

July 2019

Parish Life Survey

**Saint Teresa of Avila Parish
Summit, New Jersey**

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

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Summit, New Jersey**

July 2019



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Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate

Parish Life Survey Saint Teresa of Avila Parish Summit, New Jersey

Executive Summary

The St. Teresa of Avila Parish Life Survey was designed by the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA) at Georgetown University.¹ Most of the questions were derived from CARA's database of nationally tested questions, with a few questions designed specifically for the parish. The parish distributed the questionnaire to those attending its liturgies over one weekend in May 2019. In all, there were 143 valid responses. There were 129 valid responses to the English-language version of the questionnaire, 14 valid responses to the Spanish-language version.

Major findings can be summarized as follows:

Demographic Characteristics of Respondents

- In calendar year 2019, the average age of valid respondents to the in-pew survey at St. Teresa of Avila Parish is 58. Half are 59 or younger.
- Two-thirds (67%) of respondents to the survey are female and 33% are male. Sixty-eight percent say they are currently married or remarried. Some 21% have never married, 5% are currently divorced or separated, and 7% are widowed. Twenty-two percent report having at least one child or stepchild under age 18 living with them.
- Some 8% have attained a high school diploma or less, 12% have attended some college or have an associate's degree, and 80% have a bachelor's or graduate degree.

Religious Characteristics of Respondents

- On average, respondents have attended the parish for 25 years, with half having attended 21 years or more.
- Some 85% identify the parish as their primary place of worship *and* say they are registered there. Nine percent say they regularly attend the parish but are *not* registered and another 2% were identified as visitors on the weekend of the survey.

¹ CARA is a national, non-profit research center that conducts social scientific studies about the Catholic Church. Founded in 1964 and affiliated with Georgetown University since 1989, CARA has three major dimensions to its mission: to increase the Church's self-understanding, to serve the applied research needs of Church decision-makers, and to advance scholarly research on religion, particularly Catholicism.

- Eighty-five percent say they have been active Catholics since birth, 5% are converts to Catholicism, and 8% identify as returned Catholics. Some 1% says they are inactive Catholics and 1% identifies as non-Catholics.

Assessment of Parish Life and Needs

- Eight in ten (81%) give St. Teresa of Avila Parish overall a positive evaluation (“good” and “excellent” combined). Some 35% rate it as “excellent.”
- Some 80% at least “somewhat” agree that they feel included in parish life, with 38% agreeing “strongly” that they do.
- Efforts to meet people’s spiritual needs receive an “excellent” rating from 27% of respondents.
- St. Teresa of Avila respondents are particularly likely to report being attracted to the parish “very much” by the following: the quality of the music (53%), the quality of the liturgy (50%), the quality of the preaching (48%), its open and welcoming spirit (44%), and the sense of belonging they feel there (44%).
- The following needs are especially likely to receive high priority from respondents: children’s religious education/formation (74%), developing a parish sense of community (67%), youth ministry (64%), young adult ministry (54%), and adult faith formation (50%).

Leadership

- Two-thirds (66%) give a positive evaluation to the vision provided by parish leaders, with 37% rating it as “excellent.” The leadership provided by the pastor receives an “excellent” rating from 44%.
- Some 47% “strongly” agree they would feel comfortable talking with the pastor.
- Management of parish finances receives an “excellent” evaluation from 28% of respondents.
- About half give an “excellent” rating to the friendliness of the parish office staff (50%) and to the ministry of the professional ministry staff (48%).

Worship

- Masses and liturgies in general receive a positive evaluation from 86% of respondents. Forty-three percent rate them as “excellent.”
- Some 39% rate the hospitality or sense of welcome at worship as “excellent.” Parish outreach to visitors and guests receives an “excellent” evaluation from 26% of respondents.

- The liturgical decorations and environment at worship receive an “excellent” evaluation from 63%, with 54% rating the music as “excellent” and 36% rating the homilies as highly.
- Some 72% attend Mass at least once a week and another 23% attend almost every week. Mass attendance varies some by age group, with those ages 65 and older (87%) most likely to attend at least once a week and those ages 36 to 64 (63%) least likely.

Sense of Community

- The sense of community within the parish receives a positive rating from 59% of respondents. Some 24% give it an “excellent” rating. In a related finding, 12% rate as “excellent” parish efforts to help them meet other parishioners.
- Developing a parish sense of community receives “very much” priority from 67% of respondents.
- When asked what time of the week they are regularly most available to participate in parish activities, 50% indicate weekday evenings and 33% report after the Mass they attend. Time of availability varies some by age group and language of response to the survey (Spanish or English).

Formation

- Parish efforts to educate parishioners in the faith receive a positive evaluation from 75% of respondents, with 31% giving these efforts an “excellent” rating.
- St. Teresa of Avila School overall and the quality of the teaching at the school each receive “excellent” evaluations from 56% of responding parishioners.
- Children’s religious education programs receive an “excellent” rating from 32%, the same percentage giving as high a rating to youth ministry (32%).
- Some 23% say they have attended adult faith formation classes at the parish. Faith formation for adults receives an “excellent” rating from 23%. In a related finding, 50% place “very much” priority on adult faith formation.
- When asked for their preferred format for Faith Formation for their children next year, 60% prefer classes for the children only and 40% prefer family sessions where the parents and children gather together.

Stewardship

- Eighty-eight percent agree at least “somewhat” that they understand the concept of stewardship, with 62% agreeing “strongly” that they do.

- Parish efforts to encourage parishioners to share their time, talents and treasure with the parish receive a positive evaluation from 76%. Some 39% rate these efforts as “excellent.”
- Parish efforts to invite participation in ministries receive an “excellent” evaluation from 37% of respondents.
- Thirty-five percent report *not* being involved with any ministries or activities at the parish, 32% are involved with one, and 33% are involved with two or more.
- Respondents were asked to report, on average, the amount they give to the parish weekly. Some 71% give \$49 or less per week, with 29% giving \$50 or more.

Evangelization and Parish Outreach

- Efforts to spread the Gospel/evangelize receive a positive rating from 62% of respondents. Some 26% give these efforts an “excellent” rating.
- When asked to evaluate parish outreach to 12 groups, respondents are most likely to give an “excellent” rating to outreach to children (41%), families (40%), Hispanics or Latinos (38%), and teens (35%). They are least likely to give the same rating to outreach to area Catholics who do not come to Mass regularly (16%) and the unchurched (10%).
- 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 (66%), the local Summit community (63%), and young adults (62%).
- Concerning social justice, outreach to and advocacy for those in need receives a positive rating from 76% of respondents. Thirty-seven percent rate these efforts as “excellent.”

Parish Communications

- Communication with parishioners receives a positive evaluation from 76% of respondents, with 40% rating communication as “excellent.”
- Some 71% agree “strongly” that they read the Sunday bulletins, with the oldest age groups particularly likely to have indicated this. In a related finding, 27% agree “strongly” that they would like to receive news about the parish via social media.

Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate

Parish Life Survey Saint Teresa of Avila Parish Summit, New Jersey

Introduction

The St. Teresa of Avila Parish Life Survey was designed by the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA) at Georgetown University.² Most of the questions were derived from CARA's database of nationally tested questions, with a few questions designed specifically for the parish. The parish distributed the questionnaire to those attending its liturgies over one weekend in May 2019. In all, there were 143 valid responses. There were 129 valid responses to the English-language version of the questionnaire, 14 valid responses to the Spanish-language version. Following standard assumptions of statistical inference, a sample size of # provides a margin of error of approximately ± 8.2 percentage points.³

Interpreting This Report

Most of the questions in this survey use four-point response scales (i.e., “not at all,” “only a little,” “somewhat,” “very much”; or “poor,” “fair,” “good,” “excellent”). These scales allow respondents to choose between two relatively “negative” choices (e.g., “poor” and “fair”) and two relatively “positive” choices (e.g., “good” and “excellent”). In parts of the analysis in this report, these responses are combined to allow for clearer comparisons. However, as sometimes examining the most positive response distinguishes important contrasts in level of support, those responses are presented separately.

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.

² CARA is a national, non-profit research center that conducts social scientific studies about the Catholic Church. Founded in 1964 and affiliated with Georgetown University since 1989, CARA has three major dimensions to its mission: to increase the Church's self-understanding, to serve the applied research needs of Church decision-makers, and to advance scholarly research on religion, particularly Catholicism.

³ Strictly 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.

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 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 age groups 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 1,000 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.

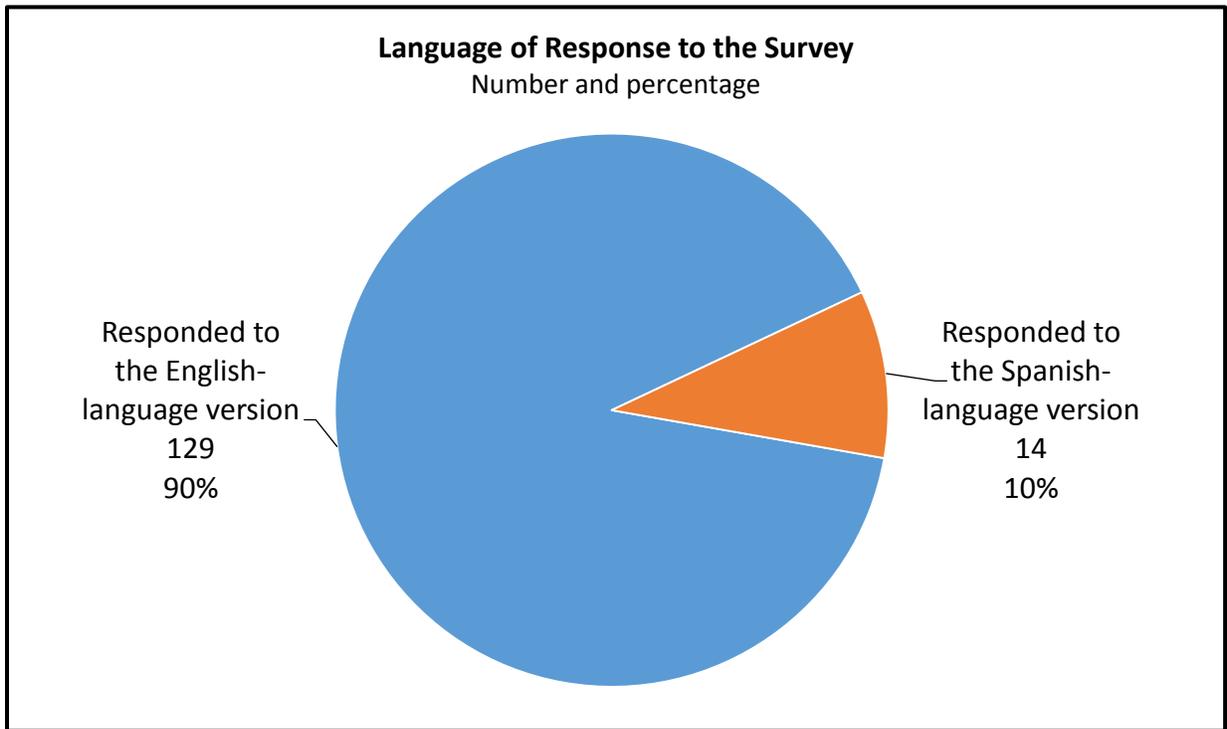
In this report, where possible, results from St. Teresa of Avila Parish current Parish Life Survey are compared to the aggregate responses from the Parish Life Survey National Database of Parish Life to put the parish results into a larger national context. Additionally, where available, comparisons 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 surveys 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, two open-ended questions on the survey collected qualitative data. 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 are presented in Appendix II of this report. As the parish has opted to analyze these comments, no analysis is presented in this report.

The results of this survey fairly represent the characteristics and attitudes of people ages 16 or older who attend Mass at St. Teresa of Avila 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.

Language of Response

Among the valid responses, 90% responded to the English-language version of the questionnaire and 10% responded to the Spanish-language version.



Section I: Demographic Characteristics of Respondents

This section of the report includes demographic and other descriptive data for the 143 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

Valid respondents at St. Teresa of Avila Parish surveyed in 2019 were born between 1933 and 1999. The average age of respondents is 58, with half saying they are 59 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.⁴ The most common age range reported is 45 to 54.

	St. Teresa	Catholics In Pew Nationally*	Catholics Nationally**
Age Range	%	%	%
18-24	3	4	9
25-34	3	9	17
35-44	12	20	20
45-54	25	23	19
55-64	22	19	20
65-74	22	15	10
75 or older	14	10	5

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

- Overall, St. Teresa of Avila respondents report being older than those responding in-pew nationally. Some 18% of St. Teresa of Avila respondents are under age 45 compared to 33% of Catholics in pew nationally.
- They differ significantly from self-identified Catholics nationally. Some 18% of St. Teresa of Avila respondents are under age 45 compared to 46% of Catholics nationally.

⁴ Source: Mark M. Gray, and Mary L. Gautier. 2012. *Catholic New Media Use in the United States, 2012*.

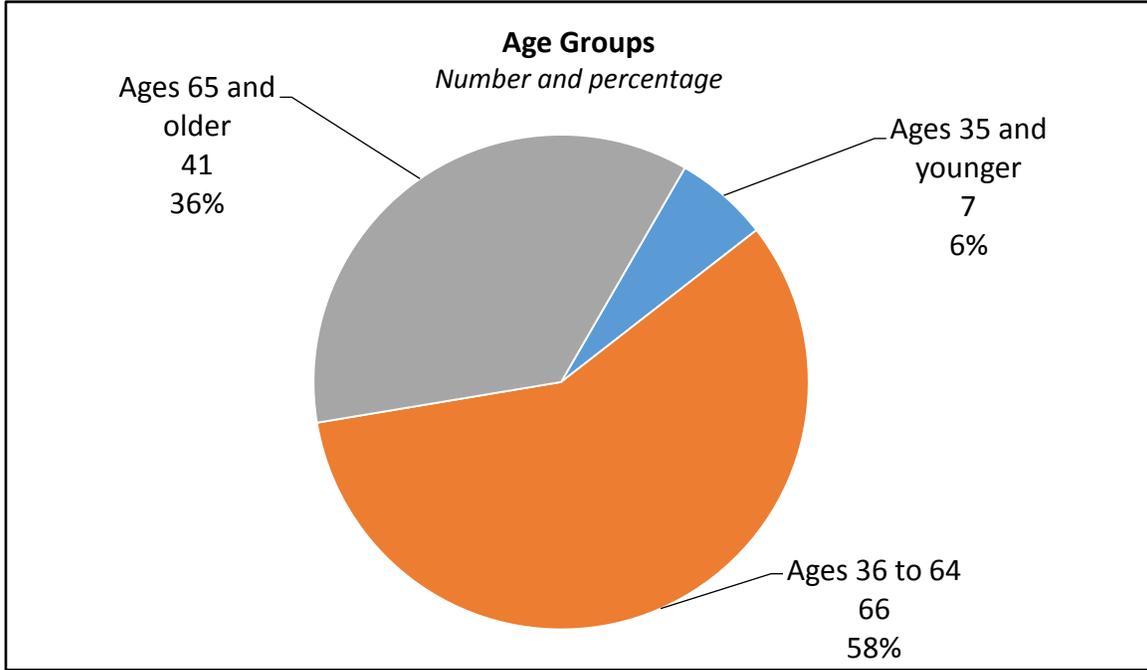
Differences by Language of Response

Half (51%) of those responding to the Spanish-language survey are under age 45, compared to 15% of those responding in English.

Age in 2019, by Language of Response		
	English-language	Spanish-language
Age Range	%	%
18-24	2	13
25-34	3	0
35-44	10	38
45-54	25	25
55-64	22	25
65-74	24	0
75 or older	15	0

Age Groups

Important differences between groups in parishes are typically found among those who belong to different age groups. For comparison purposes in this report, CARA divides Catholics into the three age groups shown in the figure below. The most common age group is those ages 36 to 64.



These three age groups will be used for comparisons throughout the remainder of the report.

Differences by Language of Response

Some 88% of those responding to the Spanish-language survey are between ages 36 to 64, compared to 56% of those responding in English.

Age Groups, by Language of Response		
	English-language	Spanish-language
Age Range	%	%
Ages 35 and younger	6	13
Ages 36 to 64	56	88
Ages 65 and older	39	0

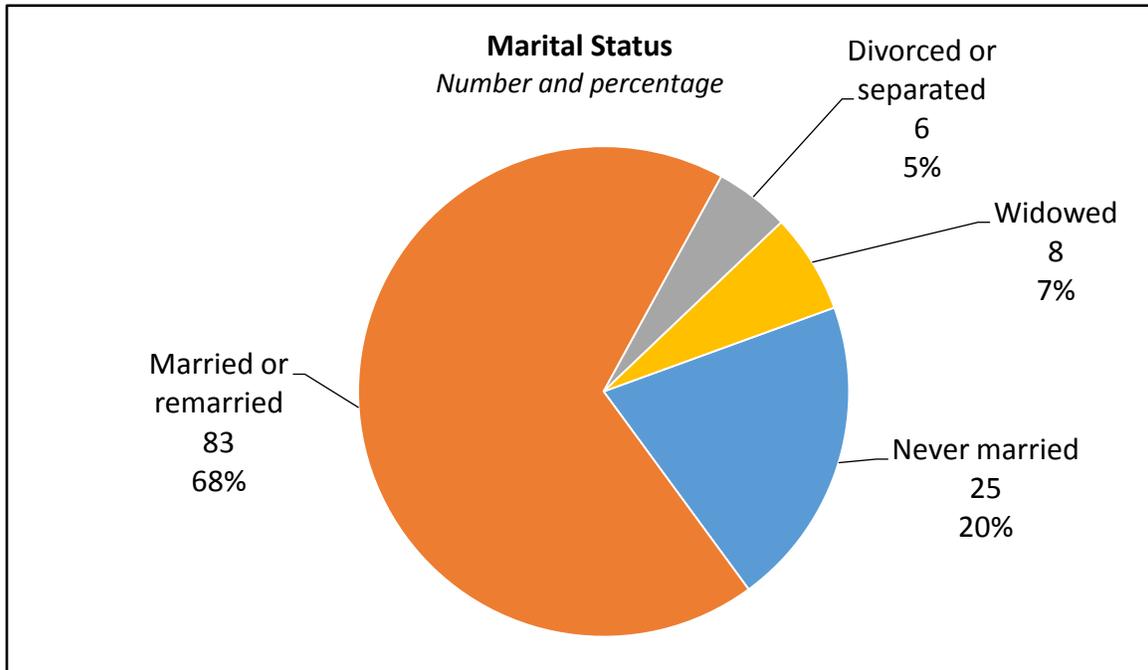
Gender and Marital Status

Two-thirds of respondents (67%) identify as female and 33% as male. The percentage female is similar to the percentage among Catholics nationally in pew (64%) but higher than the percentage of self-identified Catholics nationally (51%).

Gender, Compared to Catholics Nationally			
<i>Percentage responding</i>			
	St. Teresa	Catholics In Pew Nationally*	Catholics Nationally**
	%	%	%
Female	67	64	51
Male	33	36	49

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

Two-thirds (68%) of respondents are currently married or remarried. Some 20% have never married, 5% are currently divorced or separated, and 7% are widowed.



Comparison to Catholics Nationally

Marital status at the parish is compared to the national data in the table below. The percentage married or remarried at St. Teresa of Avila Parish (68%) is similar to the percentage among Catholics in-pew nationally (70%) but slightly higher than the percentage among Catholics nationally (62%).

Marital Status, Compared to Catholics Nationally			
<i>Percentage responding</i>			
	St. Teresa	Catholics In Pew Nationally*	Catholics Nationally**
Marital Status	%	%	%
Never married***	20	15	24
Married or remarried	68	70	62
Divorced or separated	5	8	9
Widowed	7	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*

- Twenty percent have never married, compared to about one in seven in-pew Catholics nationally (15%) and a quarter of adult Catholics nationally (24%).
- Some 5% are divorced or separated, compared to almost one in ten Catholics in pew and nationally (8% or 9%).
- About one in 20 St. Teresa of Avila respondents (7%) has been widowed, compared to about one in 20 (5% to 7%) of those in pew and nationally.

Differences by Age Group

Marital status differs by age group. Those ages 35 and younger are particularly likely to have never married (86%); those ages 36 to 64 are most likely to be married (81%); and those ages 65 and older are most likely to be widowed (20%).

Marital Status, by Age Groups			
<i>Percentage responding</i>			
	Age 35 and Younger	Ages 36 to 64	Ages 65 and Older
	%	%	%
Single, never married	86	11	18
Married or remarried	14	81	60
Divorced or separated	0	8	3
Widowed	0	0	20

Differences by Language of Response

Those responding to the survey in Spanish are particularly likely to be married, but are less likely to be divorced, separated, or widowed.

Marital Status, by Language of Response		
<i>Percentage responding</i>		
	English- language	Spanish- language
	%	%
Single, never married	20	22
Married or remarried	67	78
Divorced or separated	5	0
Widowed	7	0

Children in the Household

Respondents report having from zero to five of their children or stepchildren living with them. Some 34% of respondents have at least one child of any age (including stepchildren) living with them. Twenty-two percent have at least one child under age 18 living with them.

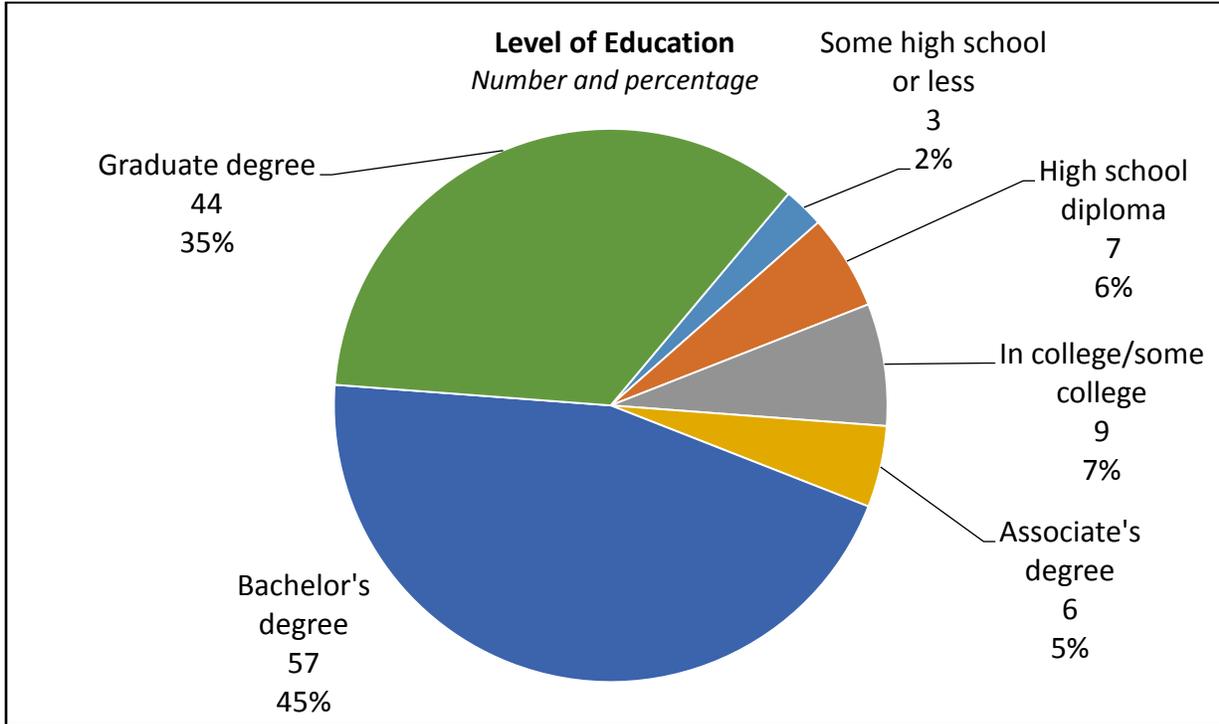
Children or Stepchildren Living in Household	
<i>Percentage responding</i>	
	%
No children	66
One child	11
Two children	10
Three or more children	13
	%
Ages 4 or younger	4
Ages 5 to 12	13
Ages 13 to 17	13
Ages 18 or older	18

Taking into account that in some households two parents may have responded to this question, respondents report five children or stepchildren ages four and younger living with them, 27 children or stepchildren ages five to 12 living with them, 25 children or stepchildren ages 13 to 17 living with them, and 31 children or stepchildren ages 18 and older living with them.⁵

⁵ This was calculated using the yes/no response to this question: "Did/will your spouse also complete this survey?"

