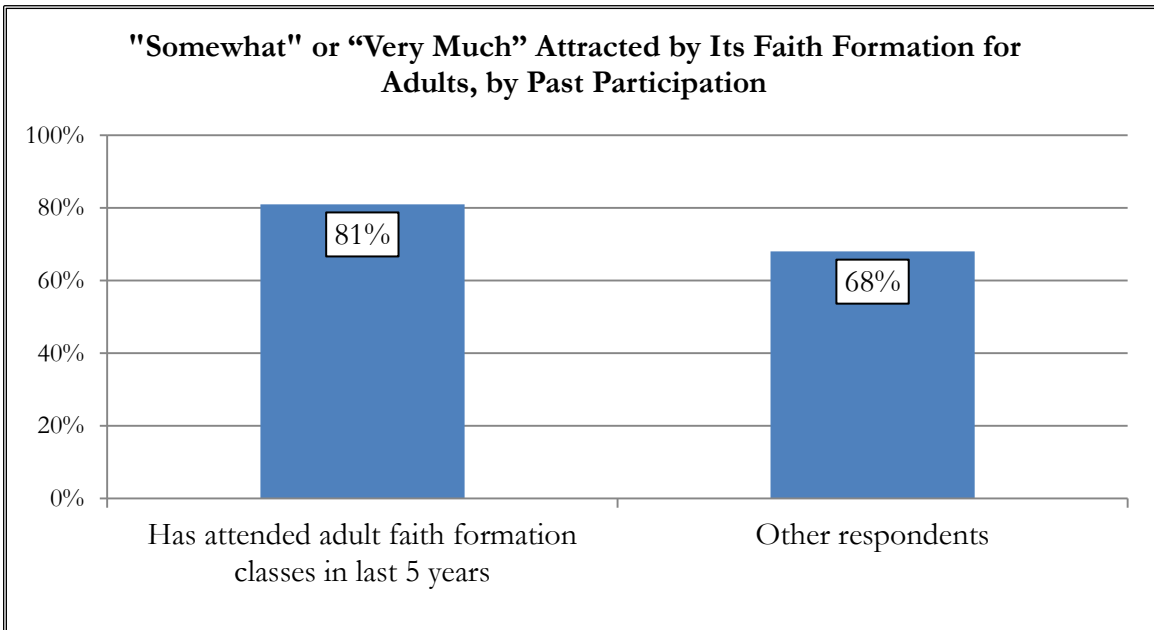
- The parish’s commitment to social justice and peace attracts 73% to the parish “somewhat” or “very much.”
- Two-thirds report being at least “somewhat” attracted to the parish by St. John the Baptist School.

Comparison to Parishes Nationally

Respondents at St. John the Baptist Parish do *not* differ significantly from those at parishes nationally in how much the elements listed in the table above “somewhat” or “very much” attract them to the parish.

Differences by Past Participation in Formation Programs

Respondents who have attended adult religious education classes at the parish in the past five years are more likely than others to say faith formation for adults “somewhat” or “very much” attracts them to the parish.



Elements That Attract “Very Much”

Between 57% and 67% of respondents say they are “very much” attracted to the parish by its open and welcoming spirit, the sense of belonging they feel there, the quality of the liturgy, and the quality of the preaching.

<i>How much do the following attract you to the parish?</i>		
<i>Percentage responding “Very Much”</i>		
	St. John the Baptist	Parishes Nationally*
Its open, welcoming spirit	67%	57%
The sense of belonging you feel here	60	62
The quality of the liturgy	59	55
The quality of the preaching	57	57
St. John the Baptist School	46	—
Its opportunities for spiritual growth	43	42
Its religious education/formation for children and youth	38	40
Its commitment to social justice and peace	32	32
Its faith formation for adults	28	28

**Source: Cumulative average from parishes conducting C.A.R.A. Parish Life Surveys*

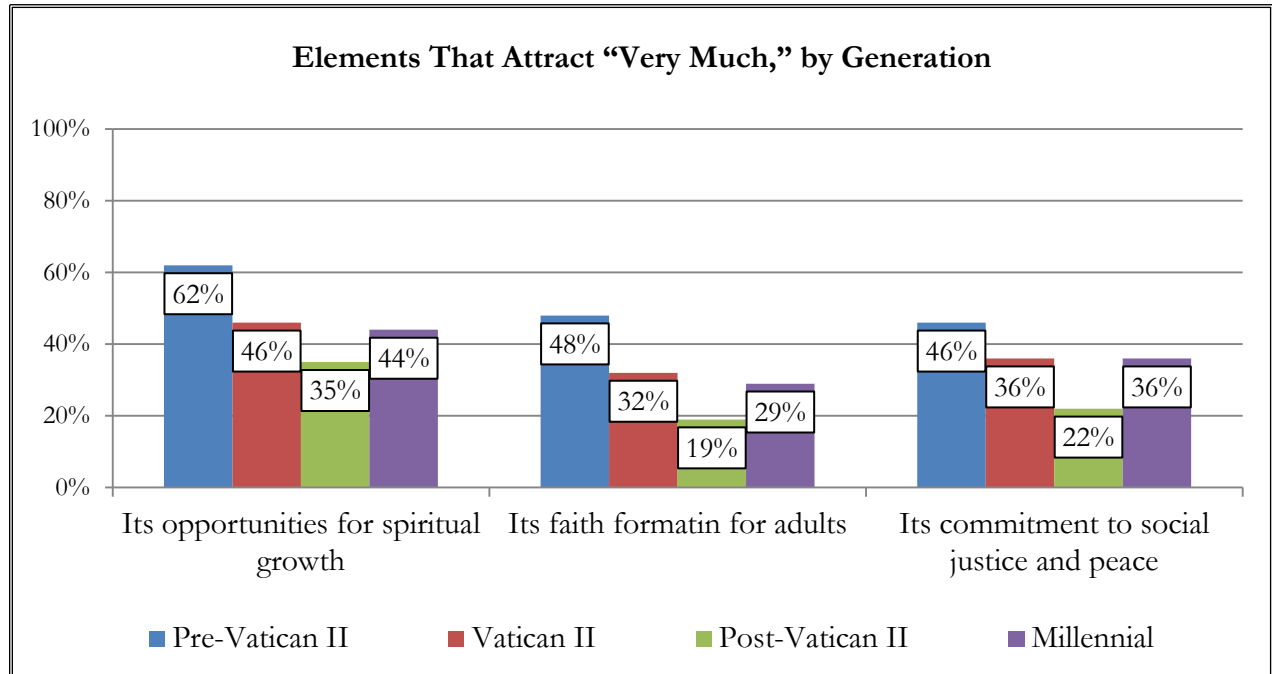
- St. John the Baptist School attracts 46% of respondents to the parish “very much.” Fewer are as attracted by its opportunities for spiritual growth (43%), its religious education/formation for children and youth (38%), and its faith formation for adults (28%).
- The parish’s commitment to social justice and peace “very much” attracts 32% of respondents to the parish.

Comparison to Parishes Nationally

Respondents at St. John the Baptist Parish are 10 percentage points more likely than those at parishes nationally to report that the parish’s open and welcoming spirit “very much” attracts them to the parish (67% compared to 57%).

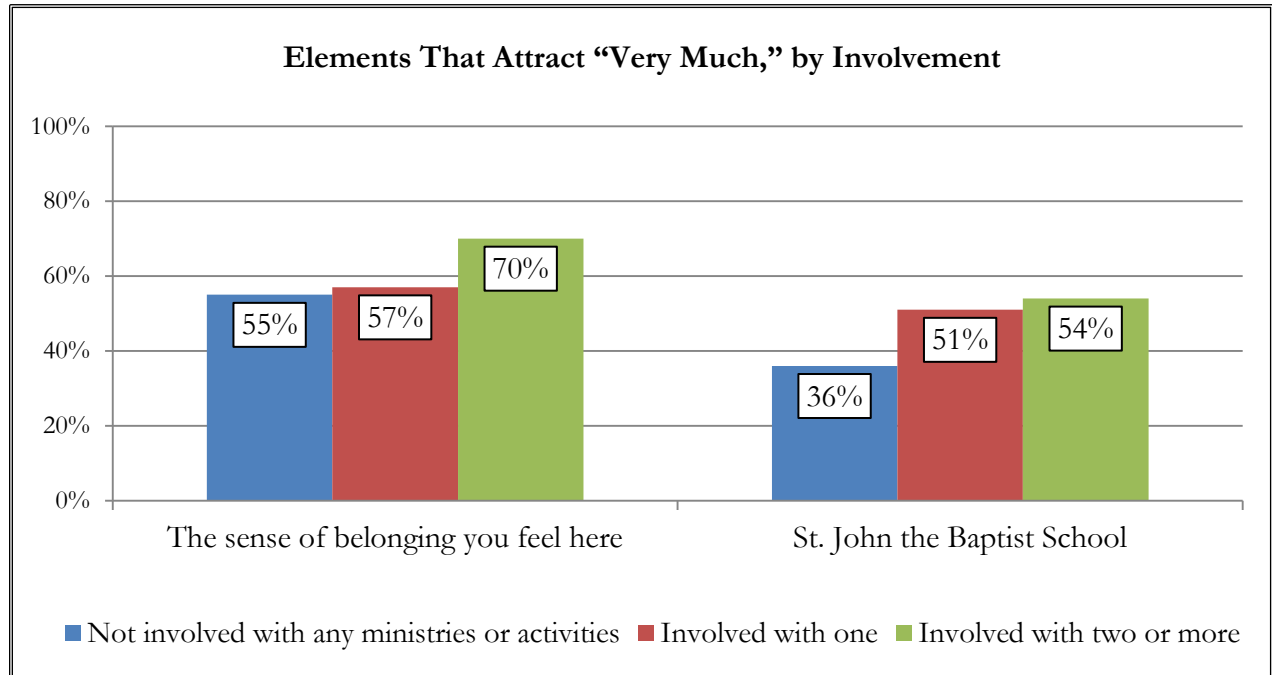
Differences by Generation

Members of the oldest generation are most likely to say the elements in the figure below “very much” attract them to the parish. Those of the Post-Vatican II Generation are *least* likely to be strongly attracted by these elements.



Differences by Level of Involvement

Those involved with at least two ministries or activities at the parish are relatively more likely than others to say the sense of belonging at the parish “very much” attracts them. Those involved with at least one are more likely to be “very much” attracted by St. John the Baptist School.



Differences by Past Participation in Formation Programs

Those whose children have attended religious education classes at the parish in the past five years do *not* differ significantly from others in how much the parish’s religious education or formation for children and youth attracts them to the parish.

Likelihood of Future Behaviors

Nearly two in three respondents say they are at least “somewhat” likely to volunteer for a parish ministry in the next year. Nearly half say they are as likely to participate in a small faith-sharing group during that period.

<i>How likely are you to do the following in the next year?</i>		
<i>Percentage responding “Somewhat” or “Very”</i>		
	St. John the Baptist	Parishes Nationally*
Volunteer for a parish ministry	65%	57%
Participate in a small faith-sharing group	47	42

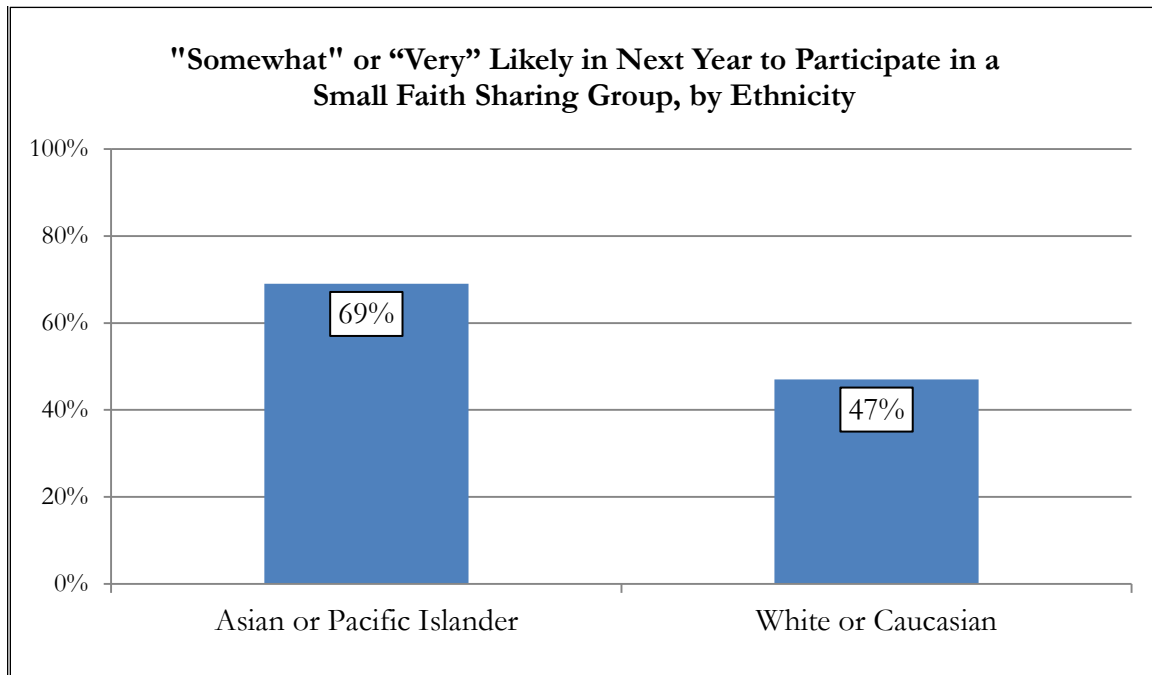
**Source: Cumulative average from parishes conducting CARA Parish Life Surveys*

Comparison to Parishes Nationally

Respondents at St. John the Baptist Parish do *not* differ significantly from those at parishes nationally in how likely they are to engage in the behaviors listed in the table above in the next year.