Level of Education

Eight percent have a high school diploma or less. Another 12% have attended some college or have an associate's degree. Some 80% report having a bachelor's or graduate degree.



Comparison to Catholics Nationally

Eight in ten (80%) of St. Teresa of Avila respondents have a bachelor's or graduate degree, compared to 53% of those Catholics responding in pew nationally and 27% of all self-identified Catholics nationally.

Level of Education, Compared to Catholics Nationally			
<i>Percentage responding</i>			
	St. Teresa	Catholics In Pew Nationally*	Catholics Nationally**
Level of Education	%	%	%
Some high school or less	2	5	}47
High school diploma	6	14	
Some college	7	19	}26
Associate's degree	5	9	
Bachelor's degree	45	33	}27
Graduate degree	35	20	

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

Differences by Age Group

Level of education differs some by age groups, with those ages 35 and younger (57%) *least* likely to have a bachelor's or graduate degree.

Level of Education, by Age Group			
<i>Percentage responding</i>			
	Ages 35 and Younger	Ages 36 to 64	Ages 65 and Older
Level of Education	%	%	%
Some high school or less	0	5	0
High school diploma	14	5	5
In college/some college	29	5	5
Associate's degree	0	5	8
Bachelor's degree	43	52	33
Graduate degree	14	29	50

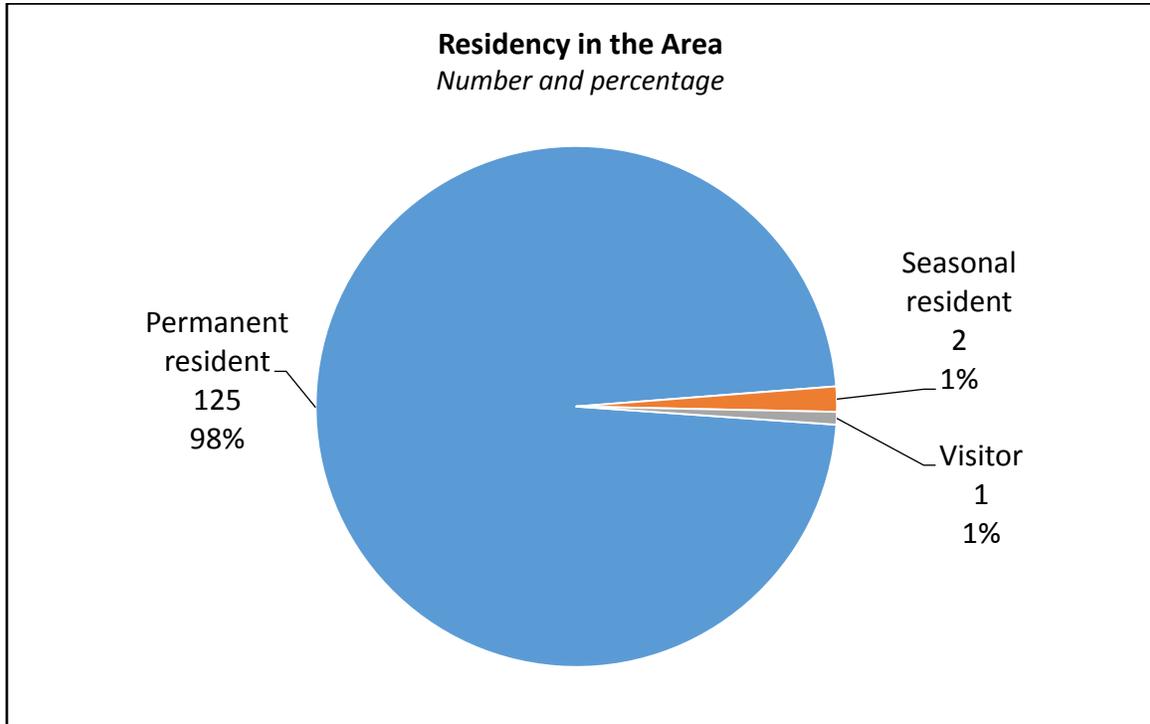
Differences by Language of Response

Level of education also differs by language of response to the survey. All of those holding a bachelor's or graduate degree responded to the English-language version of the survey.

Level of Education, by Language of Response		
<i>Percentage responding</i>		
	English- language	Spanish- language
Level of Education	%	%
Some high school or less	1	22
High school diploma	4	22
In college/some college	4	44
Associate's degree	4	11
Bachelor's degree	49	0
Graduate degree	38	0

Residency in the Area

Nearly all respondents (98%) are permanent residents.⁶



⁶ No respondents identified their residency status as “temporary military assignment” or as “student living in the area only during the school year.”

Employment Status

Some 58% report being employed, either full time (46%), part time (10%), or as self-employed (2%). Twenty-seven percent identify as retired (23%) or semi-retired (4%), with another 9% saying they are homemakers.

<i>Which best describes your employment status?</i>		
<i>Percentage responding</i>		
	N*	%
Employed full time	58	46
Employed part time	12	10
Self-employed	3	2
Unemployed	2	2
Semi-retired	5	4
Retired	29	23
Homemaker	11	9
Member of the military	0	0
Volunteer	2	2
High school student	0	0
College student	2	2
Other	1	1
*N refers to the number giving that response.		

Differences by Age Group

Those ages 36 to 64 (79%) are most likely to be employed, either full time, part time, or self-employed, with those ages 65 and older (64%) most likely to be retired or semi-retired.

	Ages 35 and Younger	Ages 36 to 64	Ages 65 and Older
	%	%	%
Employed full time	57	68	21
Employed part time	14	9	8
Self-employed	0	2	3
Unemployed	0	3	0
Semi-retired	0	0	10
Retired	0	5	54
Homemaker	0	14	5
Member of the military	0	0	0
Volunteer	0	0	0
High school student	0	0	0
College student	29	0	0

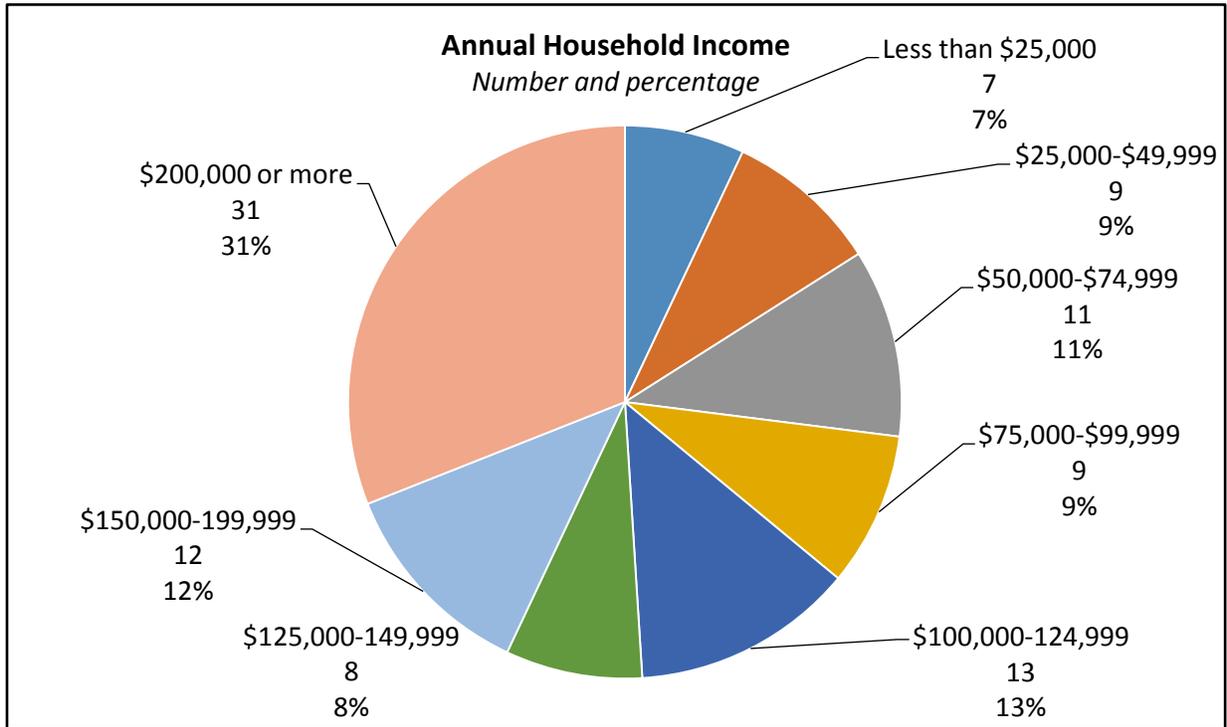
Differences by Language of Response

Those responding to the Spanish-language version of the survey are most likely to be employed full time, part time, or self-employed. In contrast, those responding to the English-language version are most likely to be retired or to be more homemakers.

Employment Status, by Language of Response		
<i>Percentage responding</i>		
	English- language	Spanish- language
	%	%
Employed full time	46	56
Employed part time	9	22
Self-employed	2	11
Unemployed	1	11
Semi-retired	4	0
Retired	25	0
Homemaker	10	0
Member of the military	0	0
Volunteer	0	0
High school student	0	0
College student	2	0

Level of Household Income

St. Teresa of Avila respondents were asked to identify the category that best described their total annual household incomes, including all of those living with them. Sixteen percent report household incomes of less than \$50,000 and another 20% report having between \$50,000 and \$99,999. Some 22% say their household income is \$100,000 to \$149,999 and 43% report household incomes of \$150,000 or more.



Differences by Age Group

Eighty percent of those of the youngest age group earn less than \$75,000, compared to 15% to 27% of those of the two older age groups. More than half of those ages 36 to 64 (57%) live in households that report \$150,000 or more in household income, compared to 20% to 31% of those of the other age groups.

Total Annual Household Income, by Age Group			
<i>Percentage responding</i>			
	Ages 35 and Younger	Ages 36 to 64	Ages 65 and Older
	%	%	%
Less than \$25,000	20	0	7
\$25,000-\$49,999	20	5	10
\$50,000-\$74,999	40	10	10
\$75,000-\$99,999	0	7	14
\$100,000-124,999	0	12	17
\$125,000-149,999	0	9	10
\$150,000-199,999	20	12	14
\$200,000 or more	0	45	17

Differences by Language of Response

Some 76% of those responding to the survey in Spanish report total annual household incomes of less than \$75,000, compared to 23% of those responding in English.

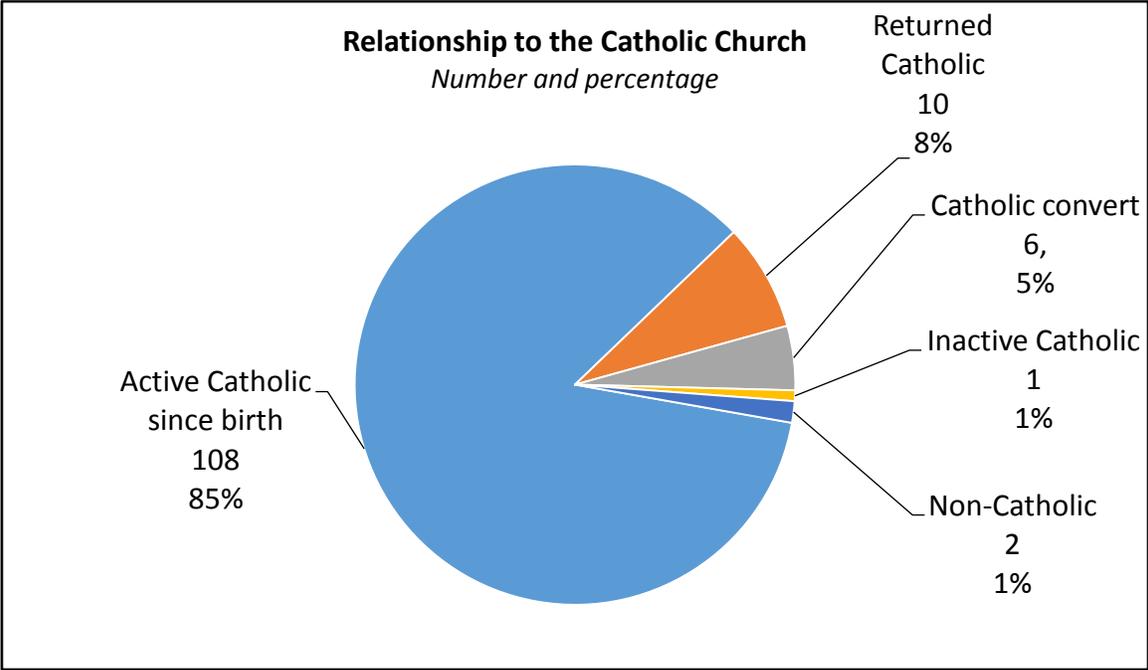
Total Annual Household Income, by Language of Response		
<i>Percentage responding</i>		
	English- language	Spanish- language
	%	%
Less than \$25,000	5	25
\$25,000-\$49,999	9	13
\$50,000-\$74,999	9	38
\$75,000-\$99,999	10	0
\$100,000-124,999	14	0
\$125,000-149,999	8	13
\$150,000-199,999	12	13
\$200,000 or more	34	0

Section II: Religious Characteristics of Respondents

This part of the report describes several characteristics of the 143 valid respondents to the survey that relate to their religious attributes and parish-related behaviors.

Relationship to the Catholic Church

Fully 85% St. Teresa of Avila respondents say they have been active Catholics since birth, with 8% saying they are returned Catholics and 5% identifying as converts to Catholicism. Some 1% is an inactive Catholic and 1% is a non-Catholic.



Comparison to Catholics Nationally

Compared to those responding in pew nationally (74%), St. Teresa of Avila respondents (85%) are more likely to report having been an active Catholic since birth.

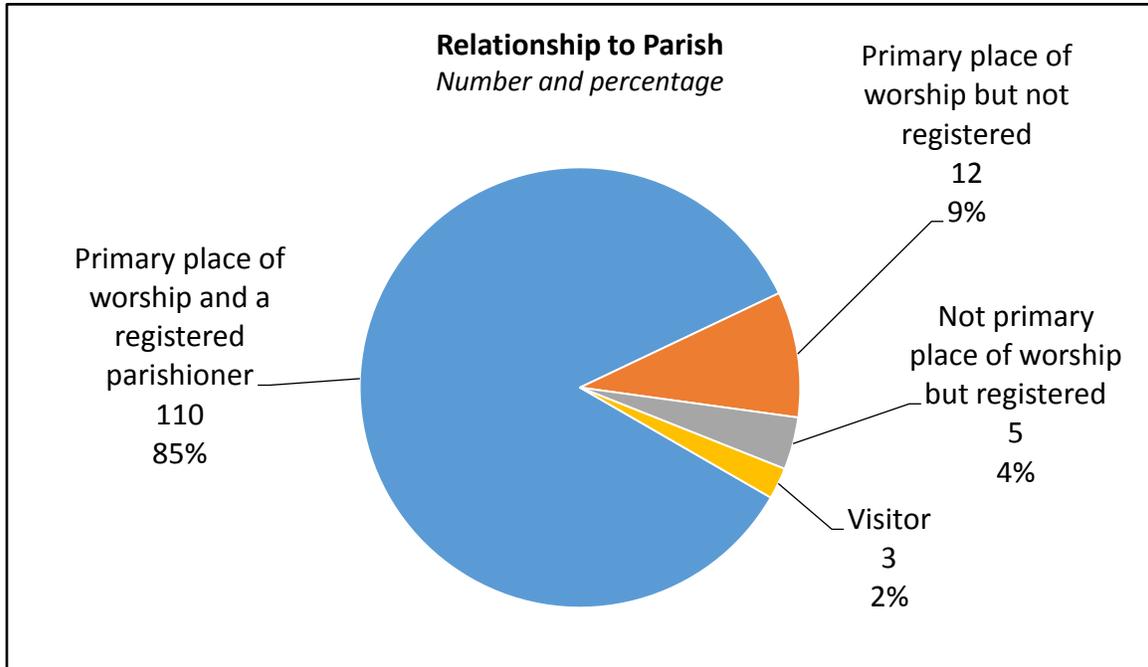
<i>What best describes you?</i>		
<i>Percentage responding</i>		
	St. Teresa	Catholics In Pew Nationally*
	%	%
Active Catholic since birth	85	74
Returned Catholic	8	11
Catholic convert	5	11
Inactive Catholic	1	2
Non-Catholic	1	2

*Source: CARA's 2012 Emerging Models study

Relationship to the Parish

Of all respondents, 94% report that St. Teresa of Avila Parish is their primary place of worship and 88% say they are registered there.

In the figure below, those two measures are examined in relationship to one another. More than eight in ten (85%) say both that the parish is their primary place of worship *and* that they are registered there. Fewer, 9%, say the parish is their primary place of worship but that they are *not* registered there. Two percent are visitors to the parish.



Compared to Catholics in pew nationally (78%), St. Teresa of Avila respondents (85%) are slightly more likely to identify the parish as their primary place of worship *and* to say they are registered there.

Relationship to the Parish, Compared to Catholics Nationally		
	St. Teresa	Catholics In Pew
	%	Nationally*
	%	%
Primary place of worship <i>and</i> a registered parishioner	85	78
Primary place of worship but <i>not</i> registered	9	13
<i>Not</i> primary place of worship but registered	4	2
Visitor to the parish	2	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 25 years. The median is 21 years, meaning that half of respondents have attended for 21 years or less.

Years at Parish*	
<i>Percentage responding</i>	
	%
1 year or less	5
2-5 years	15
6-10 years	4
11-15 years	9
16-20 years	17
21-25 years	8
26-30 years	10
31-35 years	6
36-40 years	8
41 years or more	19
Average	25
Median	21
Minimum	1
Maximum	83

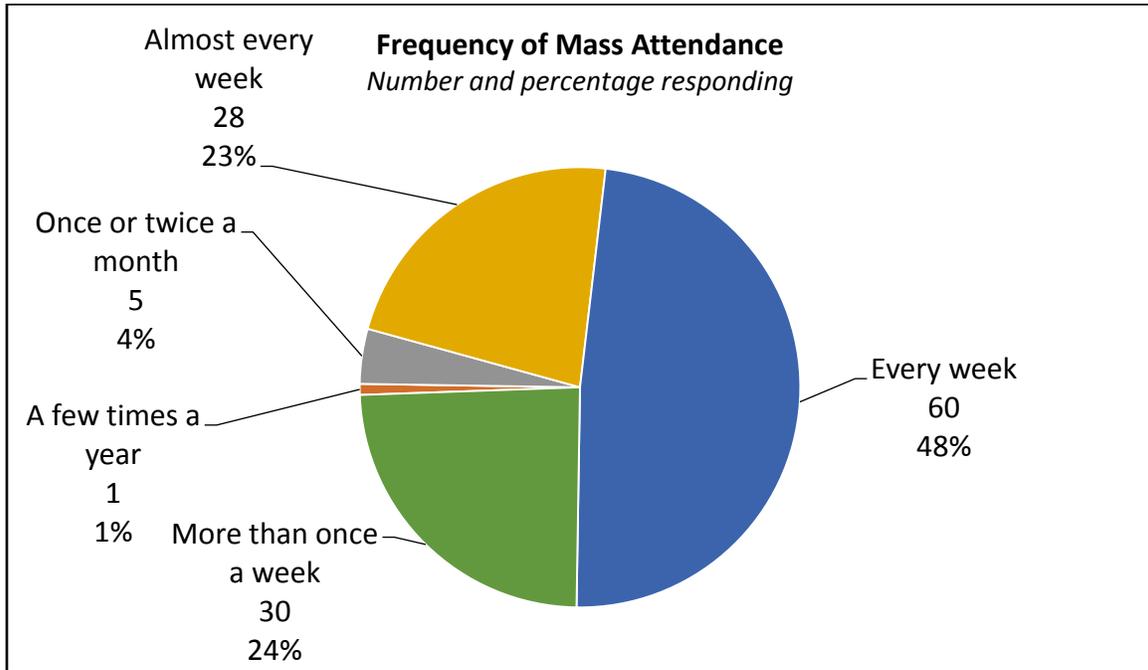
* Those who do not regularly attend the parish were asked to leave the question blank. Those who have attended for less than a year were instructed to write "1."

Differences by Language of Response

Sixty percent of those responding to the survey in Spanish have been at the parish for 15 years or less, compared to 32% of those responding in English.

Frequency of Mass Attendance

Some 72% of respondents report attending Mass at least once a week. An additional 23% attend almost every week and 4% attend once or twice a month. One percent attends less frequently than that.⁷



⁷ No respondents at the parish report attending Mass “never or rarely.”

Comparison to Catholics Nationally

Compared to in-pew Catholics nationally (71%), St. Teresa of Avila respondents are about as likely to attend Mass at least once a week (72%).

St. Teresa of Avila respondents (72%) 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?			
<i>Percentage responding</i>			
	St. Teresa	Catholics In Pew Nationally*	Catholics Nationally**
	%	%	%
Never or rarely	0	<1	32
A few times a year	1	2	24
Once/twice a month	4	6	10
Almost every week	23	21	11
Every week	48	57	20
More than once a week	24	14	3

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

Differences by Age Group

Those ages 65 and older (87%) are most likely to attend Mass at least once a week, followed by those ages 35 and younger (72%) and those ages 36 to 64 (63%).

Those ages 36 to 64 (34%), on the other hand, are most likely to attend Mass almost every week, followed by those ages 35 or younger (14%) and those ages 36 to 64 (10%).

Differences by Language of Response

Some 74% of those responding to the English-language version of the survey report attending Mass at least once a week, compared to 56% of those responding in Spanish.

Conversely, 33% of those responding to the survey in Spanish say they attend Mass almost weekly, compared to 22% of those responding in English.