Differences by Ethnicity

Those identifying as Asian or Pacific Islander are especially likely to say they are “somewhat” or “very” likely to participate in a small faith-sharing group in the next year.



Strong Likelihood of Future Behaviors

Nearly four in ten respondents say they are “very” likely to volunteer for a parish ministry in the next year. Two in ten say they are as likely to participate in a small faith-sharing group.

<i>How likely are you to do the following in the next year?</i>		
<i>Percentage responding “Very”</i>		
	St. John the Baptist	Parishes Nationally*
Volunteer for a parish ministry	37%	34%
Participate in a small faith-sharing group	20	19

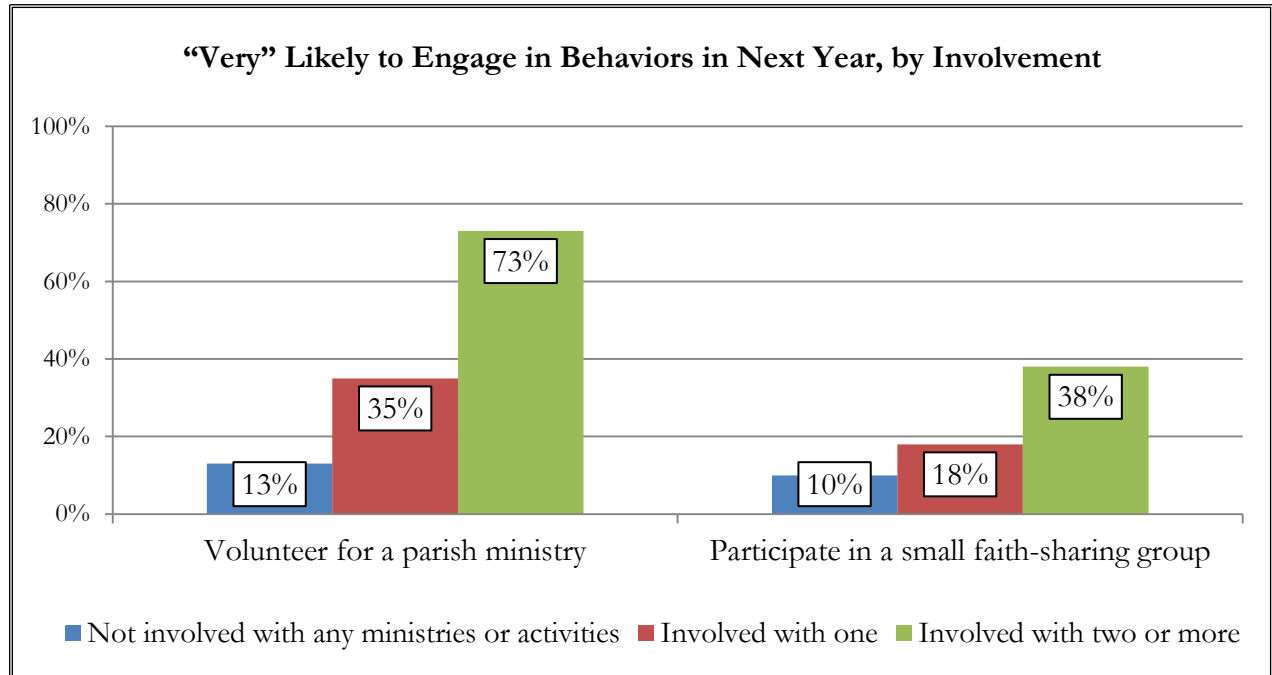
**Source: Cumulative average from parishes conducting C.A.R.A. Parish Life Surveys*

Comparison to Parishes Nationally

Respondents at St. John the Baptist Parish do *not* differ significantly from those at parishes nationally in how likely they are to engage in the behaviors listed in the table above in the next year.

Differences by Level of Involvement

The more involved respondents are with ministries or activities at the parish, the more likely they are to volunteer for a parish ministry or participate in a small faith-sharing group in the next year.



Attitudes about Parish Life

More than nine in ten at least “somewhat” agree that they understand the concept of stewardship. Eight in ten agree at least “somewhat” that they feel engaged in parish life (81%), with nearly three in four agreeing that they want to volunteer more for the parish (73%).

<i>Please respond to the following</i>		
<i>Percentage responding “Somewhat” or “Strongly” Agree</i>		
	St. John the Baptist	Parishes Nationally*
I understand the concept of stewardship	95%	85%
I would feel comfortable talking with the pastor	90	48
I support having the parish school be one of our parish’s major priorities	88	–
I feel well informed about what goes on in this parish	87	83
Parishioners are encouraged to have a role in decision making at the parish	82	79
I feel engaged in parish life	81	–
I feel adequately informed about parish finances	80	75
I want to volunteer more for the parish	73	75
I intend to send my child(ren) to St. John the Baptist School through their 8 th grade year	62	–
<i>*Source: Cumulative average from parishes conducting CARA Parish Life Surveys</i>		

Nearly nine in ten agree “somewhat” or “strongly” that they support having the parish school be one of the parish’s major priorities (88%). Among those for whom the question is relevant, 62% at least “somewhat” agree that they intend to send their child(ren) to the parish school through their 8th grade year.

- Nine in ten agree at least “somewhat” that they would feel comfortable talking with the pastor. Just over eight in ten (82%) agree that parishioners are encouraged to have a role in decision making at the parish.
- At least eight in ten at least “somewhat” agree that they feel well informed about what goes on in the parish (87%) and that they feel adequately informed about parish finances (80%).

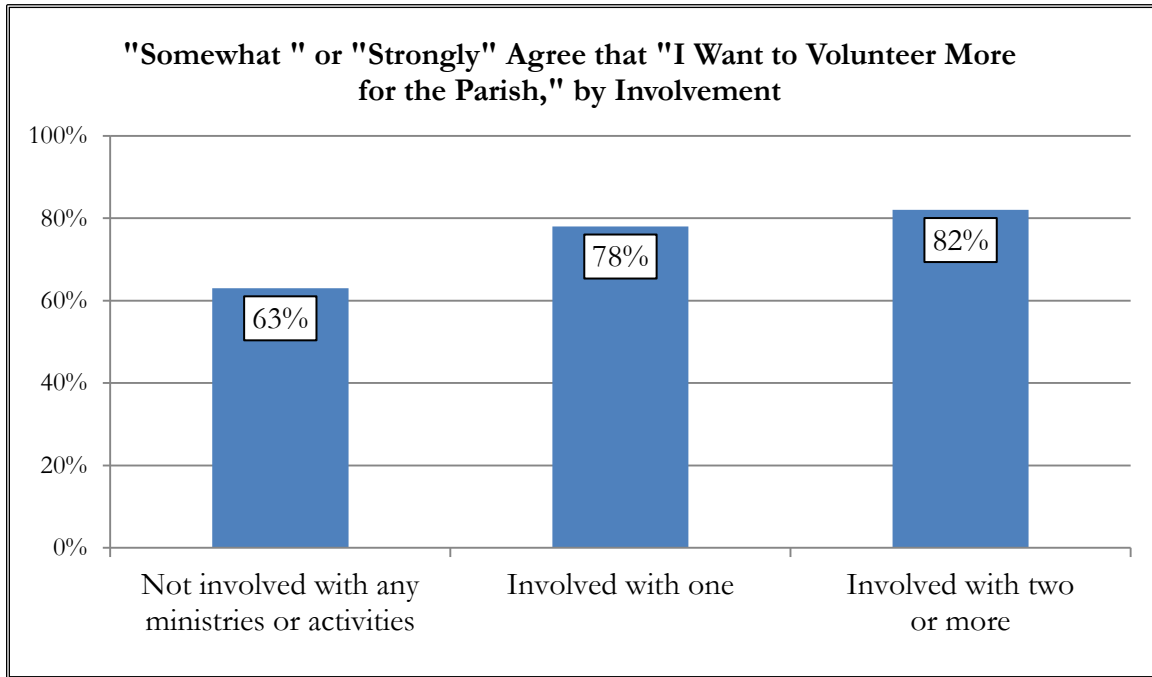
Comparison to Parishes Nationally

Respondents at St. John the Baptist Parish are 10 to 42 percentage points more likely than those at parishes nationally to “somewhat” or “strongly” agree with these statements:

- I would feel comfortable talking with the pastor (90% compared to 48%)
- I understand the concept of stewardship (95% compared to 85%)

Differences by Level of Involvement

Those involved with at least one ministry or activity at the parish are relatively more likely than other respondents to “somewhat” or “strongly” agree that they want to volunteer for the parish more.



“Strongly” Agree

Just over six in ten agree “strongly” that they support having the parish school be one of the parish’s major priorities (62%). Among those for whom the question is relevant, 51% “strongly” agree that they intend to send their child(ren) to the parish school through their 8th grade year.

<i>Please respond to the following</i>		
<i>Percentage responding “Strongly” Agree</i>		
	St. John the Baptist	Parishes Nationally*
I support having the parish school be one of our parish’s major priorities	62%	–
I understand the concept of stewardship	60	51%
I would feel comfortable talking with the pastor	58	21
I intend to send my child(ren) to St. John the Baptist School through their 8 th grade year	51	–
I feel well informed about what goes on in this parish	37	38
Parishioners are encouraged to have a role in decision making in the parish	36	40
I feel adequately informed about parish finances	35	37
I feel engaged in parish life	27	–
I want to volunteer more for the parish	24	25

**Source: Cumulative average from parishes conducting CARA Parish Life Surveys*

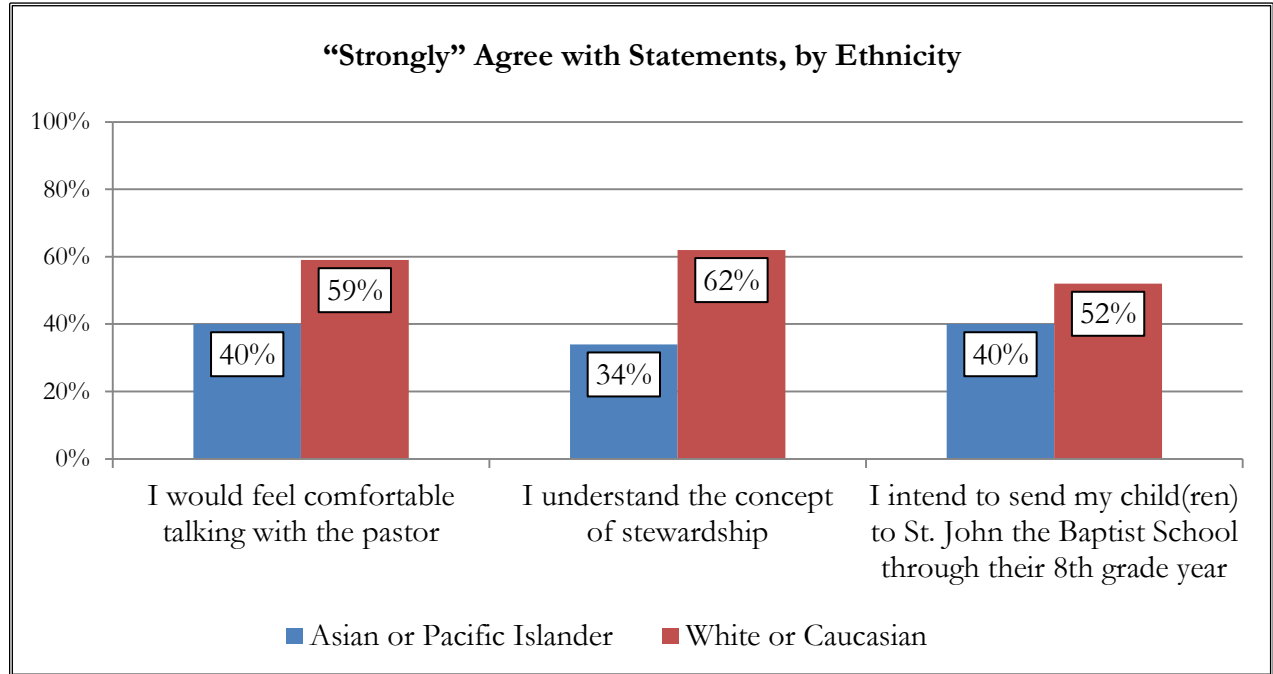
- Six in ten “strongly” agree that they understand the concept of stewardship (60%). About a quarter agree as strongly that they feel engaged in parish life (27%) and that they want to volunteer more for the parish (24%).
- Nearly six in ten agree “strongly” that they would feel comfortable talking with the pastor (58%). Just over a third agree as strongly that parishioners are encouraged to have a role in decision making in the parish (36%).
- Just under four in ten “strongly” agree that they feel well informed about what goes on in the parish (37%) and that they feel adequately informed about parish finances (35%).