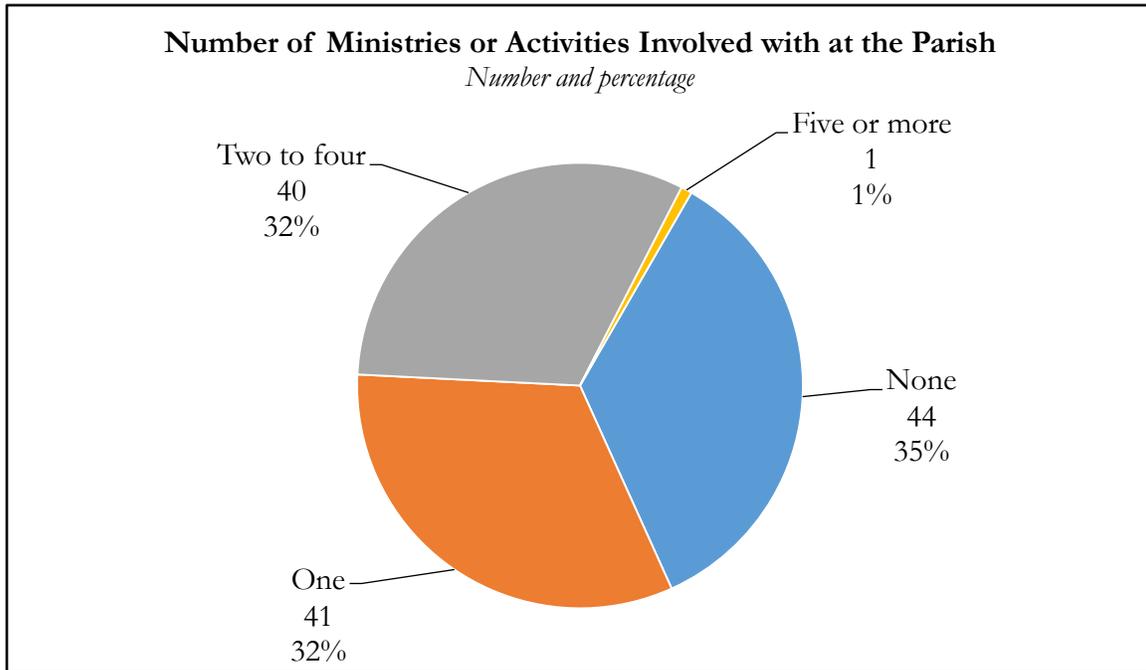
Participation in Parish Formation Programs

Respondents report the following family participation in parish formation programs:

- Some 23% of respondents have attended adult religious education programs in the past five years at the parish. Twenty-four percent of those responding to the survey in English say they have attended such classes, compared to 11% of those responding in Spanish.
- A third (34%) have children who have attended religious education classes in the past five years. Those responding in Spanish (57%) are more likely to report this than those responding in English (32%).
- Some 13% have children who have attended the parish school in the past five years. Those responding to the Spanish-language version of the survey (43%) are more likely than those responding in English (10%) to indicate this.

Ministry and Activity Participation

Sixty-five percent report being involved with at least one ministry or activity at the parish in the past year. Some 35% are not involved with any.



In the remainder of this report comparison is made between two groups of respondents according to their involvement in parish activities:

- Those not involved in any parish ministries or activities (44 respondents or 35%)
- Those involved in at least one parish ministry or activity (82 respondents or 65%)

Comparison to Parishes Nationally

St. Teresa of Avila respondents (65%) are more likely to report being involved with at least one ministry or activity at the parish as those parishes CARA has worked with in the past (50%).

Number of Ministries or Activities Involved With		
<i>Percentage responding</i>		
	St. Teresa	Parishes
	%	Nationally*
	%	%
None	35	50
One	32	23
Two	32	22
Three or more	1	3

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

- Some 33% of St. Teresa of Avila respondents are involved in two or more ministries or activities, compared to 25% of those at parishes nationally.
- Thirty-five percent of St. Teresa of Avila respondents are *not* involved with any parish ministries or activities, compared to half of those at parishes nationally.

Section III: Assessment of Parish Life and Needs

Overall, the results of the St. Teresa of Avila 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 Persons and Programs
- Evaluation of Areas of Worship
- Evaluation of Parish Efforts
- Evaluation of Parish Outreach
- Top Priority for Parish Outreach
- Priority for Parish Needs
- Attraction to the Parish
- Attitudes about Parish Life
- Times of the Week Available
- Preference for Format of Faith Formation Program
- Average Weekly Parish Contribution

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.

Eight in ten respondents (81%) give a positive rating (“good” and “excellent” combined) to St. Teresa of Avila Parish overall.

Please evaluate these aspects of parish life		
<i>Percentage responding “Good” or “Excellent” combined</i>		
	St. Teresa %	Catholics In Pew Nationally*
	%	%
Masses and liturgies in general	86	94
St. Teresa of Avila Parish overall	81	94
Encouragement to share your time, talents and treasure with the parish	76	91
Outreach to and advocacy for those in need	76	–
Efforts to educate parishioners in the faith	75	91
Vision provided by parish leaders	66	90
Spreading the Gospel/evangelizing	62	88
Sense of community within the parish	59	87
<i>*Source: CARA’s 2012 Emerging Models study</i>		

- Masses and liturgies in general receive a positive evaluation from 86% of respondents.
- About three in four give a positive evaluation to parish efforts to encourage parishioners to share their time, talents, and treasure with the parish (76%), to reach out and advocate for those in need (76%), and to educate parishioners in the faith (75%).
- Two in three or less give a “good” or “excellent” evaluation to the following aspects of parish life: the vision provided by parish leaders (66%), efforts to spread the Gospel or evangelize (62%), and the sense of community within the parish (59%).

Comparison to Parishes Nationally⁸

Respondents at St. Teresa of Avila Parish are 13 to 28 percentage points *less* likely than those at parishes nationally to give a “good” or “excellent” evaluation to the following aspects of parish life (ordered from largest to smallest differences):

- Sense of community within the parish (59% compared to 87%)
- Spreading the Gospel/evangelizing (62% compared to 88%)
- Vision provided by parish leaders (66% compared to 90%)
- Efforts to educate parishioners in the faith (75% compared to 91%)
- Encouragement to share your time, talents and treasure with the parish (76% compared to 91%)
- St. Teresa of Avila Parish overall (81% compared to 94%)

⁸ As discussed in the Introduction, only differences of 10 percentage points or more are treated as meaningful.

“Excellent” Evaluations

Some 35% of respondents give an “excellent” rating to St. Teresa of Avila Parish overall.

<i>Please evaluate these aspects of parish life</i>		
<i>Percentage responding “Excellent”</i>		
	St. Teresa %	Catholics In Pew Nationally*
Masses and liturgies in general	43	59
Encouragement to share your time, talents and treasure with the parish	39	57
Vision provided by parish leaders	37	50
Outreach to and advocacy for those in need	37	–
St. Teresa of Avila Parish overall	35	58
Efforts to educate parishioners in the faith	31	55
Spreading the Gospel/evangelizing	26	45
Sense of community within the parish	24	46

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

- Masses and liturgies receive an “excellent” evaluation from 43% of responding parishioners.
- Roughly a third give each of these aspects of parish life an “excellent” evaluation: the encouragement to share one’s time, talents and treasure with the parish (39%), vision provided by parish leaders (37%), outreach to and advocacy for those in need (37%), and efforts to educate parishioners in the faith (31%).
- A quarter rate the following as “excellent”: spreading the Gospel/evangelizing (26%) and the sense of community within the parish (24%).

Comparison to Parishes Nationally

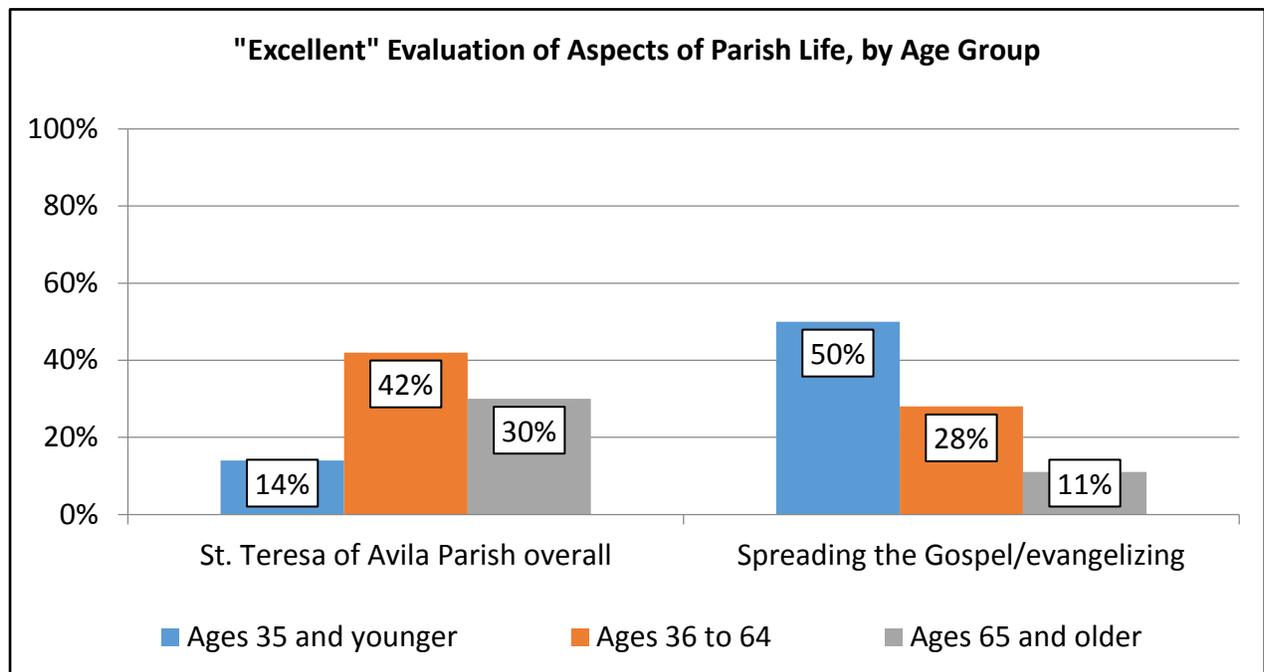
Those at St. Teresa of Avila Parish are 13 to 24 percentage points *less* likely than those at parishes nationally to give an “excellent” evaluation to the following aspects of parish life:

- Efforts to educate parishioners in the faith (31% compared to 55%)
- St. Teresa of Avila Parish overall (35% compared to 58%)
- Sense of community within the parish (24% compared to 46%)

- Encouragement to share your time, talents and treasure with the parish (39% compared to 57%)
- Spreading the Gospel/evangelizing (26% compared to 45%)
- Masses and liturgies in general (43% compared to 59%)
- Vision provided by parish leaders (37% compared to 50%)

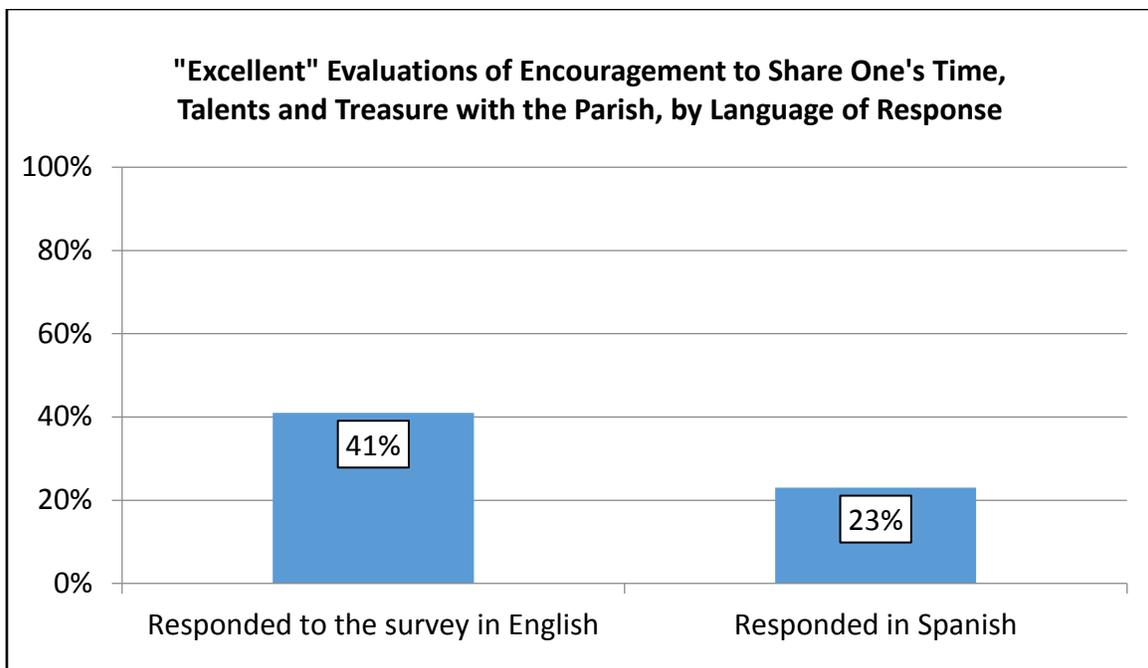
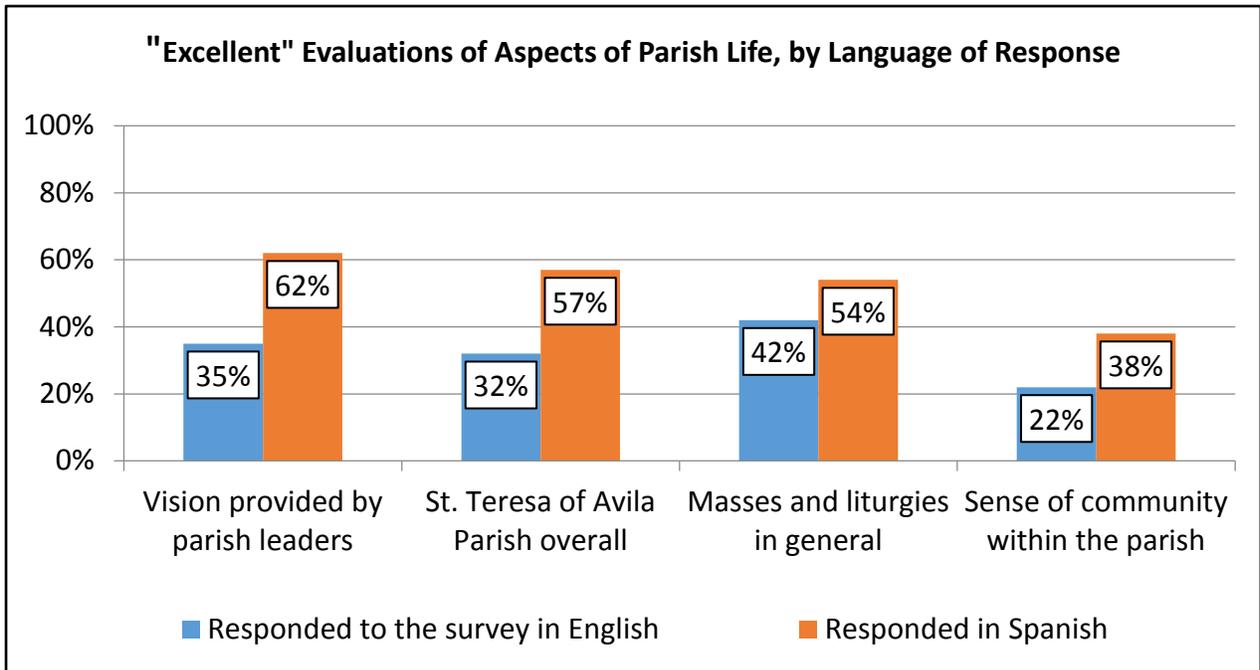
Differences by Age Group

Those ages 36 to 64 are most likely to give the parish overall an “excellent” rating, with those ages 35 and younger most likely to give efforts to spread the Gospel or evangelize as high a rating.



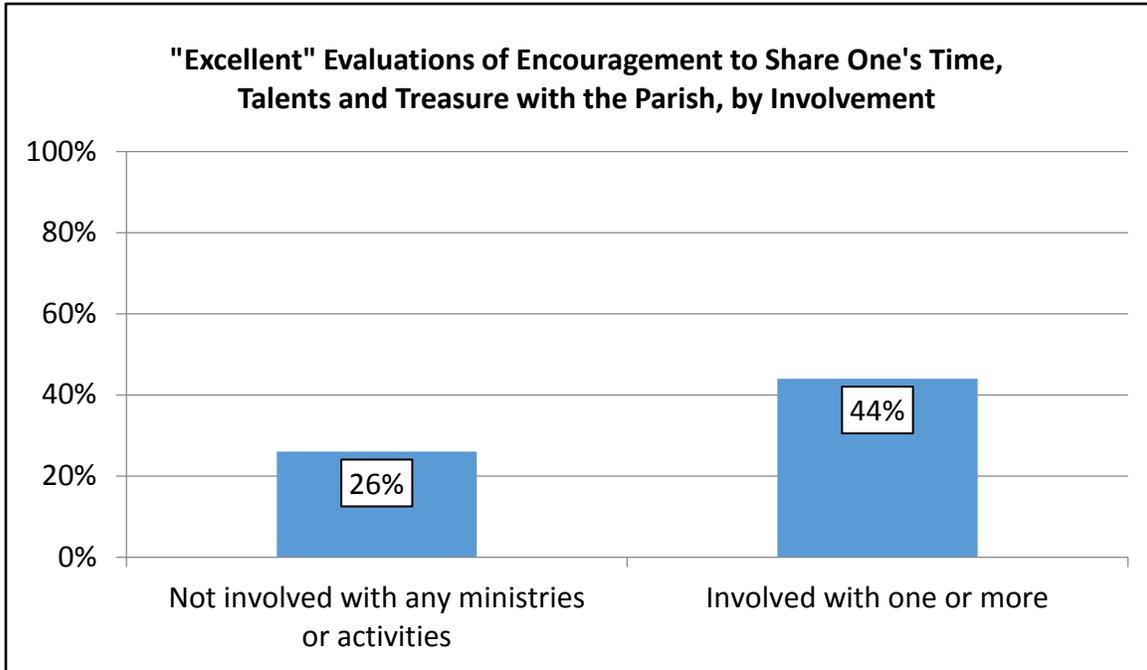
Differences by Language of Response

Those responding to the Spanish-language version of the survey are more likely than those responding to the English-language version to give each of the four aspects of parish life presented in the figure below as “excellent.” As can be seen in the second figure, those responding in English are most likely to give as high a rating to encouragement to share one’s time, talents and treasure with the parish.



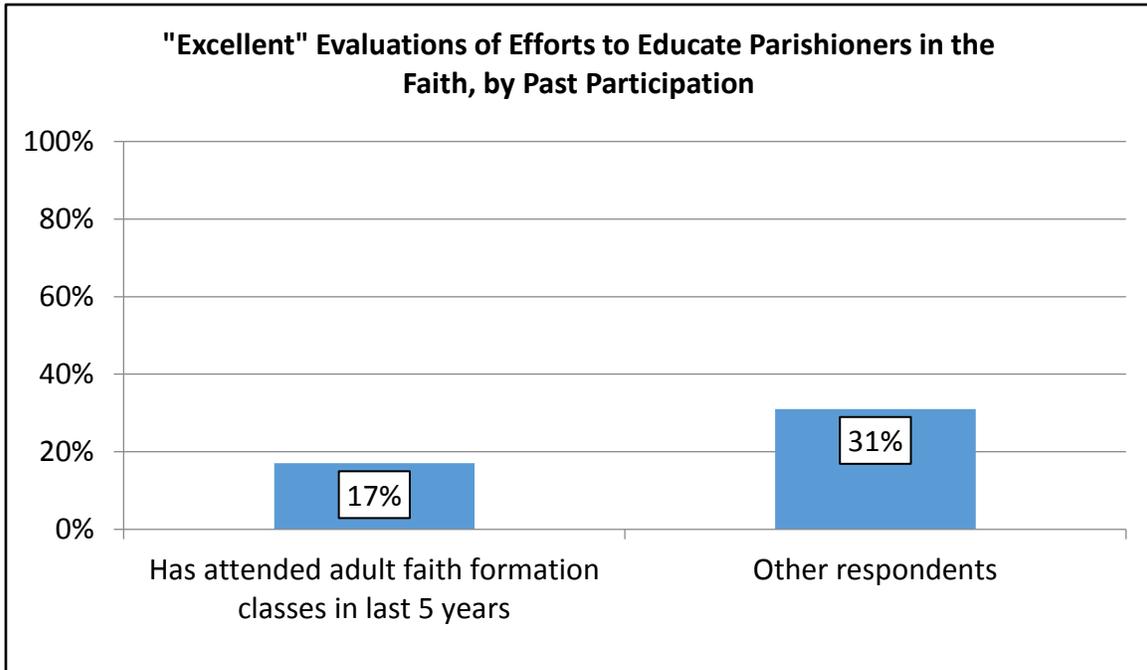
Differences by Level of Involvement

Those involved with at least one ministry or activity at the parish are more likely than others to give an “excellent” rating to parish efforts to encourage them to share their time, talents and treasure with the parish.



Differences by Past Participation in Formation Programs

As is shown in the figure below, those who have attended adult religious education classes at the parish in the past five years are *less* likely than others to rate as “excellent” efforts to educate parishioners in the faith.



Evaluation of Persons and Programs

Nine in ten give a positive evaluation to these aspects of the parish school: quality of teaching at St. Teresa of Avila School (91%) and St. Teresa of Avila School overall (90%).

Please evaluate the following persons and programs
Percentage responding "Good" or "Excellent" combined

	St. Teresa %	Parishes Nationally* %
Quality of teaching at St. Teresa of Avila School ⁹	91	–
St. Teresa of Avila School overall	90	–
Friendliness of the parish office staff	81	92
Ministry of the professional ministry staff	80	–
Leadership provided by the pastor	73	88
Youth ministry	71	73
Children’s religious education programs ¹⁰	67	83
Faith formation for adults	53	71

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

- Eight in ten say the following aspects of leadership among the parish staff are “good” or “excellent”: the friendliness of the parish office staff (81%) and the ministry of the professional ministry staff (80%). Some 73% give a positive evaluation to the leadership provided by the pastor.
- Youth ministry (71%) and children’s religious education programs (67%) is given a positive evaluation by about seven in ten. Fifty-three percent rate faith formation for adults positively.

⁹ The two measures about the parish school have non-response rates between 57 and 70 percent due to limited family participation and knowledge of the school. For the non-response rates to all questions, see Appendix I.

¹⁰ This program and other formation programs have non-response rates between 48 and 56 percent due to limited family participation in those programs. For the non-response rates to all questions, see Appendix I.

Comparison to Parishes Nationally

Respondents at St. Teresa of Avila Parish are 11 to 18 percentage points *less* likely than those at parishes nationally to give a “good” or “excellent” evaluation to the following persons or programs:

- Faith formation for adults (53% compared to 71%)
- Children’s religious education programs (67% compared to 83%)
- Leadership provided by the pastor (73% compared to 88%)
- Friendliness of parish office staff (81% compared to 92%)

“Excellent” Evaluations

Some 56% give an “excellent” evaluation to St. Teresa School overall and to the quality of teaching at the school.

Please evaluate the following persons and programs		
<i>Percentage responding “Excellent”</i>		
	St. Teresa %	Parishes Nationally* %
St. Teresa of Avila School overall	56	–
Quality of teaching at St. Teresa of Avila School	56	–
Friendliness of the parish office staff	50	51
Ministry of the professional ministry staff	48	–
Leadership provided by the pastor	44	55
Children’s religious education programs	32	39
Youth ministry	32	31
Faith formation for adults	23	27

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

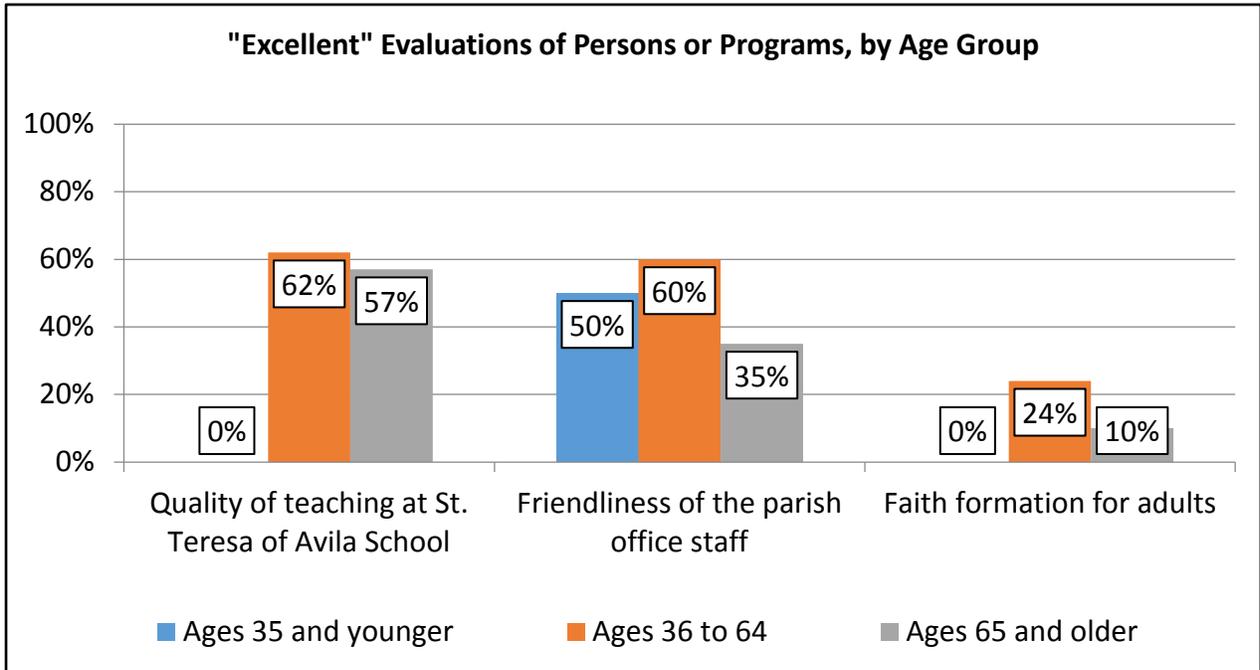
- Between 44% and 50% rate the following as “excellent”: the friendliness of the parish office staff (50%), ministry of the professional ministry staff (48%), and leadership provided by the pastor (44%).
- Less than a third give the following formation programs an “excellent” rating: children’s religious education programs (32%), youth ministry (32%), and faith formation for adults (23%).

Comparison to Parishes Nationally

Respondents at St. Teresa of Avila Parish are 11 percentage points *less* likely than those at parishes nationally to give an “excellent” evaluation to the leadership provided by the pastor (44% compared to 55%).

Differences by Age Group

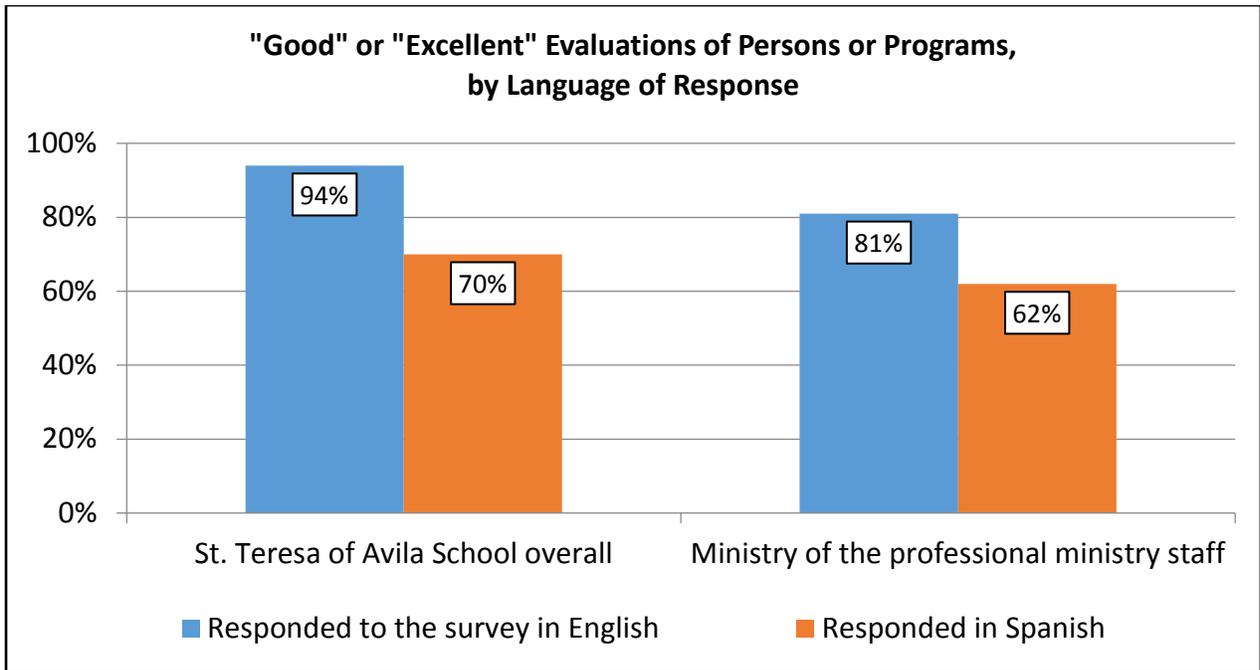
None of those ages 35 and younger give the quality of teaching at the parish school or faith formation for adults an “excellent” evaluation. Those ages 65 and older, on the other hand, are *least* likely to rate the friendliness of the parish office staff as highly.



Differences by Language of Response

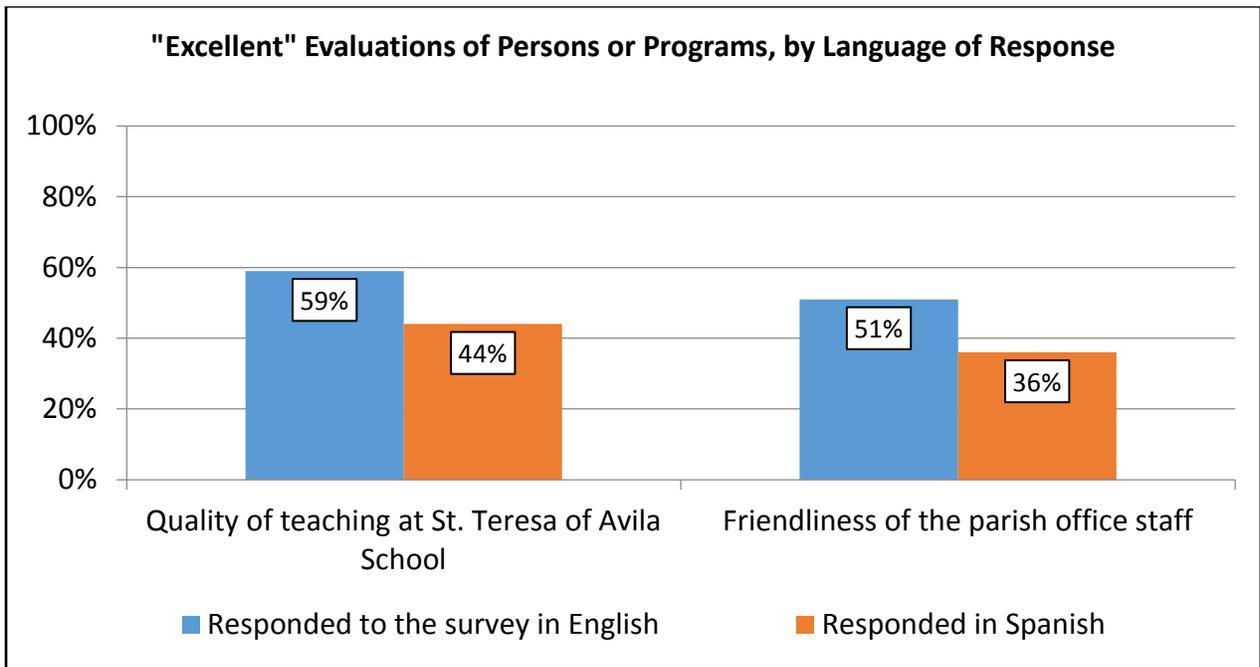
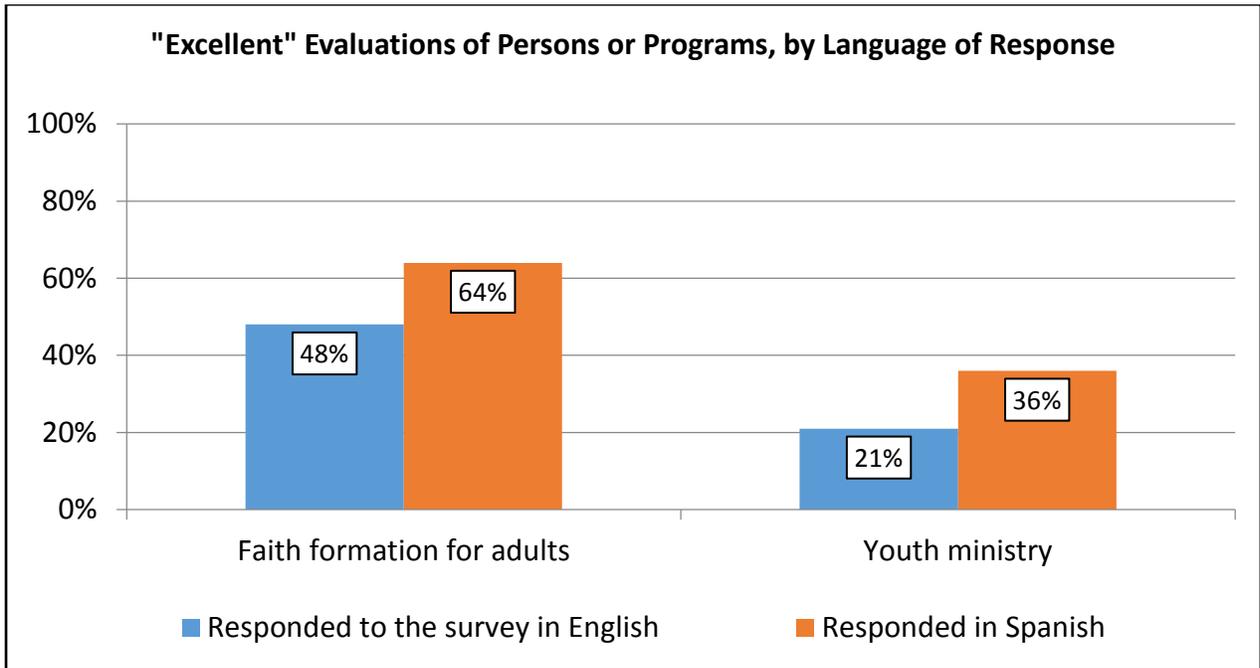
"Good" or "Excellent" Combined

Those responding to the English-language version of the survey are more likely than those responding in Spanish to give a "good" or "excellent" evaluation to the two measures shown in the figure below.



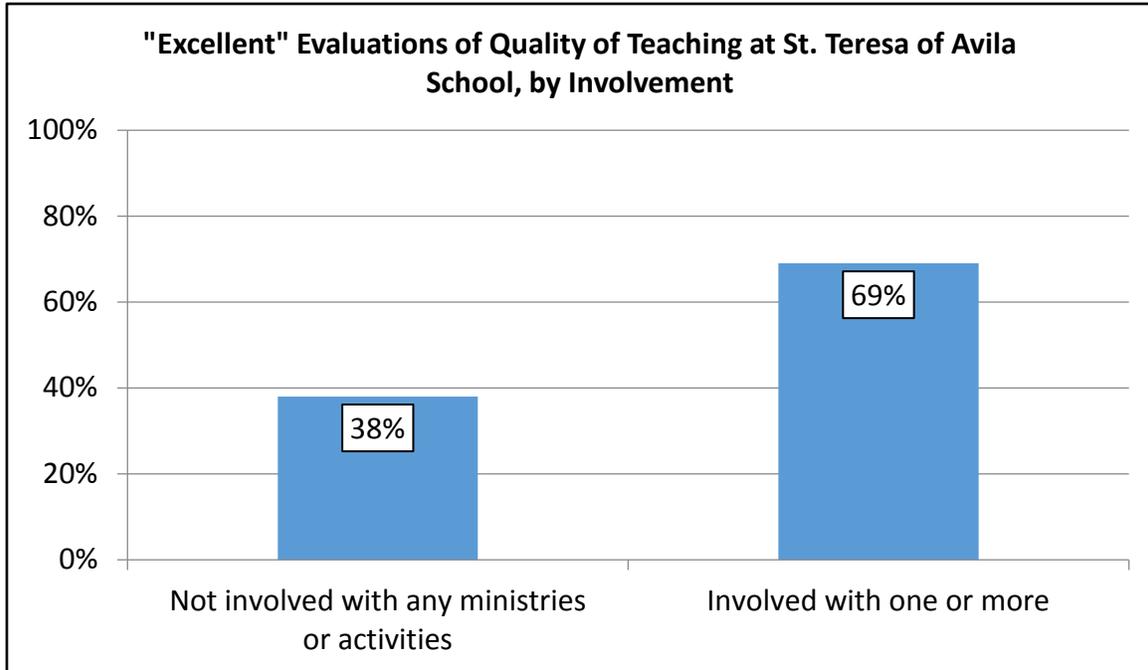
“Excellent” Only

Those responding to the Spanish-language version of the survey are more likely than those responding in English to give an “excellent” evaluation to the two measures shown in the figure below. Conversely, those responding in English are more likely to give the measures shown in the second figure an “excellent” evaluation.



Differences by Level of Involvement

Those involved with at least one ministry or activity at the parish are more likely than others to give an “excellent” rating to the quality of teaching at the parish school.

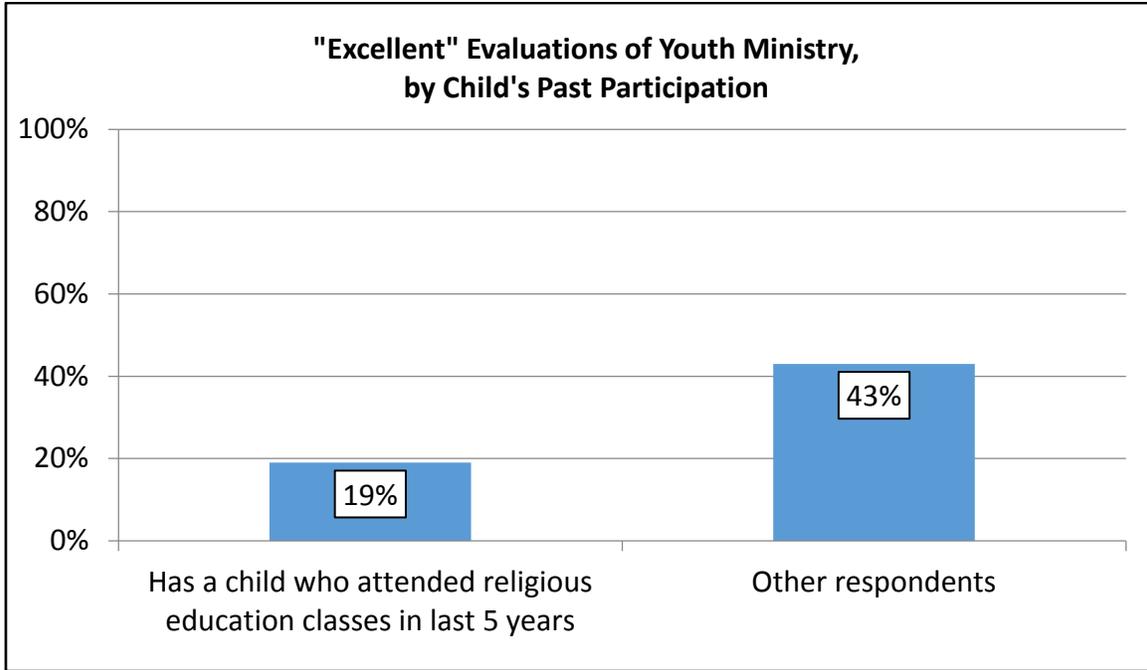


Differences by Years at the Parish

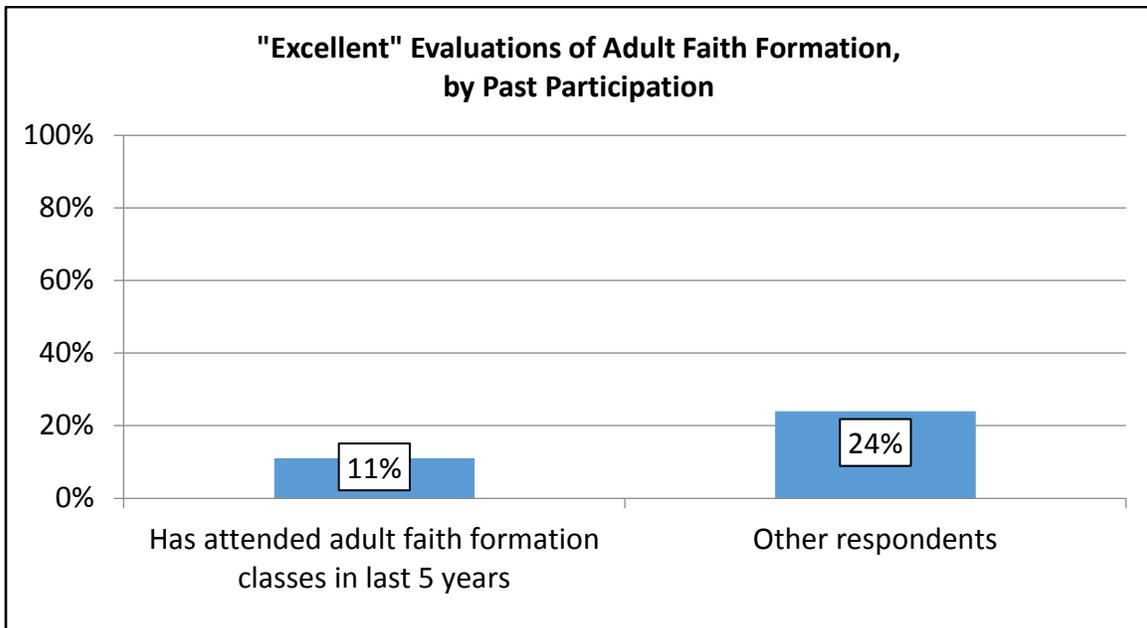
Newer parishioners, that is those who have attended the parish for two years or less, do *not* differ from others in the evaluation they give to the friendliness of the parish office staff.

Differences by Past Participation in Formation Programs

Those whose children have attended religious education classes at the parish in the past five years are *less* likely than others to give an “excellent” rating to efforts to youth ministry.



Respondents who have attended adult religious education classes at the parish in the past five years are *less* likely than others to rate as “excellent” adult faith formation.



Evaluation of Areas of Worship

Nearly nine in ten (88%) give a positive evaluation to the weekend Masses in general.

<i>Please evaluate these areas of worship overall</i>		
<i>Percentage responding "Good" or "Excellent" combined</i>		
	St. Teresa	Catholics In Pew Nationally*
	%	%
Liturgical decorations and environment	91	88
Weekend Masses in general	88	93
Homilies	83	87
Children's Masses	83	–
Music	80	82
Teen Masses	75	–
Hospitality or sense of welcome	73	85

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

- Nine in ten give a positive evaluation to the liturgical decorations and environment (91%).
- About eight in ten rate these aspects of worship positively: the homilies (83%), children's Masses (83%), and music (80%).
- The teen Masses (75%) and hospitality or sense of welcome (73%) receive a positive evaluation from about three in four respondents.

Comparison to Parishes Nationally

Respondents at St. Teresa of Avila Parish are 12 percentage points *less* likely than those at parishes nationally to give a "good" or "excellent" evaluation to the hospitality or sense of welcome (73% compared to 85%).

“Excellent” Evaluations

The liturgical decorations and environment receives an “excellent” rating from 63% of responding parishioners.

Please evaluate these areas of worship in general		
<i>Percentage responding “Excellent”</i>		
	St. Teresa %	Catholics In Pew Nationally*
		%
Liturgical decorations and environment	63	48
Music	54	48
Children’s Masses	53	–
Weekend Masses in general	50	59
Hospitality or sense of welcome	39	49
Homilies	36	48
Teen Masses	33	–

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

Half (50%) give an “excellent” evaluation to the weekend Masses in general. Children’s Masses are rated as “excellent” by 53%, with 33% giving teen Masses as high a rating.

- The music receives an “excellent” evaluation from 54% of responding parishioners.
- Just under four in ten rate the hospitality or sense of welcome (39%) and homilies (36%) as “excellent.”

Comparison to Parishes Nationally

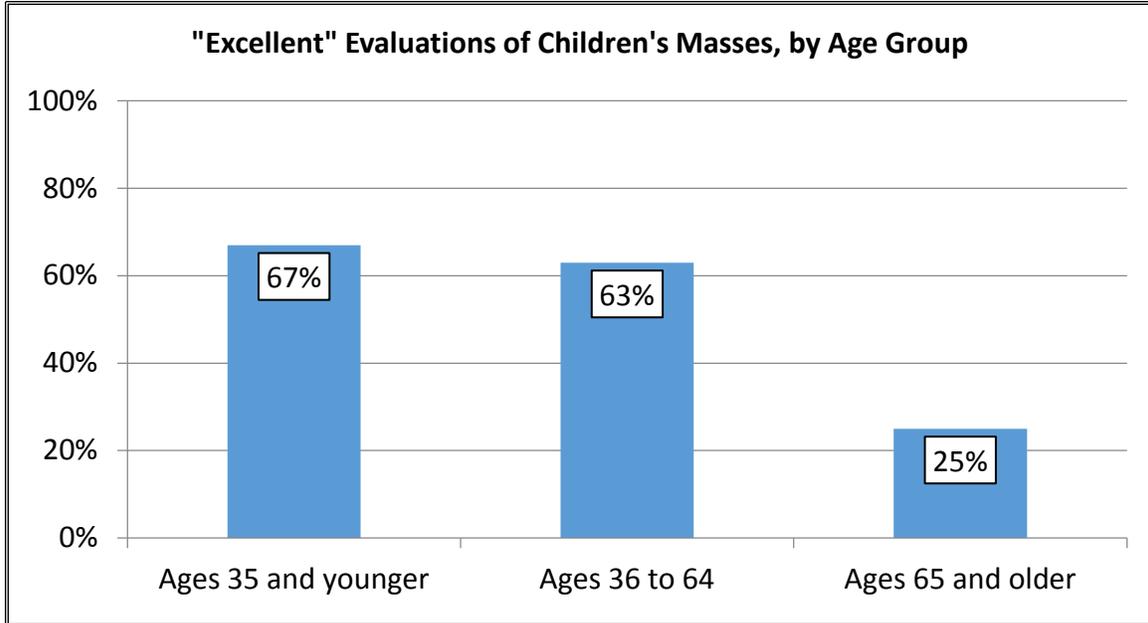
Respondents at St. Teresa of Avila Parish are 15 percentage points more likely than those at parishes nationally to give an “excellent” evaluation to the liturgical decorations and environment (63% compared to 48%).