Comparison to Parishes Nationally

Respondents at St. John the Baptist Parish are 37 percentage points more likely than those at parishes nationally to “strongly” agree that they feel comfortable talking with the pastor (58% compared to 21%).

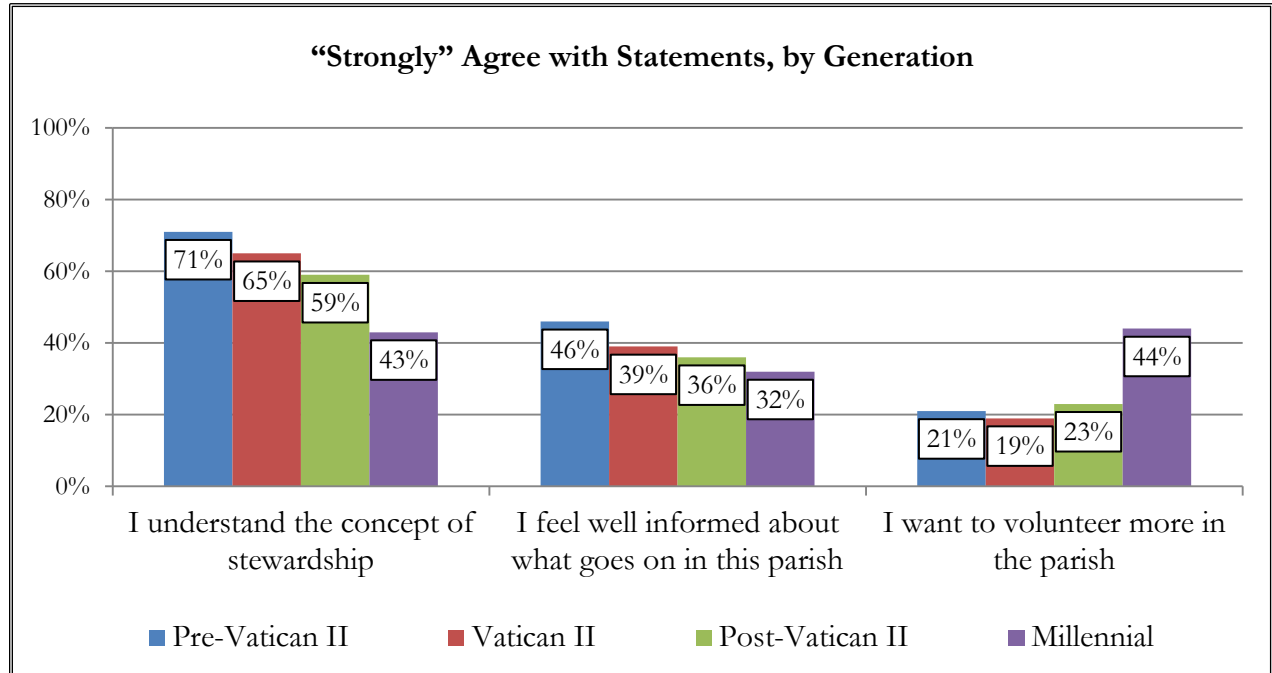
Differences by Ethnicity

Those identifying as white, Anglo or Caucasian are especially likely to “strongly” agree with the three statements in the figure below.

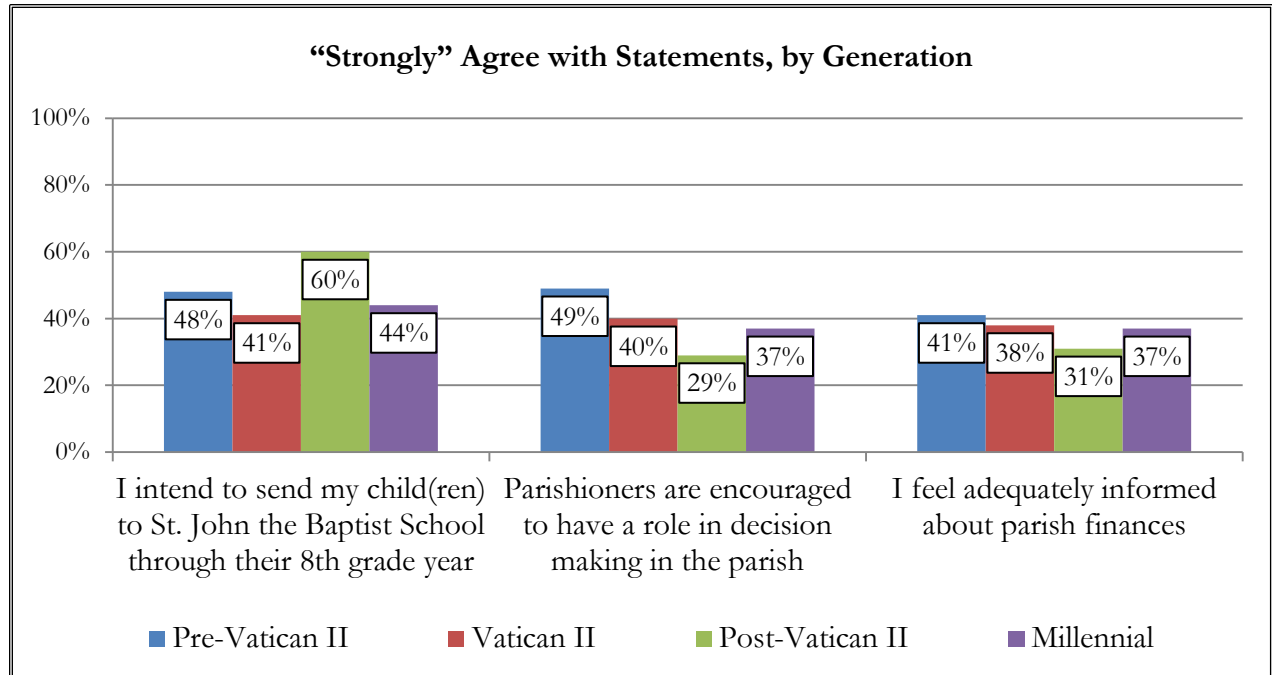


Differences by Generation

The older the generation, the more likely its members are to “strongly” agree that they understand the concept of stewardship and that they feel well informed about what goes on in the parish. On the other hand, members of the youngest generation are most likely to “strongly” agree that they want to volunteer more for the parish.