Conversely, respondents at St. Teresa of Avila Parish are 10 to 13 percentage points *less* likely than those at parishes nationally to give an “excellent” evaluation to the following areas of worship:

- Homilies (36% compared to 48%)
- Hospitality or sense of welcome (39% compared to 49%)

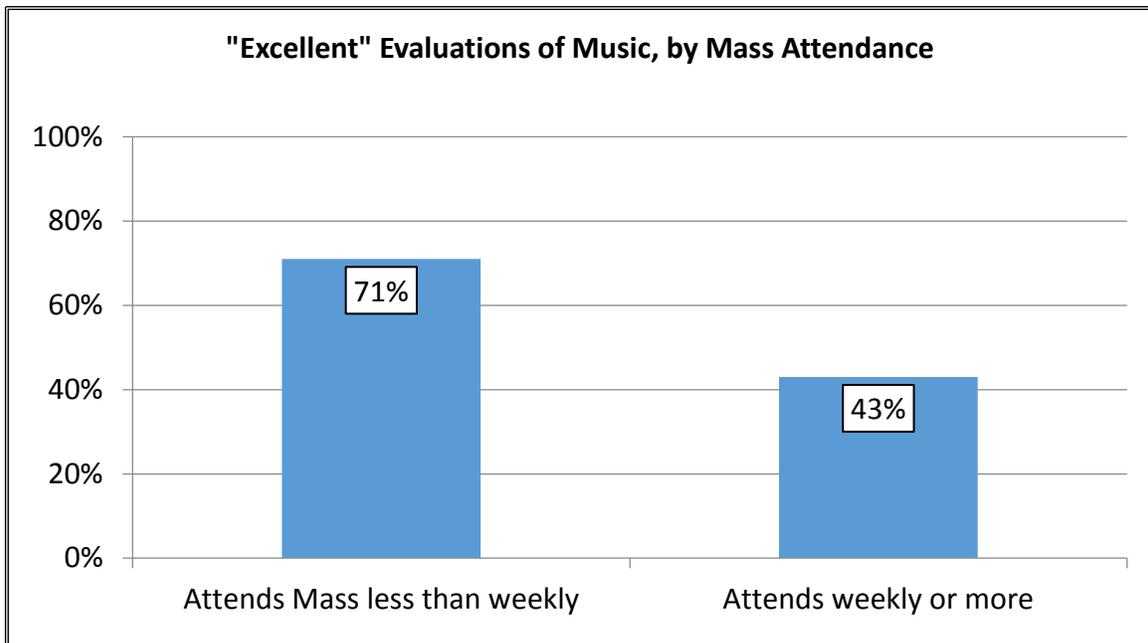
Differences by Age Group

Those ages 65 and older are *least* likely to give children’s Masses at the parish an “excellent” rating.



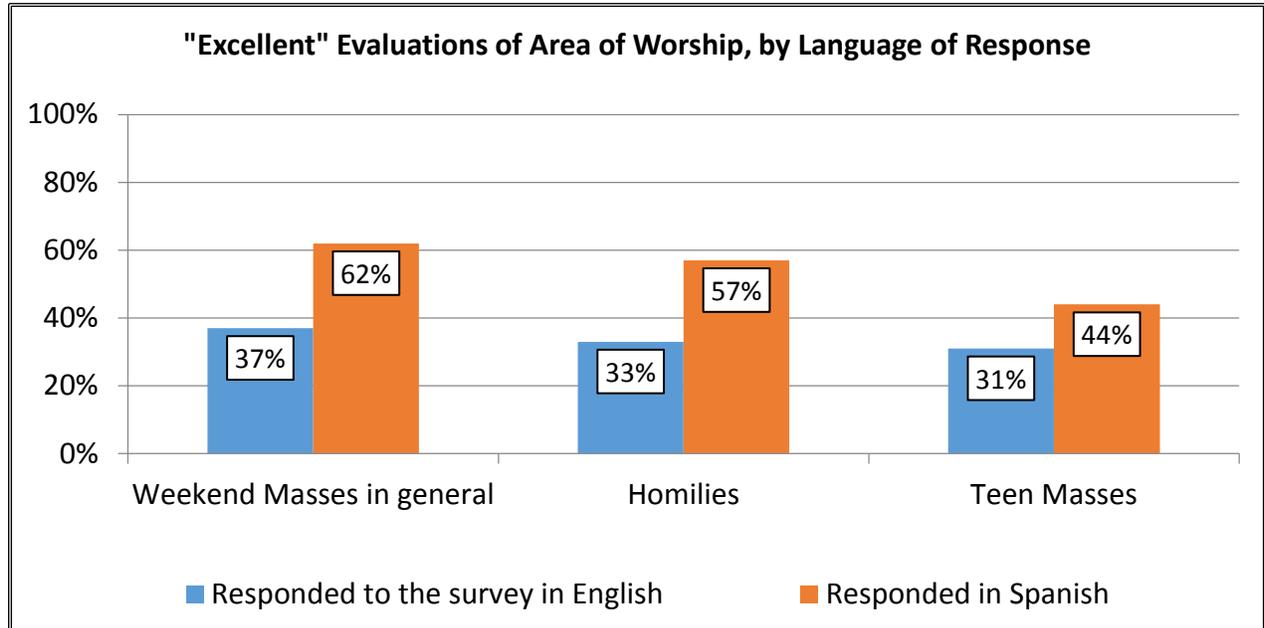
Differences by Frequency of Mass Attendance

Those who attend Mass less than weekly are more likely than those attending more frequently to give an “excellent” rating to the music.



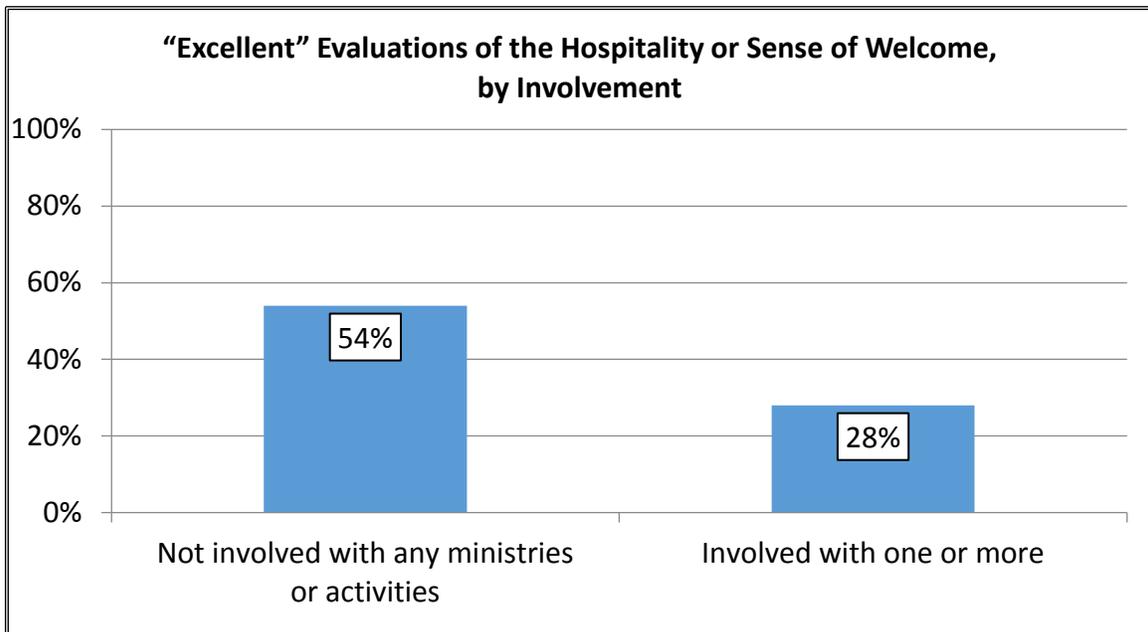
Differences by Language of Response

Those responding to the Spanish-language version of the survey are more likely than those responding in English to rate the areas of worship presented in the figure below as “excellent.”



Differences by Level of Involvement

Those *not* involved with any ministries or activities are most likely to give an “excellent” rating to the hospitality or sense of welcome at worship.



Evaluation of Parish Efforts

Parish efforts to maintain existing facilities (88%), invite participation in parish ministries (80%), help parishioners practice gospel values in their daily life (76%), communicate with parishioners (76%), and meet spiritual needs (72%) receive a positive evaluation from more than seven in ten responding parishioners.

Please evaluate parish efforts to:		
<i>Percentage responding "Good" or "Excellent" combined</i>		
	St. Teresa %	Parishes Nationally* %
Maintain existing parish facilities	88	–
Invite you to participate in parish ministries	80	82
Help you practice gospel values in your daily life	76	86
Communicate with parishioners	76	80
Meet your spiritual needs	72	83
Manage parish finances	66	85
Respond to local community concerns	63	–
Cooperate with local non-Catholic churches	56	–
Encourage parishioners to invite others to come to a parish worship service	54	–
Help you to meet other parishioners	50	–
<i>*Source: Cumulative average from parishes conducting CARA Parish Life Surveys</i>		

- About two in three give a “good” or “excellent” evaluation to efforts to manage parish finances (66%) and respond to local community concerns (63%).
- Half or slightly more give a positive evaluation to parish efforts to cooperate with local non-Catholic churches (56%), encourage parishioners to invite others to come to a parish worship service (54%), and help them to meet other parishioners (50%).

Comparison to Parishes Nationally

Respondents at St. Teresa of Avila Parish are 10 to 19 percentage points *less* likely than those at parishes nationally to give a “good” or “excellent” evaluation to these parish efforts to:

- Manage parish finances (66% compared to 85%)
- Meet your spiritual needs (72% compared to 83%)
- Help you practice gospel values in your daily life (76% compared to 86%)

“Excellent” Evaluations

More than a third rate as “excellent” efforts to maintain existing parish facilities (49%), communicate with parishioners (40%), and invite participation in parish ministries (37%).

<i>Please evaluate parish efforts to:</i>		
<i>Percentage responding “Excellent”</i>		
	St. Teresa	Parishes Nationally*
	%	%
Maintain existing parish facilities	49	–
Communicate with parishioners	40	37
Invite you to participate in parish ministries	37	39
Manage parish finances	28	40
Help you practice gospel values in your daily life	28	37
Meet your spiritual needs	27	40
Respond to local community concerns	22	–
Encourage parishioners to invite others to come to a parish worship service	21	–
Cooperate with local non-Catholic churches	17	–
Help you to meet other parishioners	12	–

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

- More than a quarter rate the following efforts as “excellent”: managing parish finances (28%), helping them practice gospel values in their daily life (28%), and meeting their spiritual needs (27%).
- About two-tenths say the following efforts are “excellent”: responding to local community concerns (22%), encouraging parishioners to invite others to come to a parish worship service (21%), and cooperating with local non-Catholic churches (17%).
- Some 12% rate as “excellent” efforts to help them meet other parishioners.

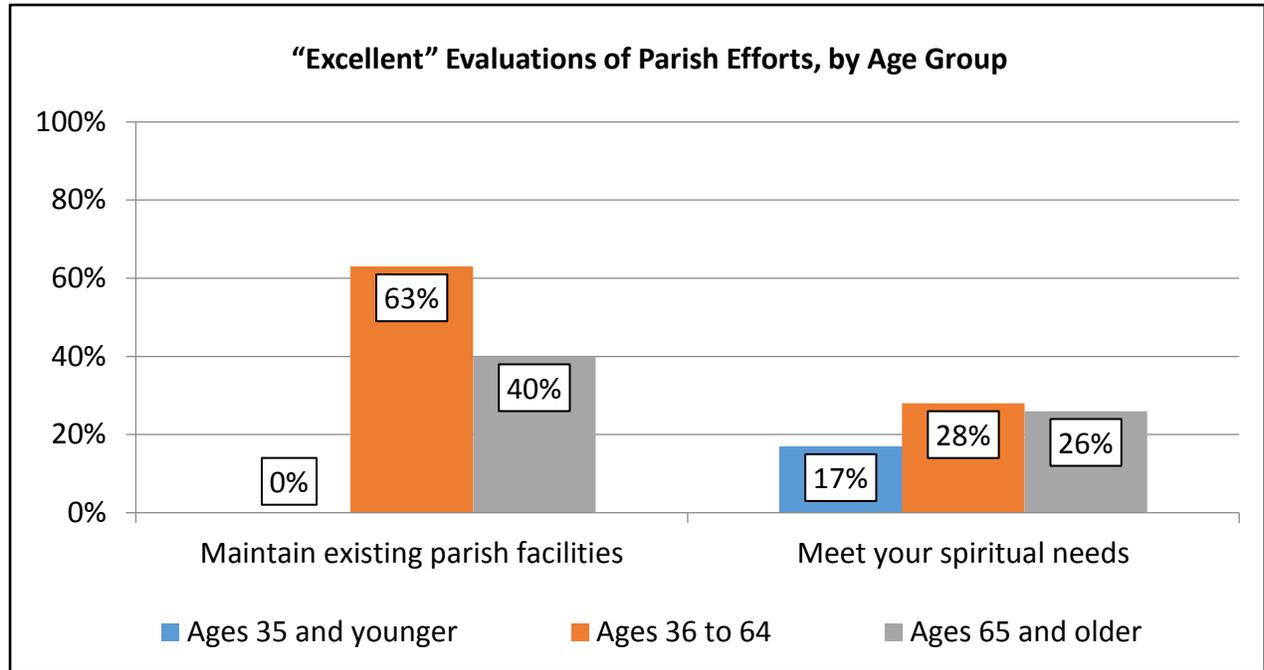
Comparison to Parishes Nationally

Respondents at St. Teresa of Avila Parish are 12 to 13 percentage points *less* likely than those at parishes nationally to give an “excellent” evaluation to these parish efforts to:

- Meet your spiritual needs (27% compared to 40%)
- Manage parish finances (28% compared to 40%)

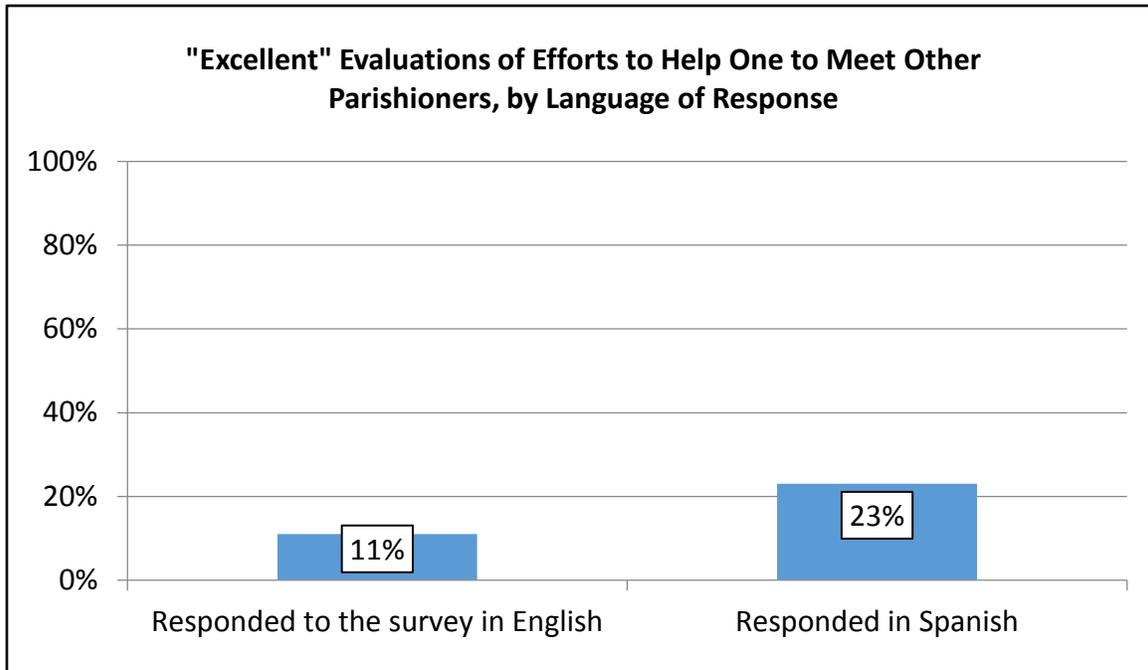
Differences by Age Group

Those ages 35 and younger are *least* likely to give an “excellent” evaluation to the two efforts presented in the figure below.



Differences by Language of Response

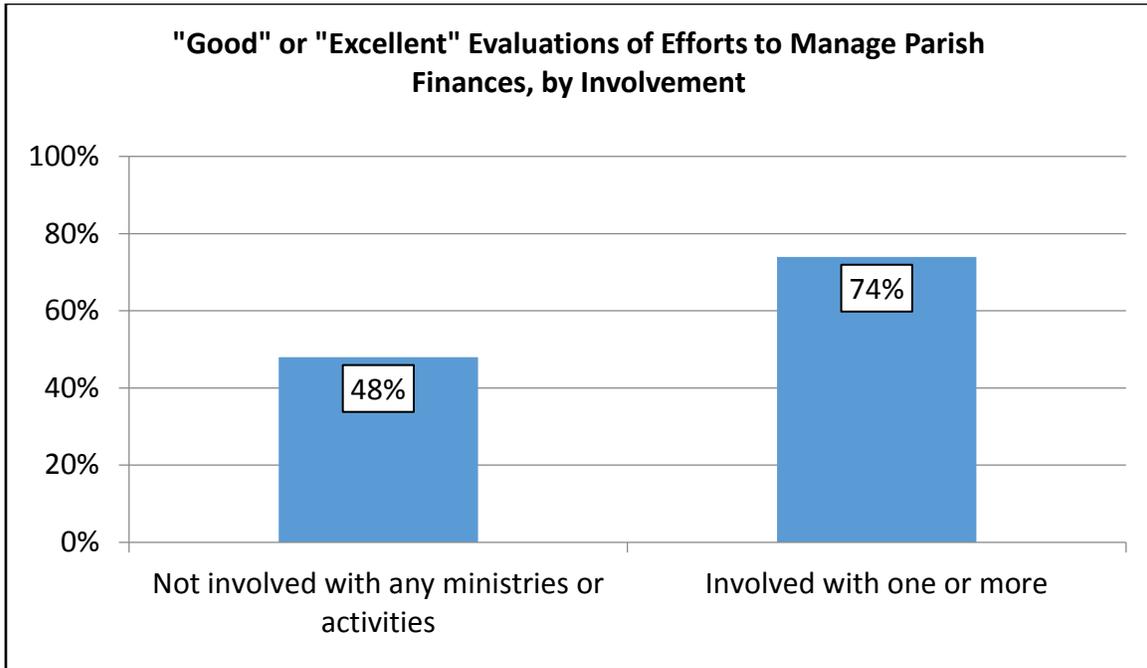
Those who responded to the Spanish-language version of the survey are more likely than those responding in English to give efforts to help them meet other parishioners an “excellent” rating.



Differences by Level of Involvement

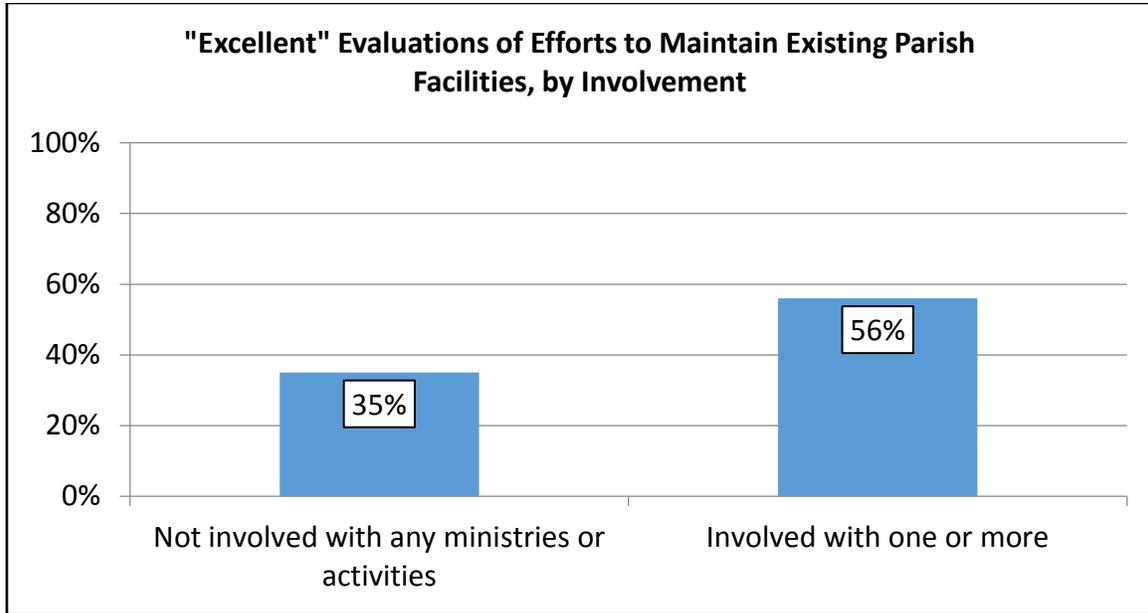
"Good" and "Excellent" Combined

Those involved with at least one ministry or activity at the parish are more likely than others to give a "good" or "excellent" evaluation to efforts to manage parish finances.