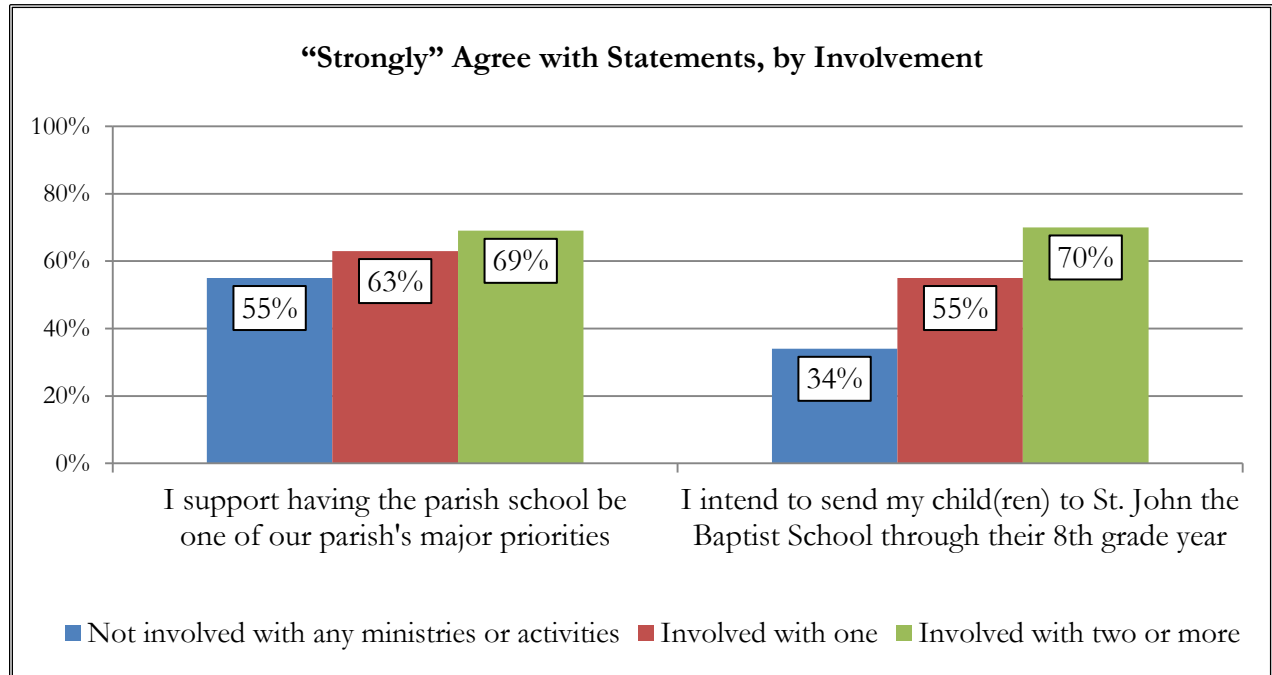


Members of the Post-Vatican II Generation are most likely to “strongly” agree that they intend to send their children to St. John the Baptist School through their 8th grade year. Those of that same generation are *least* likely, however, to “strongly” agree that parishioners are encouraged to have a role in decision making at the parish and that they feel adequately informed about parish finances.

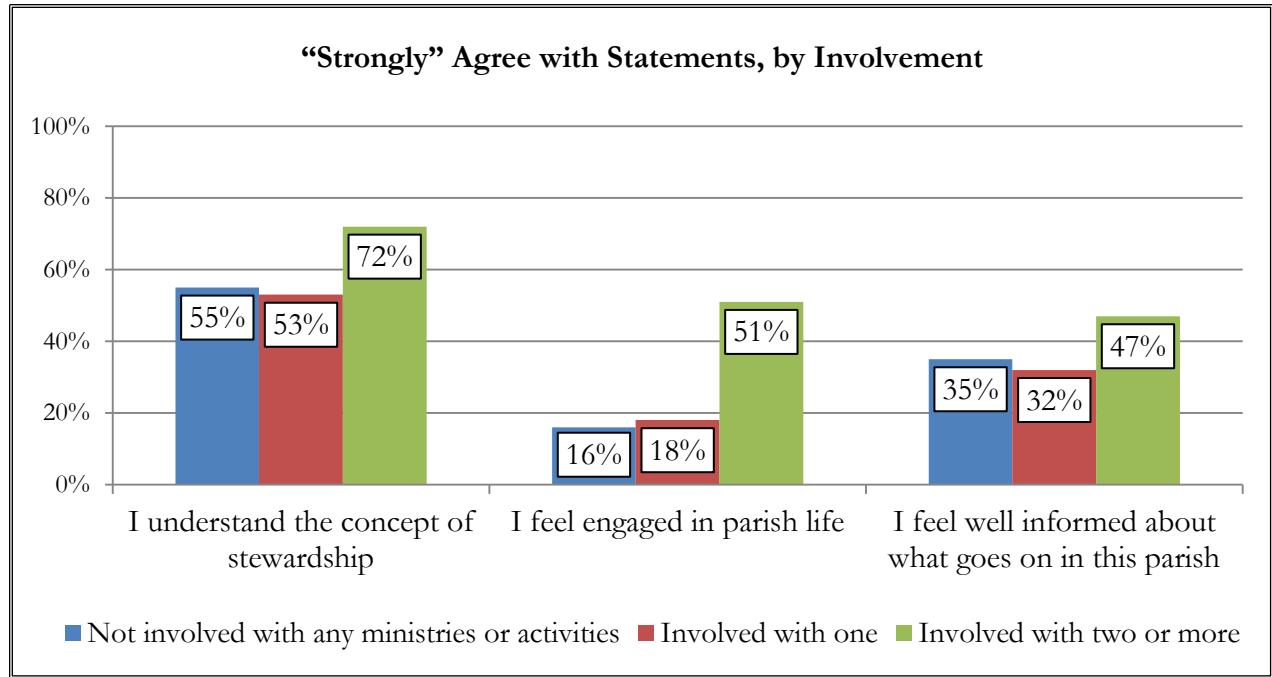


Differences by Level of Involvement

The more involved respondents are with ministries or activities at the parish, the more likely they are to “strongly” agree with the two statements about the parish school presented in the figure below.



Those involved with at least two ministries or activities at the parish are relatively more likely than others to “strongly” agree with the three statements presented in the table below.



Reasons for Not Sending a Child to St. John the Baptist School

Only respondents who have children who could have attended St. John the Baptist Catholic School in the past five years but did not were asked to respond to a question about why they did not send their child(ren) there. Some 199 responded to the question. Among the pre-set choices offered to respondents, they are most likely to cite the financial considerations or tuition costs (57%) and the high quality of the local public schools (52%). Two in ten cite the quality of education at the school (19%).