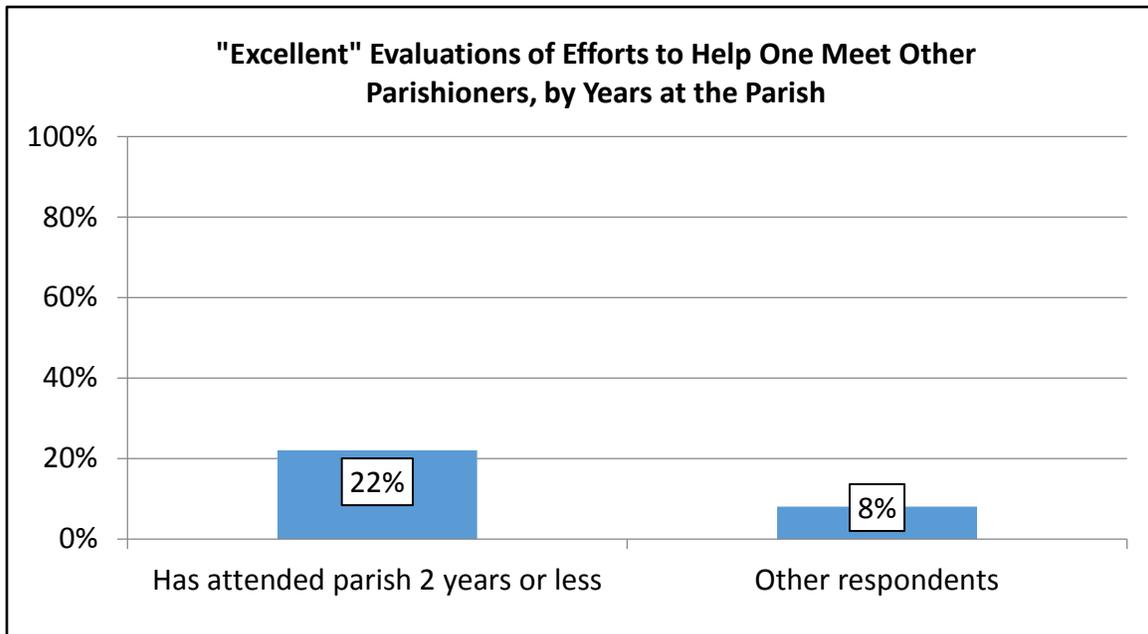
“Excellent” Only

Those involved with at least one ministry or activity at the parish are more likely than others to rate as “excellent” efforts to maintain existing parish facilities.



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 efforts to help them meet other parishioners as “excellent.”



Evaluation of Parish Outreach

With two of exceptions, more than half of respondents give a positive evaluation to the parish outreach given to all of the groups presented in the table below.

<i>Please evaluate parish outreach to the following groups:</i>		
<i>Percentage responding "Good" or "Excellent" combined</i>		
	St. Teresa	Parishes Nationally*
	%	%
Families	82	82
Children (ages 4 to 12)	80	77
Hispanics or Latinos(as)	77	71
Teens (ages 13 to 17)	71	73
Adults (ages 36 to 64)	70	78
New parishioners	65	70
Visitors and guests	63	81
Senior citizens (ages 65 and older)	60	75
Young adults (ages 18 to 35)	57	67
The local Summit community	53	–
The unchurched/those who do not belong to a faith community	41	–
Area Catholics who do not come to Mass regularly (or are inactive Catholics)	40	–
<i>*Source: Cumulative average from parishes conducting CARA Parish Life Surveys</i>		

Responding parishioners are particularly likely to say parish outreach to the following groups is “good” or “excellent”: families (82%), children (80%), Hispanics or Latinos(as) (77%), teens (71%), and adults (70%).

- Just under two in three give a positive rating to parish outreach to new parishioners (65%) and visitors and guests (63%).
- About half and six-tenths rate outreach to these groups positively: senior citizens (60%), young adults (57%), and the local Summit community (53%).
- Parish outreach to the unchurched (41%) and to area Catholics who do not come to Mass regularly (40%) receives a positive evaluation from four in ten responding parishioners.

Comparison to Parishes Nationally

Respondents at St. Teresa of Avila Parish are 10 to 18 percentage points *less* likely than those at parishes nationally to give a “good” or “excellent” evaluation to parish outreach to the following groups:

- Visitors and guests (63% compared to 81%)
- Senior citizens (60% compared to 75%)
- Young adults (57% compared to 67%)

Non-response Rate

Perhaps due to being unfamiliar with parish outreach to some groups, non-response rates are at least 50% for outreach to the following groups:

- 59% for the unchurched/those who do not belong to a faith community
- 54% for Hispanics or Latinos(as)
- 52% for teens
- 50% for children

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 well known.

“Excellent” Ratings

More than a third of respondents give an “excellent” rating to parish outreach to children (41%), families (41%), and teens (35%).

Please evaluate parish outreach to the following groups:		
<i>Percentage responding “Excellent”</i>		
	St. Teresa %	Parishes Nationally* %
Children (ages 4 to 12)	41	33
Families	40	37
Hispanics or Latinos(as)	38	31
Teens (ages 13 to 17)	35	30
New parishioners	29	29
Adults (ages 36 to 64)	27	31
Visitors and guests	26	39
Young adults (ages 18 to 35)	26	27
Senior citizens (ages 65 and older)	24	34
The local Summit community	22	–
Area Catholics who do not come to Mass regularly (or are inactive Catholics)	16	–
The unchurched/those who do not belong to a faith community	10	–

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

- Parish outreach to Hispanics or Latinos(as) receives an “excellent” evaluation from 38% of responding parishioners.
- Just over a quarter say outreach to new parishioners (29%) and visitors and guests (26%) is “excellent.”
- About a quarter rate as “excellent” parish outreach to adults (27%), young adults (26%), and senior citizens (24%).
- Parish outreach to the local Summit community (22%), area Catholics who do not come to Mass regularly (16%), and the unchurched (10%) receives an “excellent” evaluation from at least one-tenth of responding parishioners.

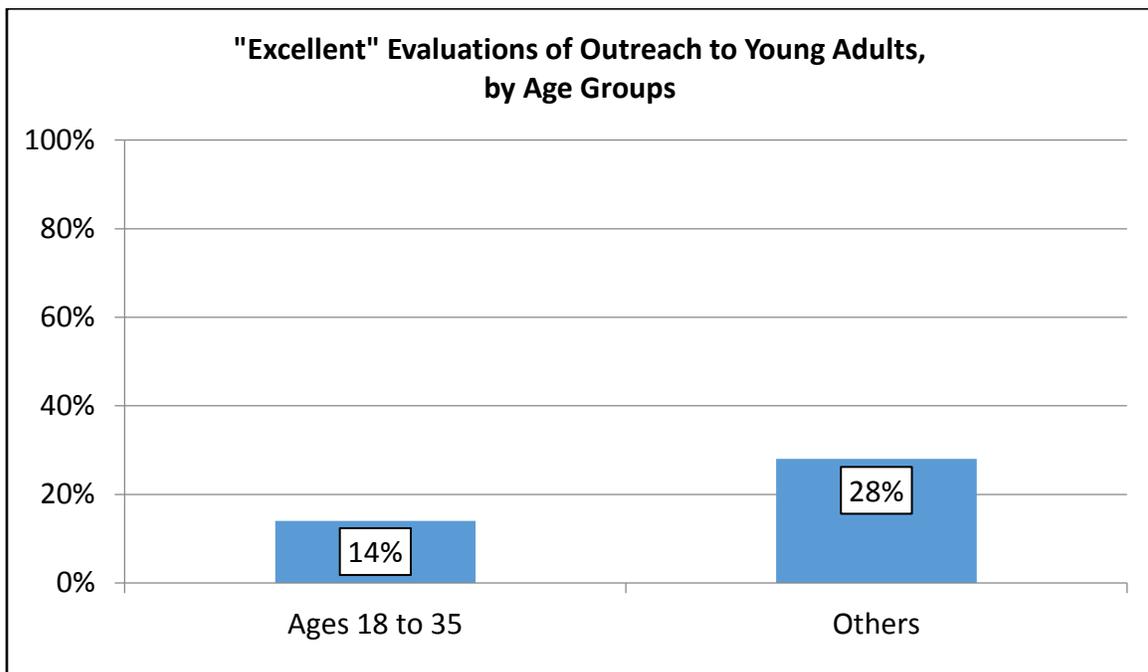
Comparison to Parishes Nationally

Respondents at St. Teresa of Avila Parish are 10 to 13 percentage points *less* likely than those at parishes nationally to give an “excellent” evaluation to parish outreach to the following groups:

- Visitors and guests (26% compared to 39%)
- Senior citizens (24% compared to 34%)

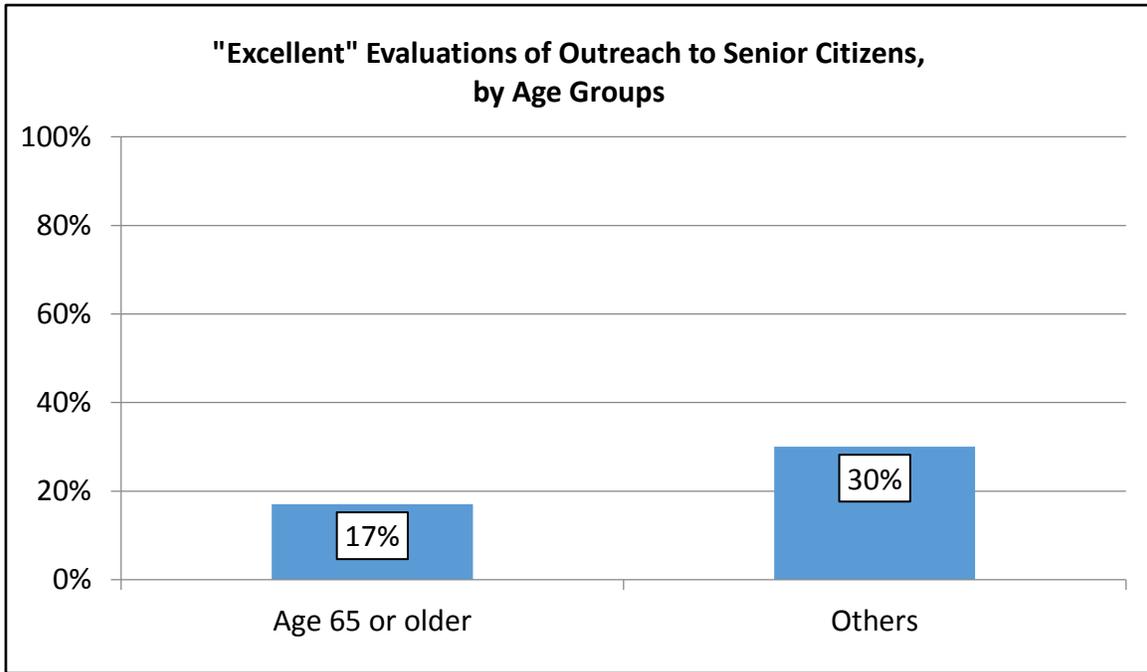
Differences by Age Group

Those ages 18 to 35 are *less* likely than others to give an “excellent” evaluation to parish outreach to young adults.



Respondents ages 36 to 64 do *not* differ from others in their evaluation of parish outreach to adults.

Those age 65 or older are *less* likely than others to give an “excellent” evaluation to parish outreach to senior citizens.

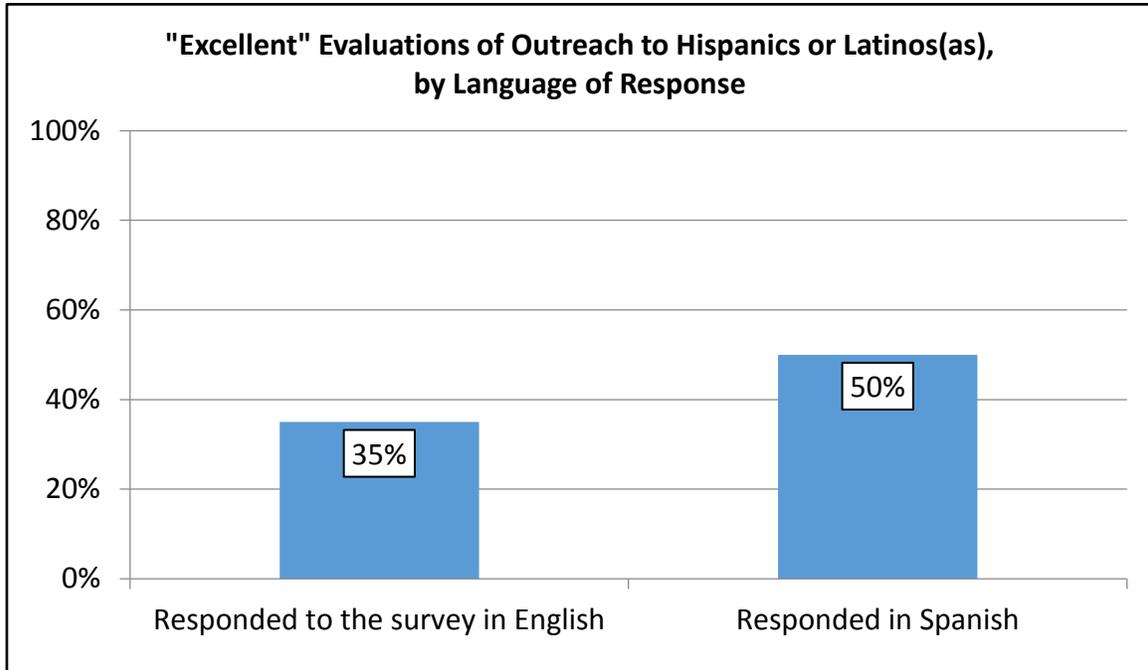


Differences by Children Present in the Household

Respondents with children or stepchildren living with them do *not* differ significantly from others in their evaluations of outreach to families, children, or teens.

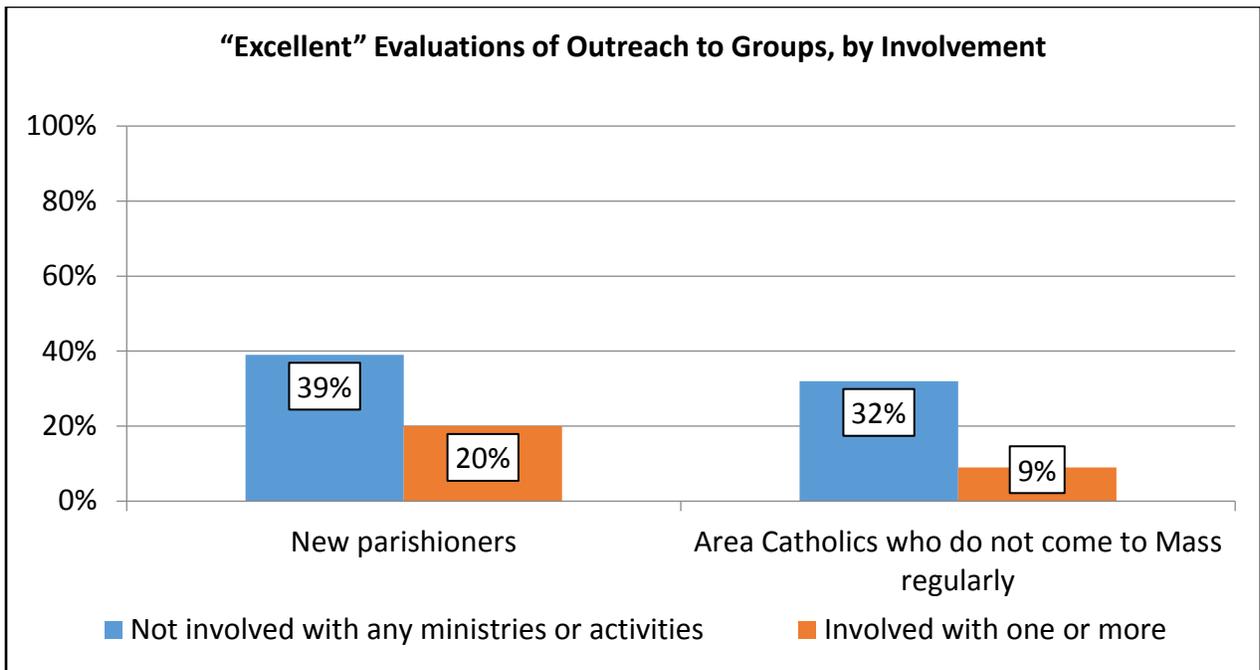
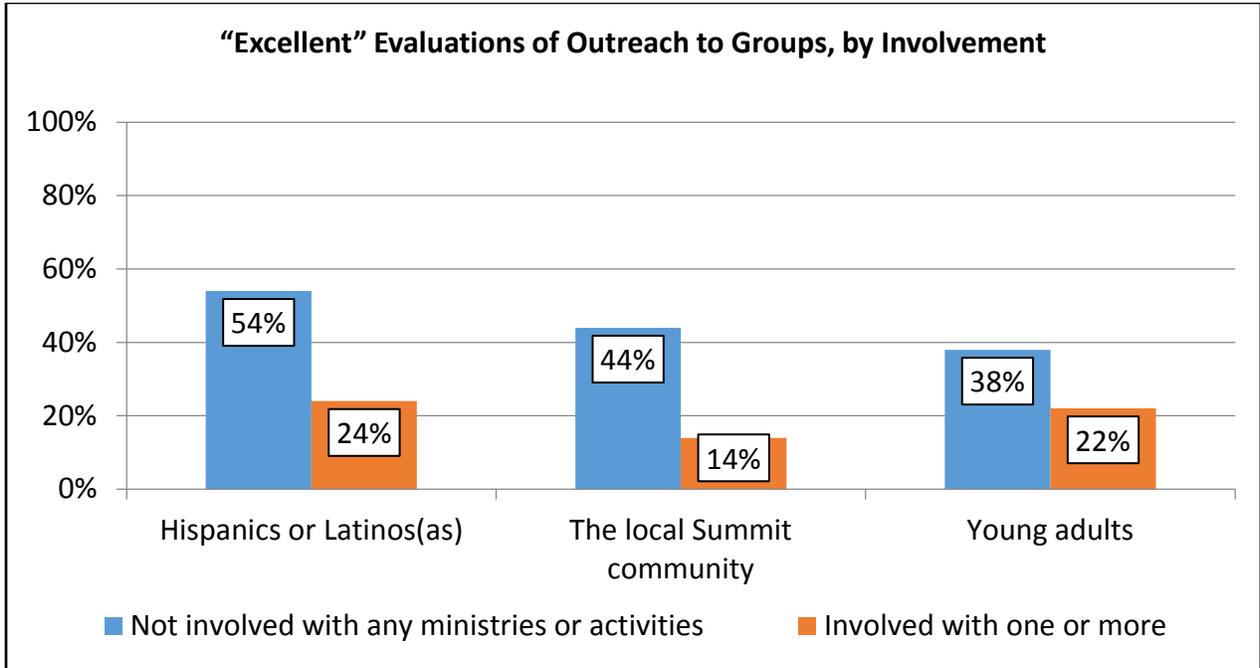
Differences by Language of Response

Those responding to the Spanish-language version of the survey are more likely than those responding in English to give parish outreach to Hispanics or Latinos(as) an “excellent” evaluation.



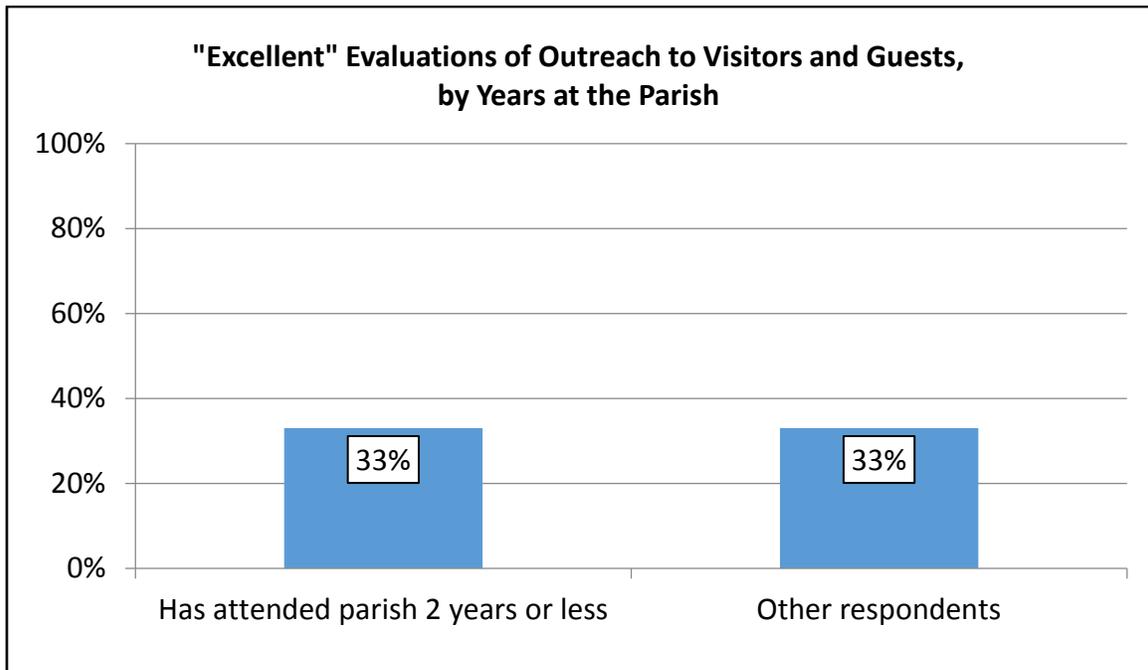
Differences by Level of Involvement

Those *not* involved with any ministries or activities at the parish are more likely than those involved with at least one to rate parish outreach to the five groups shown in the two figures below as “excellent.”



Differences by Years at the Parish

Newer parishioners, that is those who have attended the parish for two years or less, do *not* differ in their evaluation of parish outreach to new parishioners. They are, however, more likely than others to rate parish outreach to visitors and guests as “excellent.”



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.¹¹ Outreach to teens (66%), the local Summit community (63%), and young adults (62%) is listed as a top priority by more than six in ten respondents.

Groups Listed Among One's Top Three Priorities for Outreach	
	One of Top Three Priorities %
Teens (ages 13 to 17)	66
The local Summit community	63
Young adults (ages 18 to 35)	62
Area Catholics who do not come to Mass regularly (or are inactive Catholics)	58
Adults (ages 36 to 64)	57
Senior citizens (ages 65 and older)	55
Hispanics/Latinos(as)	54
New parishioners	53
Visitors and guests	51
Families	49
Children (ages 4 to 12)	49
The unchurched/those who do not belong to a faith community	48

- Between 48% and 58% list the following groups related to evangelization among their top three priorities for parish outreach: area Catholics who do not come to Mass regularly (58%), new parishioners (53%), visitors and guests (51%), and the unchurched (48%).
- Half or more list outreach to the following age groups among their top three priorities: adults (57%), senior citizens (55%), and children (49%). In a related finding, 49% also list outreach to families among their top three priorities.
- Some 54% list Hispanics or Latinos(as) among their top three priority groups.

¹¹ Thirty-two percent did not provide a response to this series of questions.