<i>If you have children who could have attended St. John the Baptist School in the past five years but did not, which of the following reasons explains why?</i>	
<i>Check all that apply</i>	
Financial considerations or tuition costs	57%
High quality of the local public schools	52
Quality of education at the school	19
Other	22

In total, 33 parishioners wrote in an “other” reason for why their child did not attend. Appendix II presents the complete transcription of all open-ended responses to this question, separated by Mass time of response.

The most common reasons parents noted for not sending their child to St. John the Baptist School are listed from most to least frequently below:

- Issues with the principal or leadership direction of the school (8 comments)
- Special needs or other programs offered at public schools (4 comments)
- Bullying (3 comments)
- They or their children not feeling welcome at the school (3 comments)
- One parent is not Catholic (3 comments)
- Child attends another private school (3 comments)
- An undescribed bad experience (2 comments)

Other reasons given by one respondent each included having no openings at the school, the distance of the school from their home, the school’s size, the lack of diversity at the school, a strong belief in the importance of public schooling, choosing to homeschool their children instead, and the greater opportunities offered in general at public schools,

Appendix I: Response Frequencies to All Questions



Parish Life Survey for Saint John the Baptist Parish, Newburgh, Indiana
CARA – Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate

There were 1,163 respondents to the St. John the Baptist Parish Life Survey age 16 and older. The percentage giving each response, calculated out of 100 percent, is shown below. The percentage not responding (NR) is shown separately, also calculated out of 100 percent.

Please use these responses for the questions below.

1= Poor	3= Good
2= Fair	4= Excellent
Blank= Don't Know or Not Applicable	

Please use these responses for the questions below.

1= Not at All	3= Some or Somewhat
2= Only a Little	4= Very or Very Much
Blank= Don't Know or Not Applicable	

Please **evaluate** these aspects of parish life.

- | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | NR | |
|---|----|----|----|----|---|
| 1 | 2 | 39 | 58 | 3 | 1. St. John the Baptist Parish overall |
| 1 | 8 | 45 | 47 | 3 | 2. Sense of community within the parish |
| 1 | 4 | 38 | 58 | 2 | 3. Masses and liturgies in general |
| 1 | 10 | 46 | 43 | 6 | 4. Vision provided by parish leaders |
| 1 | 10 | 42 | 48 | 6 | 5. Efforts to educate parishioners in the faith |
| 1 | 8 | 41 | 49 | 6 | 6. Encouragement to share your time, talents and treasure with the parish |
| 1 | 8 | 44 | 48 | 9 | 7. Outreach to and advocacy for those in need |
| 1 | 15 | 49 | 36 | 10 | 8. Spreading the Gospel/evangelizing |

Please **evaluate** these areas of weekend Masses overall for the Mass you most regularly attend.

- | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | NR | |
|---|---|----|----|----|------------------------------------|
| 1 | 4 | 26 | 69 | 2 | 9. Hospitality or sense of welcome |
| 1 | 5 | 19 | 75 | 2 | 10. Music |
| 1 | 5 | 39 | 56 | 2 | 11. Homilies |

Please **evaluate** parish efforts to:

- | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | NR | |
|---|----|----|----|----|--|
| 1 | 8 | 45 | 46 | 6 | 12. Communicate with parishioners |
| 1 | 7 | 47 | 45 | 5 | 13. Nurture your relationship with Jesus Christ |
| 5 | 22 | 44 | 29 | 6 | 14. Offer a Catholic view on current issues |
| 1 | 11 | 52 | 36 | 6 | 15. Help you practice gospel values in your daily life |
| 1 | 9 | 49 | 41 | 7 | 16. Meet people's spiritual needs |
| 2 | 11 | 42 | 46 | 6 | 17. Invite you to participate in parish ministries |

Please **evaluate** parish outreach to these groups.

- | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | NR | |
|---|----|----|----|----|---|
| 1 | 11 | 46 | 42 | 29 | 18. Children (ages 4 to 12) |
| 3 | 15 | 45 | 37 | 30 | 19. Teens (ages 13 to 17) |
| 6 | 23 | 46 | 25 | 33 | 20. Young adults (ages 18 to 35) |
| 2 | 12 | 50 | 36 | 29 | 21. Senior citizens (ages 65 and older) |
| 6 | 27 | 45 | 22 | 40 | 22. Single adults |
| 3 | 20 | 48 | 30 | 25 | 23. Married couples |
| 6 | 26 | 46 | 23 | 37 | 24. Those divorced or separated |
| 6 | 28 | 46 | 20 | 44 | 25. Single parents |
| 2 | 15 | 50 | 33 | 34 | 26. Those sick or homebound |
| 2 | 14 | 48 | 36 | 33 | 27. Those grieving |
| 2 | 17 | 51 | 29 | 38 | 28. Those in financial need |
| 9 | 29 | 41 | 21 | 36 | 29. Inactive Catholics |
| 1 | 8 | 45 | 46 | 25 | 30. New parishioners |
| 2 | 6 | 42 | 51 | 20 | 31. Visitors and guests |

Using the numbers for items 18-31 above, to which three groups should the parish give **most priority for outreach**? NR for Qs 32 to 34 = 27

32. _____ 33. _____ 34. _____

How effective are these ways of communicating parish news to you?

- | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | NR | |
|----|----|----|----|----|--|
| 8 | 31 | 41 | 21 | 11 | 35. Word of mouth among parishioners |
| 1 | 7 | 38 | 54 | 5 | 36. Announcements read at Mass |
| 1 | 13 | 44 | 42 | 7 | 37. Fliers and brochures in the church |
| 1 | 4 | 28 | 68 | 4 | 38. Sunday bulletins |
| 1 | 6 | 34 | 60 | 8 | 39. Inserts in the Sunday bulletins |
| 3 | 12 | 43 | 42 | 13 | 40. Parish newsletter, <i>Frameworks</i> |
| 10 | 17 | 37 | 36 | 24 | 41. Email to your work or home address |
| 15 | 22 | 36 | 28 | 31 | 42. Social media (Facebook, Twitter) |
| 8 | 20 | 42 | 31 | 23 | 43. Parish website |
| 20 | 21 | 36 | 23 | 43 | 44. myParish App |
| 7 | 17 | 45 | 31 | 22 | 45. Parish Guidebook and Directory |

What **priority** do you give the following for the parish?

- | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | NR | |
|----|----|----|----|----|--|
| 2 | 3 | 22 | 74 | 14 | 46. Children's religious education/formation |
| 2 | 4 | 26 | 69 | 15 | 47. Youth ministry |
| 1 | 6 | 43 | 50 | 16 | 48. Adult faith formation |
| 2 | 5 | 34 | 59 | 18 | 49. Young adult ministry |
| 4 | 11 | 43 | 42 | 16 | 50. Actively promote peace and justice opportunities |
| 2 | 5 | 33 | 60 | 15 | 51. Visitation of the sick and homebound |
| 2 | 5 | 29 | 65 | 13 | 52. Provide opportunities to help the poor and needy |
| 3 | 14 | 47 | 36 | 19 | 53. Being a leading resource for community issues |
| 3 | 13 | 38 | 47 | 18 | 54. Outreach to inactive Catholics |
| 12 | 21 | 39 | 30 | 27 | 55. Ministry to LGBTQ |
| 3 | 11 | 41 | 45 | 22 | 56. Ministry to the divorced and separated |
| 2 | 5 | 31 | 62 | 17 | 57. Ministry to those grieving |
| 2 | 4 | 30 | 65 | 15 | 58. Developing a parish sense of community |

Using the numbers for items 46-58 above, to which three needs should the parish give **most priority**?

NR for Qs 59 to 61 = 22

59. _____ 60. _____ 61. _____

How **likely** are you to do the following in the next year?

- | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | NR | |
|----|----|----|----|----|--|
| 21 | 31 | 28 | 20 | 17 | 62. Participate in a small faith sharing group |
| 13 | 22 | 29 | 37 | 16 | 63. Volunteer for a parish ministry |

Please use these responses for the questions below.

1=Not at All 3=Somewhat
2=Only a Little 4=Very Much
Blank=Don't Know or Not Applicable

How much do the following **attract** you to this parish?

1 2 3 4 NR

- 1 5 26 67 7 64. Its open, welcoming spirit
1 6 35 59 7 65. The quality of the liturgy
2 6 35 57 8 66. The quality of the preaching
19 14 22 46 26 67. St. John the Baptist School
10 14 38 38 26 68. Its religious education/formation for children and youth
6 21 44 28 23 69. Its faith formation for adults
3 9 45 43 19 70. Its opportunities for spiritual growth
7 20 41 32 21 71. Its commitment to social justice and peace
2 7 31 60 10 72. The sense of belonging you feel here

Please use these responses for the questions below.

1=Strongly Disagree 3=Somewhat Agree
2=Somewhat Disagree 4=Strongly Agree
Blank=Don't Know or Not Applicable

Please **respond** to the following about parish life.

1 2 3 4 NR

- 3 16 54 27 14 73. I feel engaged in parish life
1 12 50 37 12 74. I feel well informed about what goes on in our parish
4 16 45 35 14 75. I feel adequately informed about parish finances
2 8 32 58 11 76. I would feel comfortable talking with the pastor
3 15 46 36 16 77. Parishioners are encouraged to have a role in decision making in the parish
1 5 34 60 15 78. I understand the concept of stewardship
6 22 49 24 20 79. I want to volunteer more in the parish
4 8 26 62 18 80. I support having the parish school be one of our parish's major priorities
29 9 11 51 59 81. I intend to send my child(ren) to St. John the Baptist School through their 8th grade year

If you have children who could have attended St. John the Baptist School in the past five years, **but did not**, which of the following reasons **explains** why?

Please check all that apply NR for Qs 82 to 85 = 83

- 19 82. Quality of education at the school
52 83. High quality of the local public schools
57 84. Financial considerations or tuition costs
17 85. Other _____
86. About how *frequently* do you currently attend Mass?
<1 1. Never or rarely 25 4. Almost every week
1 2. A few times a year 59 5. Every week NR=24
3 3. Once or twice a month 11 6. More than once a week
87. Excluding your Mass attendance, how many ministries or activities are you involved with at this parish?
47 1. None 25 3. Two to four NR=25
25 2. One 3 4. Five or more

Avg. NR

- 22 30 88. Years you have attended this parish?
Leave blank if this is not your regular parish. Write "1" if one year or less.

Please answer "yes" or "no" to the following questions.

Yes No NR

- 82 18 6 89. Are you registered in this parish?
90 10 6 90. Is this parish your primary place of worship?
31 69 20 91. Have any of your children attended religious education classes here in the past 5 years?
21 79 14 92. Have you attended adult religious education classes here in the past 5 years?
67 33 17 93. Will/did your spouse also complete this survey?

Avg. NR

- 1961 8 94. Year you were born: _____ (4-digit year)

95. Gender: 43 1. Male 57 2. Female NR = 7

96. What *best* describes your current marital status?
10 1. Single, never married 4 3. Divorced or separated
80 2. Married or remarried 6 4. Widowed NR = 8

Number of your children or stepchildren living with you who are: Leave blank if none or not applicable.

Sum

Sum NR = 73

- 423 97. Age 12 or younger 303 98. Ages 13 to 17

99. What *best* describes your highest level of education?

- 2 1. Some high school or less 9 4. Associate's degree
15 2. High school diploma 35 5. Bachelor's degree
16 3. Some college NR = 10 24 6. Graduate degree

100. What is your *primary* racial or ethnic identity?

Please select only one. NR =

- 1 1. American Indian or Alaska Native 1 4. Hispanic, Latino(a)
4 2. Asian, Pacific Islander 93 5. White, Anglo, Caucasian
<1 3. Black, African American
24 6. Other _____

101. What one *primary* language is used in your home?

Please select only one. NR = 9

- 98 1. English 1 3. Tagalog
1 2. Spanish <1 4. Vietnamese

- <1 5. Other _____

102. On what *need* or *program* should the parish most focus in the next one to three years?

Thank you for completing this survey.

Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA)

Georgetown University, Washington, DC 20057

Phone: (202) 687-8080 Fax: (202) 687-8083

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Appendix II: Complete Transcription of Open-ended Comments

Q 85: “Other” Reasons Why One’s Child(ren) Did Not Attend the Parish School

Misplaced administrative priorities.

No openings.

Kids did not feel welcomed by other kids at St. John's.

Attending Montessori Academy.

Bad experience.

Elizabeth Flatt.

Awful principal.

Spouse is not Catholic.

Distance from home.

Special programs and services offered at public schools.

Our children left the school because bullying and social interactions was negative. They were behind when they started public school academically.

Bullying.

No program for him.

My daughter's father (my ex) isn't Catholic.

Size of the school.

Principal.

Castle High School.

Our three grown children all report they would not send their children to SJB.

Strong belief in the importance of public schools.

Previously attended public school.

Don't feel welcome.

Principal needs to be approachable.

Holy Rosary/Memorial.

Choose to homeschool.

Non-Catholic spouse.

We don't feel we belong. We liked the last principal better.

School leadership/principal.

The principal.

Greater opportunities at our public schools.

Diversity. Too secluded/private.

Special needs.

Bullying.

Teacher issues 30 years ago.