Differences by Age Group

Responding parishioners ages 35 and younger (7 respondents) are most likely to list these six groups as one of their top priorities for parish outreach:

- *Tie:* Young adults (57%) and Hispanics or Latinos(as) (57%)
- *Tie:* Adults ages 36 to 64 (43%) and area Catholics who do not come to Mass regularly/inactive Catholics (43%)
- *Tie:* Children (29%) and new parishioners (29%)

Those ages 36 to 64 (51 respondents) are most likely to list these five groups as one of their top priorities for parish outreach:

- Families (55%)
- Teens (43%)
- Young adults (37%)
- Area Catholics who do not come to Mass regularly/inactive Catholics (33%)
- Children (22%)

Respondents ages 65 and older (23 respondents) are most likely to list these five groups as one of their top priorities for parish outreach:

- Families (39%)
- *Tie:* Teens (35%) and adults ages 36 to 64 (35%)
- *Tie:* Young adults (30%) and area Catholics who do not come to Mass regularly/inactive Catholics (30%)

Differences by Language of Response

There are some variations between those who responded in different languages in their picks for the top three groups the parish should give priority for outreach. The top five groups listed by English-language respondents (87 respondents) are:

- Families (49%)
- Teens (39%)
- Young adults (36%)
- Area Catholics who do not come to Mass regularly/inactive Catholics (31%)
- Adults ages 36 to 64 (28%)

The top seven groups listed by Spanish-language respondents (11 respondents) are:

- Teens (45%)
- *Tie:* Young adults (36%) and the unchurched/those who do not belong to a faith community (36%)
- *Tie:* Families (27%), children (27%), new parishioners (27%), and Hispanics or Latinos(as) (27%)

Priority for Parish Needs

More than six in ten give at least “somewhat” priority to 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” combined</i>		
	St. Teresa	Parishes Nationally*
	%	%
Children’s religious education/formation	97	91
Youth ministry	94	88
Developing a parish sense of community	92	91
Young adult ministry	91	90
Adult faith formation	89	86
Fostering priestly or religious vocations	73	81
Ministry to the divorced and separated	69	82
Providing retreat opportunities	63	71

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

Respondents are particularly likely to give priority to needs related to passing the faith along to the next generation, developing a parish sense of community, and ministry and formation for adults and young adults. Nine in ten or more give “somewhat” or “very much” priority to each of the following needs: children’s religious education formation (97%), youth ministry (94%), developing a parish sense of community (92%), young adult ministry (91%), and adult faith formation (89%).

Comparison to Parishes Nationally

Respondents at St. Teresa of Avila Parish are 13 percentage points *less* likely than those at parishes nationally to say the parish should give ministry to the divorced and separated (69% compared to 82%) at least “somewhat” priority.

“Very Much” Priority

Responding parishioners are particularly likely to place high priority on needs in the areas of passing on the faith to the next generation, developing a parish sense of community, and ministry and formation for adults and young adults. Half to three-quarters give “very much” priority to children’s religious education/formation (74%), developing a parish sense of community (67%), youth ministry (64%), young adult ministry (54%), and adult faith formation (50%).

What priority do you give the following for the parish?		
<i>Percentage responding “Very Much”</i>		
	St. Teresa	Parishes Nationally*
	%	%
Children’s religious education/formation	74	70
Developing a parish sense of community	67	60
Youth ministry	64	59
Young adult ministry	54	62
Adult faith formation	50	46
Fostering priestly or religious vocations	33	37
Ministry to the divorced and separated	31	40
Providing retreat opportunities	28	31

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

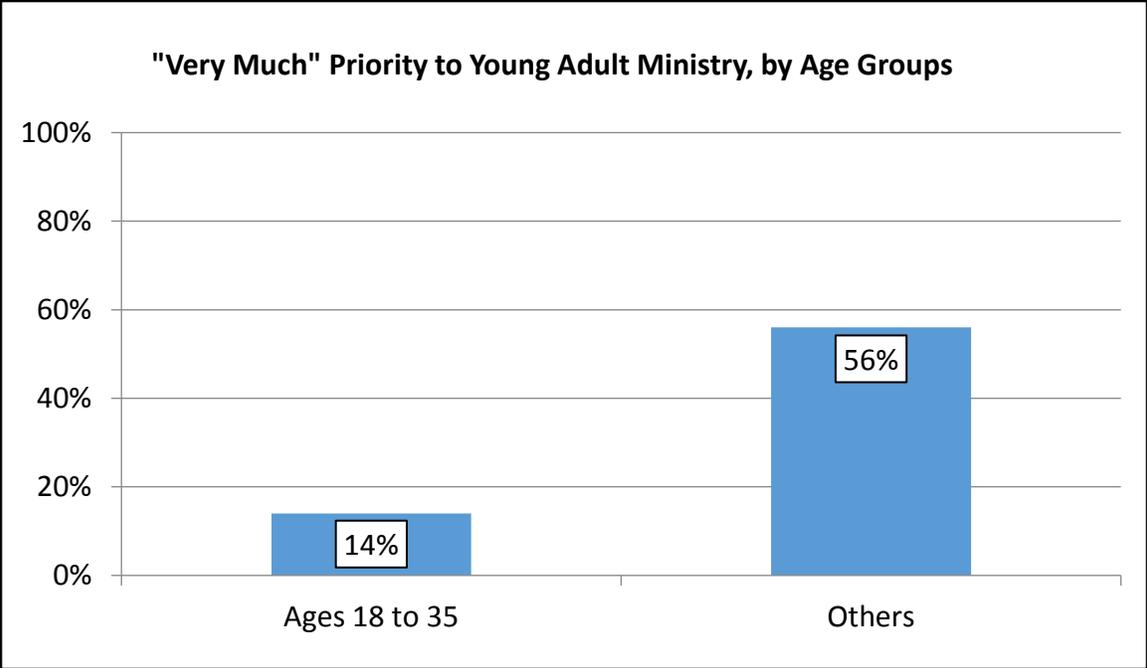
About three in ten place “very much” priority on fostering priestly or religious vocations (33%), ministry to the divorced and separated (31%), and providing retreat opportunities (28%).

Comparison to Parishes Nationally

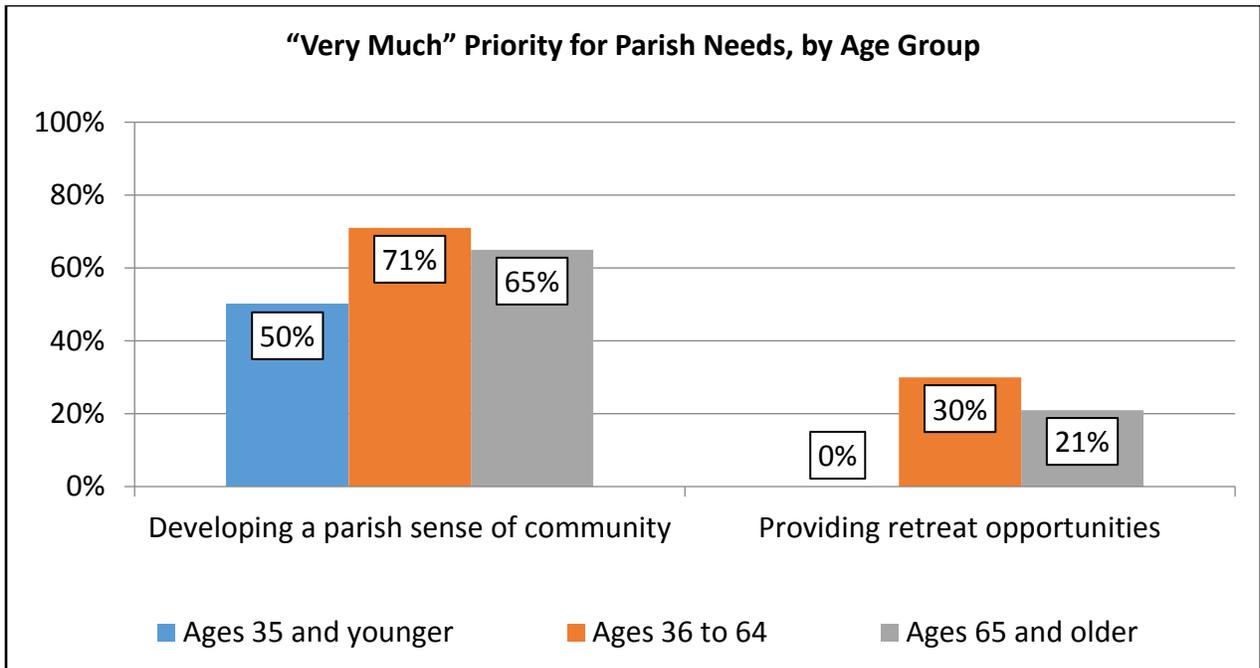
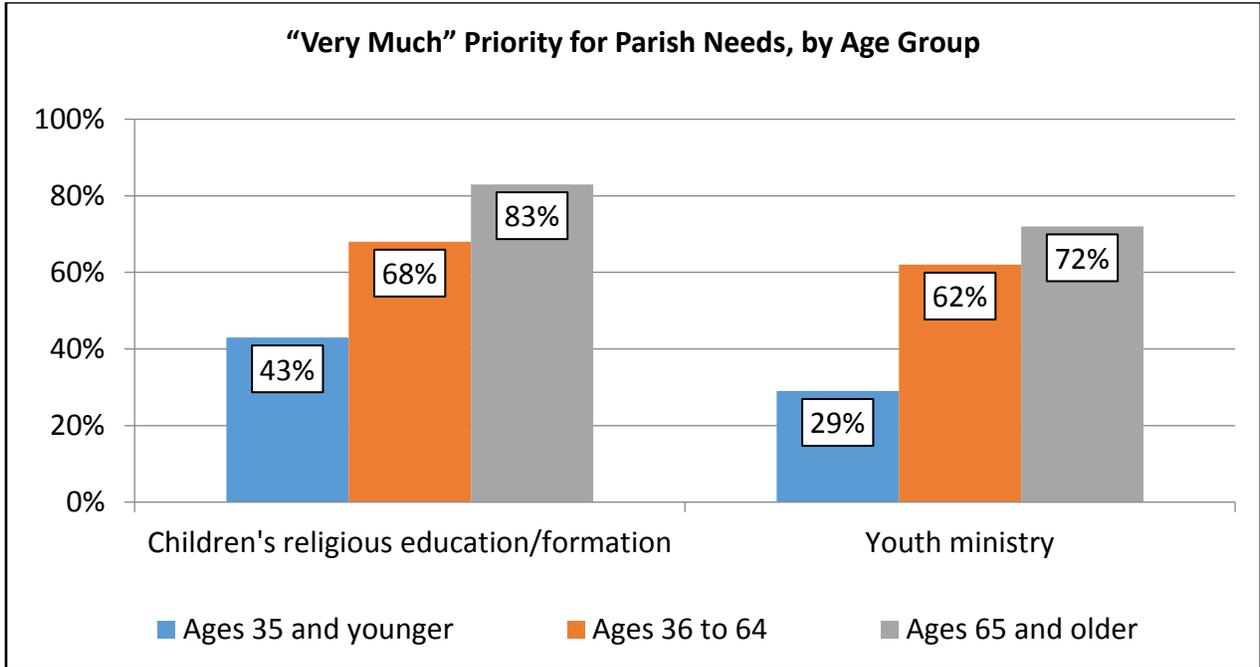
Respondents at St. Teresa of Avila Parish do *not* differ significantly from those at parishes nationally in the high priority they say they parish should give to the parish needs listed in the table above.

Differences by Age Group

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

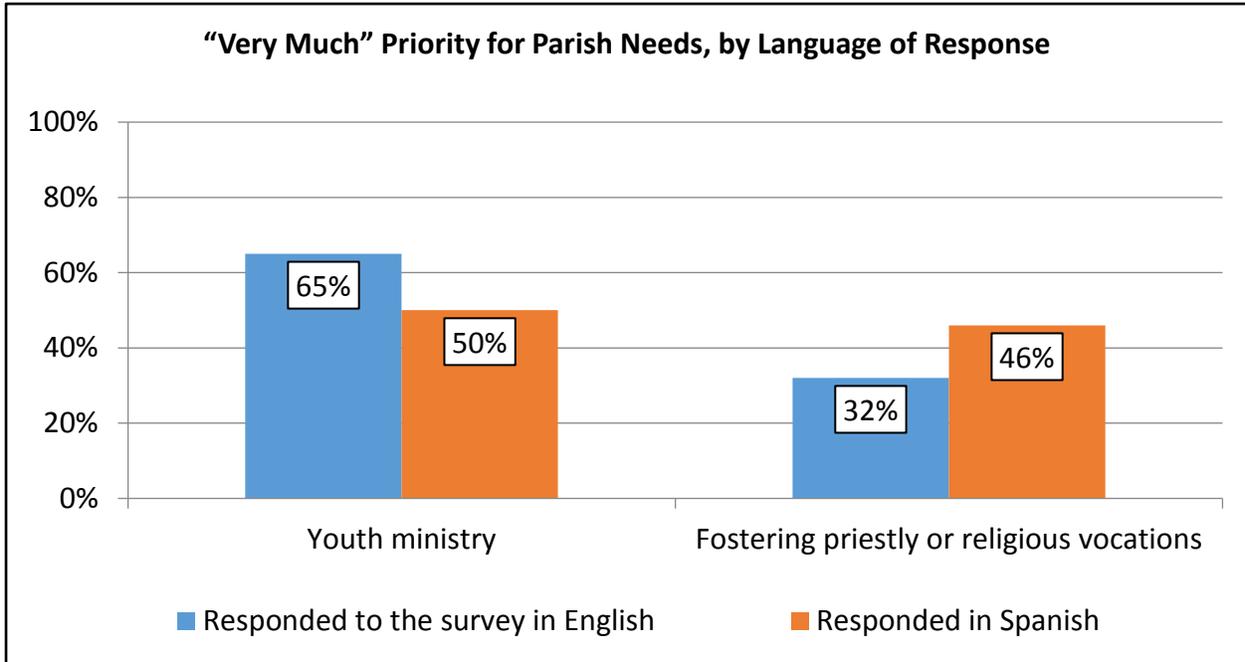


Those ages 35 and younger are *least* likely to place “very much” priority on the four needs presented in the two figures below.



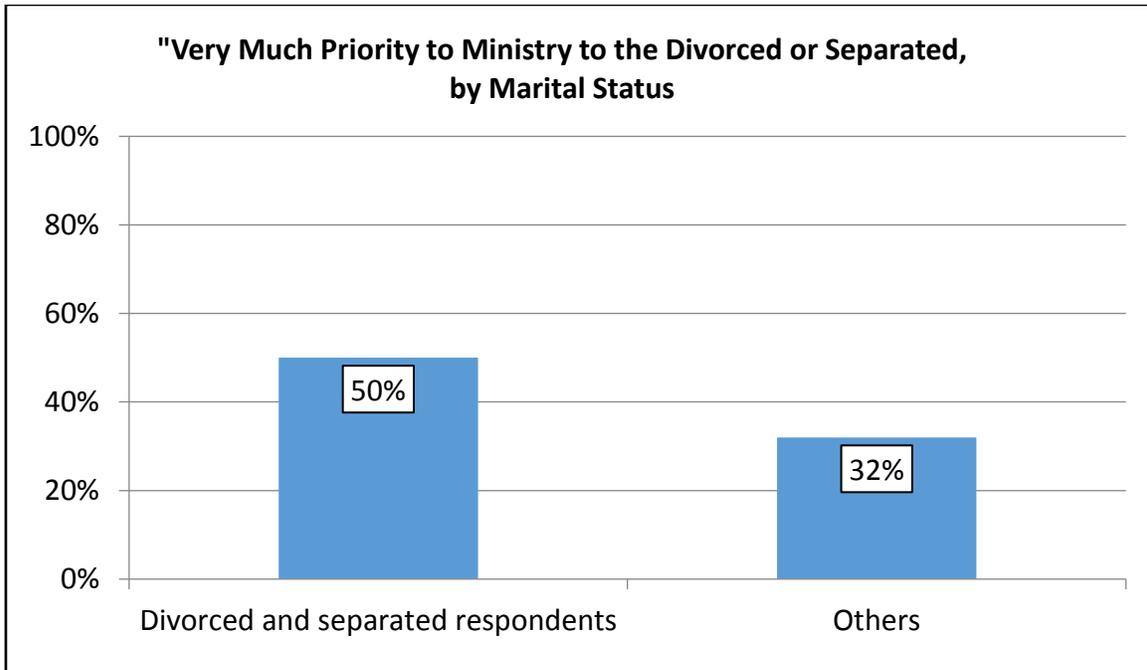
Differences by Language of Response

Those who responded to the English-language version of the survey are most likely to place “very much” priority on youth ministry, with those responding in Spanish most likely to place as much priority on fostering priestly or religious vocations.



Differences by Marital Status

Divorced or separated respondents (of whom four responded to this question) are more likely than others to say the parish should give “very much” priority to ministry to the divorced or separated.



Attraction to the Parish

Those attending Mass at the parish report being especially attracted to the parish by aspects of parish life related to worship, hospitality, spiritual growth, and belonging. At least three in four say the following elements attract them “somewhat” or “very much”: the quality of the liturgy (88%), the quality of the preaching (82%), the quality of the music (78%), its open and welcoming spirit (77%), its opportunities for spiritual growth (75%), and the sense of belonging they feel there (74%).

How much do the following attract you to the parish?		
<i>Percentage responding “Somewhat” or “Very Much” combined</i>		
	St. Teresa	Parishes Nationally*
	%	%
The quality of the liturgy	88	89
The quality of the preaching	82	87
The quality of the music	78	74
Its open, welcoming spirit	77	86
Its opportunities for spiritual growth	75	81
The sense of belonging you feel here	74	86
Its commitment to social justice and peace	63	71
Its religious education/formation for children and youth	60	74
Its faith formation for adults	55	66

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

Comparison to Parishes Nationally

Respondents at St. Teresa of Avila Parish are 11 to 14 percentage points *less* likely than those at parishes nationally to say the following “somewhat” or “very much” attracts them to the parish:

- Its religious education/formation for children and youth (60% compared to 74%)
- The sense of belonging you feel here (74% compared to 86%)
- Its faith formation for adults (55% compared to 66%)

Elements That Attract “Very Much”

More than four in ten respondents report being attracted to the parish “very much” by the quality of the music (53%), the quality of the liturgy (50%), the quality of the preaching (48%), the sense of belonging they feel at the parish (44%), and its open, welcoming spirit (44%).

How much do the following attract you to the parish?		
<i>Percentage responding “Very Much”</i>		
	St. Teresa	Parishes Nationally*
	%	%
The quality of the music	53	40
The quality of the liturgy	50	55
The quality of the preaching	48	57
The sense of belonging you feel here	44	62
Its open, welcoming spirit	44	57
Its opportunities for spiritual growth	31	42
Its commitment to social justice and peace	31	32
Its religious education/formation for children and youth	26	40
Its faith formation for adults	20	28

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

Two-tenths to three-tenths report that the following attract them to the parish “very much”: its opportunities for spiritual growth (31%), its commitment to social justice and peace (31%), its religious education/formation for children and youth (26%), and its faith formation for adults (20%).

Comparison to Parishes Nationally

Respondents at St. Teresa of Avila Parish are 13 percentage points more likely than those at parishes nationally to report that the quality of the music “very much” attract them to the parish (53% compared to 40%).

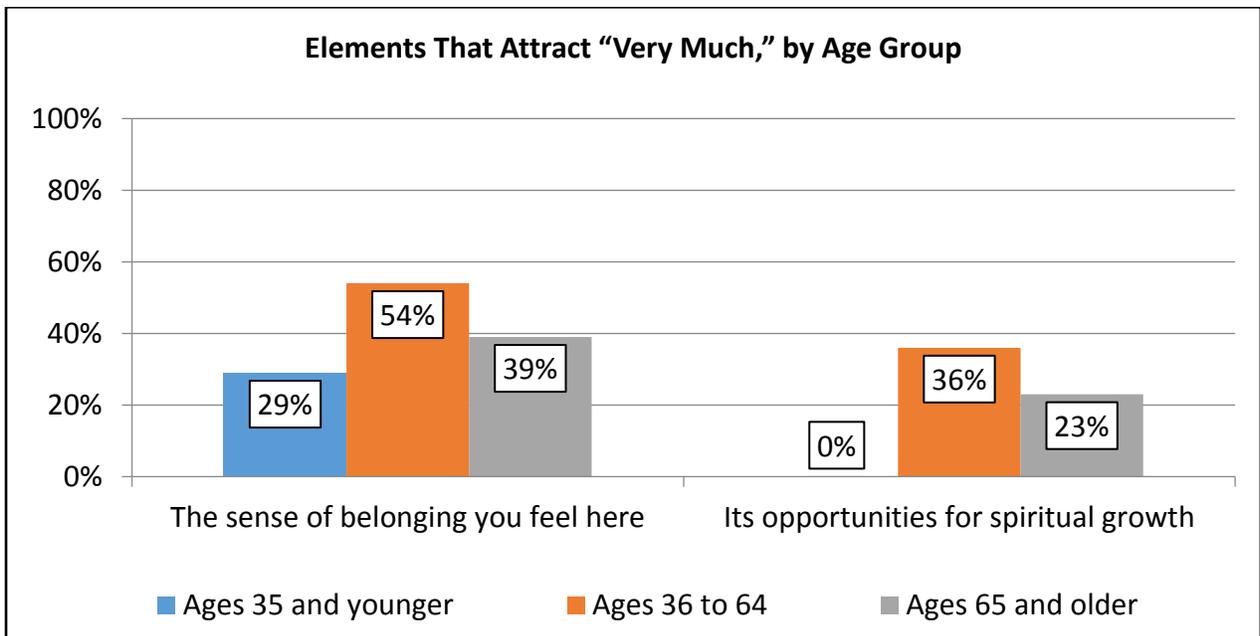
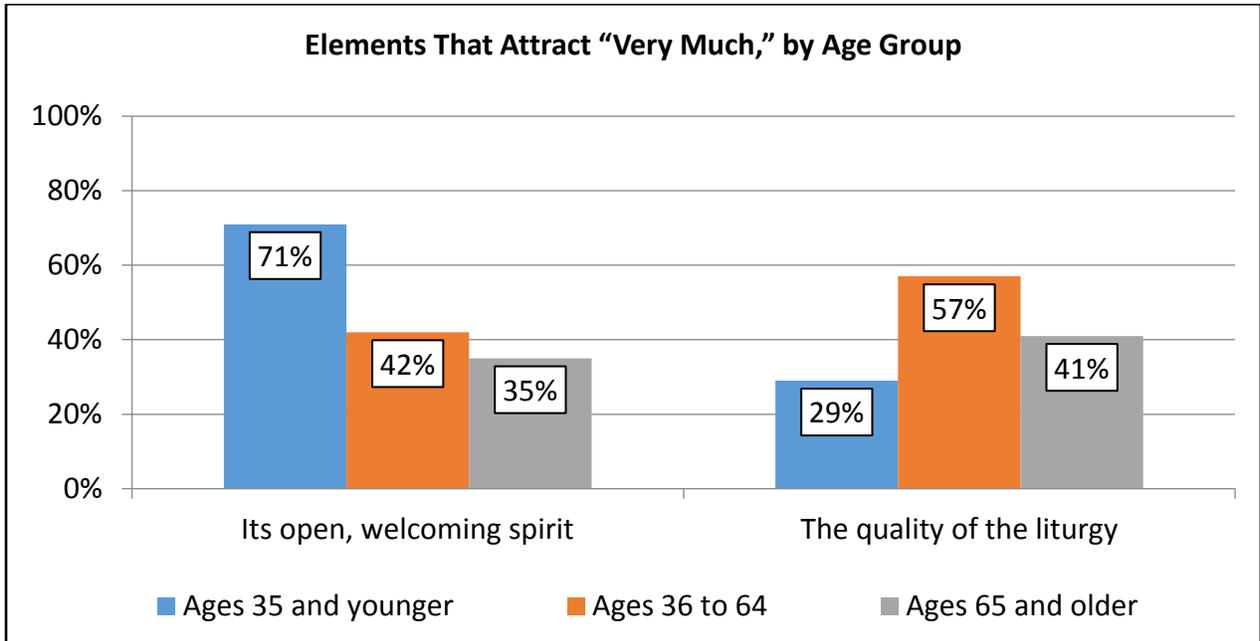
Respondents at St. Teresa of Avila Parish are 11 to 18 percentage points *less* likely than those at parishes nationally to say the following “very much” attracts them to the parish:

- The sense of belonging you feel here (44% compared to 62%)
- Its religious education/formation for children and youth (26% compared to 40%)

- Its open, welcoming spirit (44% compared to 57%)
- Its opportunities for spiritual growth (31% compared to 42%)

Differences by Age Group

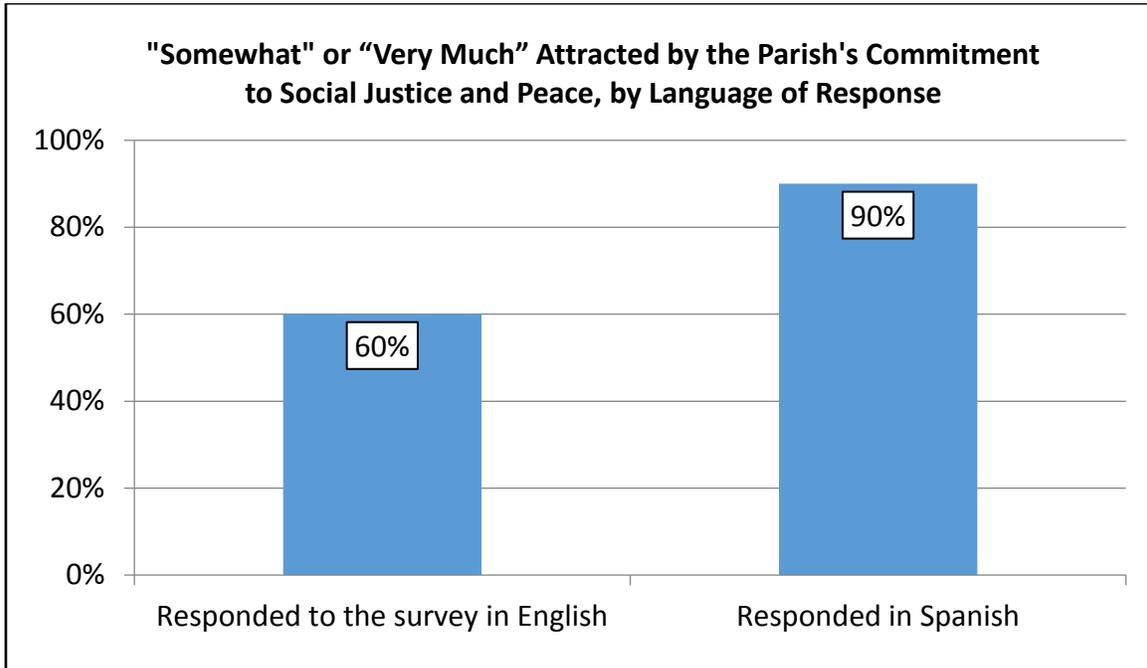
Those ages 35 and younger are most likely to report that the parish’s open, welcoming spirit attracts them “very much,” but are *least* likely to say the same about any of the other three elements of parish life shown in the two figures below.



Differences by Language of Response

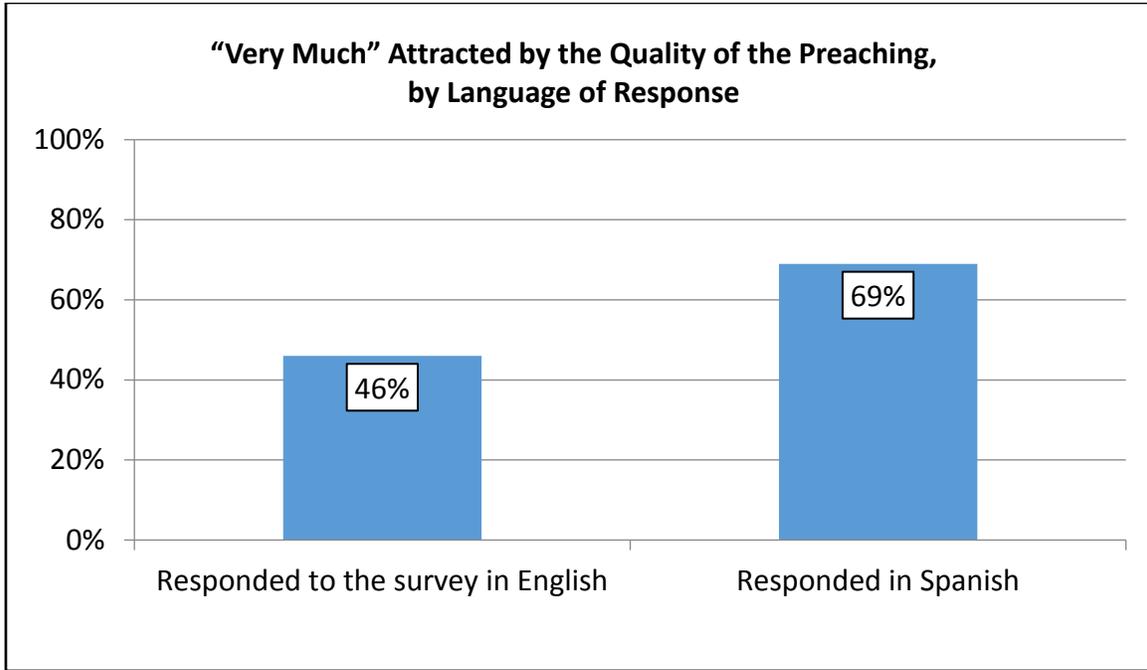
Elements that "Somewhat" or "Very Much" Attract Combined

Those who responded to the Spanish-language version of the survey are more likely than those responding in English to report that the parish's commitment to social justice and peace attracted them "somewhat" or "very much."



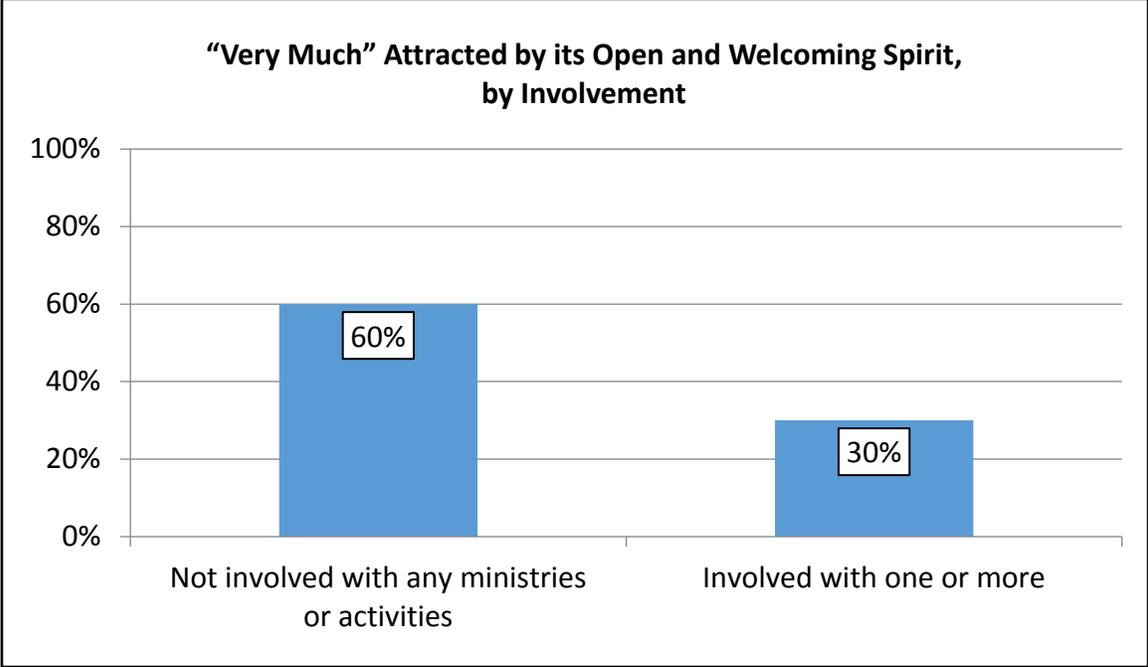
Elements that “Very Much” Attract

Those who responded to the Spanish-language version of the survey are more likely than those responding in English to report that the parish’s commitment to social justice and peace attracted them “somewhat” or “very much.”



Differences by Level of Involvement

Those *not* involved with any ministries or activities at the parish are more likely than others to say its open, welcoming spirit “very much” attracts them to the parish.



Attitudes about Parish Life

Eight in ten responding parishioners “somewhat” or “strongly” agree that they feel included in parish life (80%).

Please respond to the following		
<i>Percentage responding “Somewhat” or “Strongly” Agree combined</i>		
	St. Teresa %	Parishes Nationally* %
I read the Sunday bulletins	92	–
I understand the concept of stewardship	88	85
I want to volunteer more for the parish	83	75
I visited the parish website in the last year	82	–
I feel included in parish life	80	87
I feel well informed about what goes on in this parish	80	83
I would feel comfortable talking with the pastor	74	48
I feel informed about parish finances	73	75
I would like to receive news about the parish via social media (Facebook, Twitter)	55	–

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

- Concerning parish communication, more than seven in ten agree at least “somewhat” that they read the Sunday bulletins (92%), that they have visited the parish website in the last year (82%), that they feel well informed about what goes on in the parish (80%), and that they feel informed about parish finances (73%). Some 55% agree at least “somewhat” that they would like to receive news about the parish via social media.
- More than eight in ten agree “somewhat” or “strongly” that they understand the concept of stewardship (88%) and that they want to volunteer more for the parish (83%).
- Some 74% at least “somewhat” agree that they would feel comfortable talking with the pastor.

Comparison to Parishes Nationally

Respondents at St. Teresa of Avila Parish are 26 percentage points more likely than those at parishes nationally to “somewhat” or “strongly” agree that they would feel comfortable talking with the pastor (74% compared to 48%).

“Strongly” Agree

Regarding parish communication, more than half agree “strongly” that they have read the Sunday bulletin (71%) and that they have visited the parish website in the last year (62%). Just over four in ten agree “strongly” that they feel well informed about what goes on in the parish (44%) and that they feel informed about parish finances (43%). Some 27% agree as strongly that they would like to receive news about the parish via social media.

	St. Teresa %	Parishes Nationally* %
I read the Sunday bulletins	71	–
I understand the concept of stewardship	62	51
I visited the parish website in the last year	62	–
I would feel comfortable talking with the pastor	47	21
I feel well informed about what goes on in this parish	44	38
I feel informed about parish finances	43	37
I feel included in parish life	38	49
I want to volunteer more for the parish	30	25
I would like to receive news about the parish via social media (Facebook, Twitter)	27	–

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

- Some 62% “strongly” agree that they understand the concept of stewardship. Fewer, 30%, agree “strongly” that they want to volunteer more for the parish.
- Nearly half (47%) “strongly” agree that they would feel comfortable talking with the pastor.
- Thirty-eight percent agree “strongly” that they feel included in parish life.

Comparison to Parishes Nationally

Respondents at St. Teresa of Avila Parish are 11 to 26 percentage points more likely than those at parishes nationally to “strongly” agree with these statements:

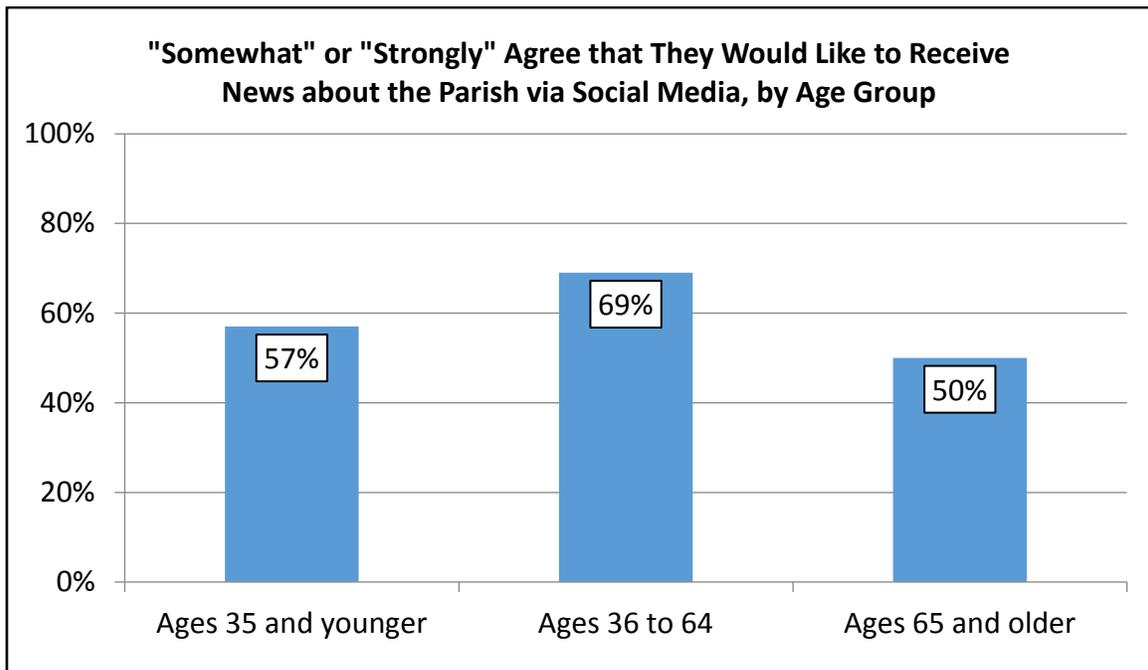
- I would feel comfortable talking with the pastor (47% compared to 21%)
- I understand the concept of stewardship (62% compared to 51%)

Respondents at St. Teresa of Avila Parish are 11 percentage points *less* likely than those at parishes nationally, however, to “strongly” agree that they feel included in parish life (38% compared to 49%).

Differences by Age Group

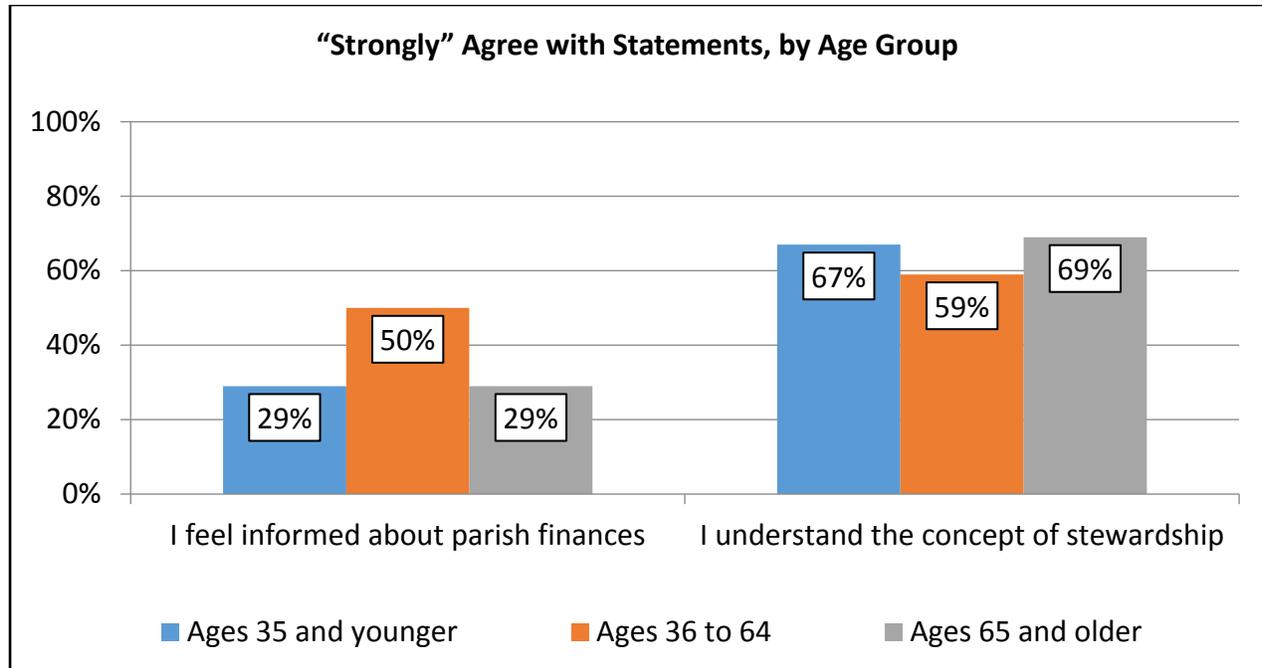
“Somewhat” or “Strongly” Agree Combined

Those ages 36 to 64 are most likely to “somewhat” or “strongly” agree that they would like to receive news about the parish via social media.

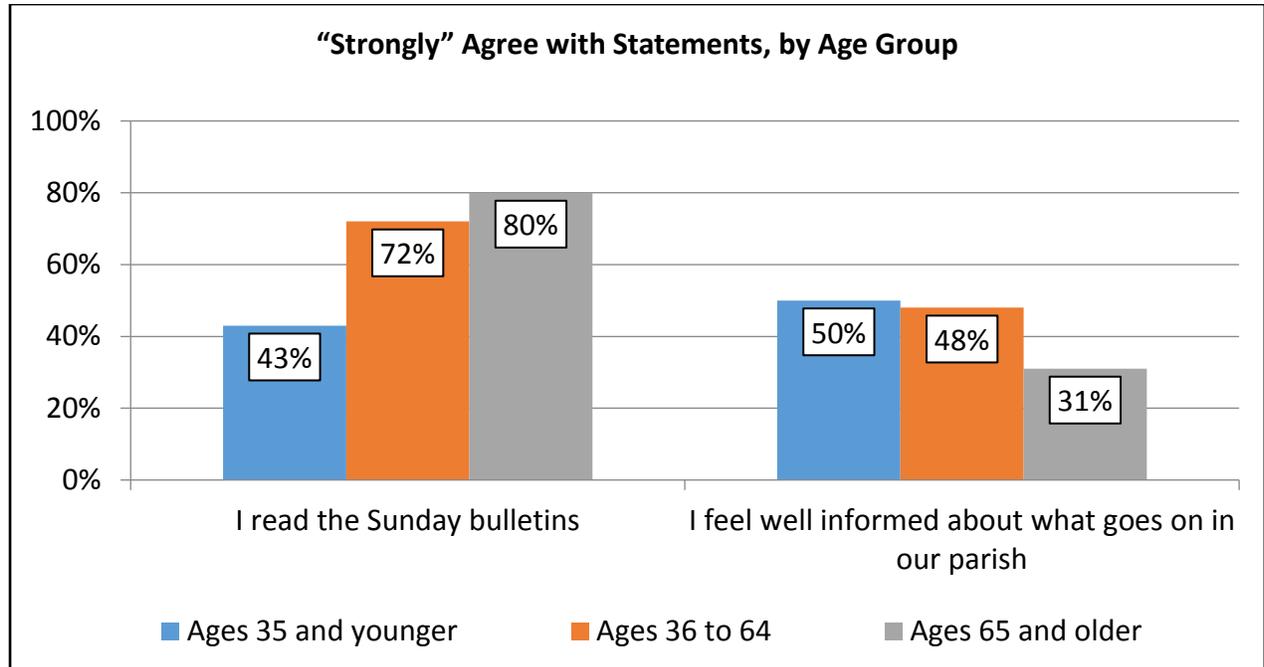


“Strongly” Agree Only

Those ages 36 to 64 are most likely to “strongly” agree that they feel informed about parish finances, but are *least* likely to agree as strongly that they understand the concept of stewardship.

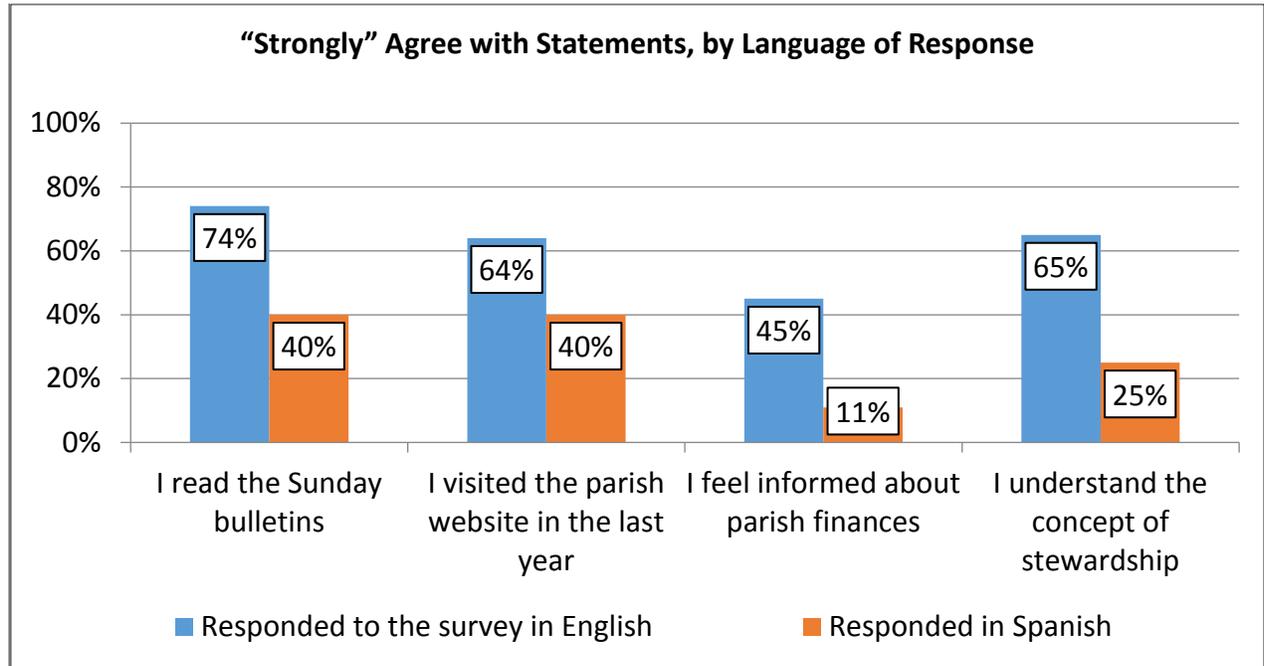


The older the age group, the more likely its members are to “strongly” agree that they read the Sunday bulletins. Conversely, those ages 65 and older are *least* likely to agree “strongly” that they feel well informed about what goes on in the parish.

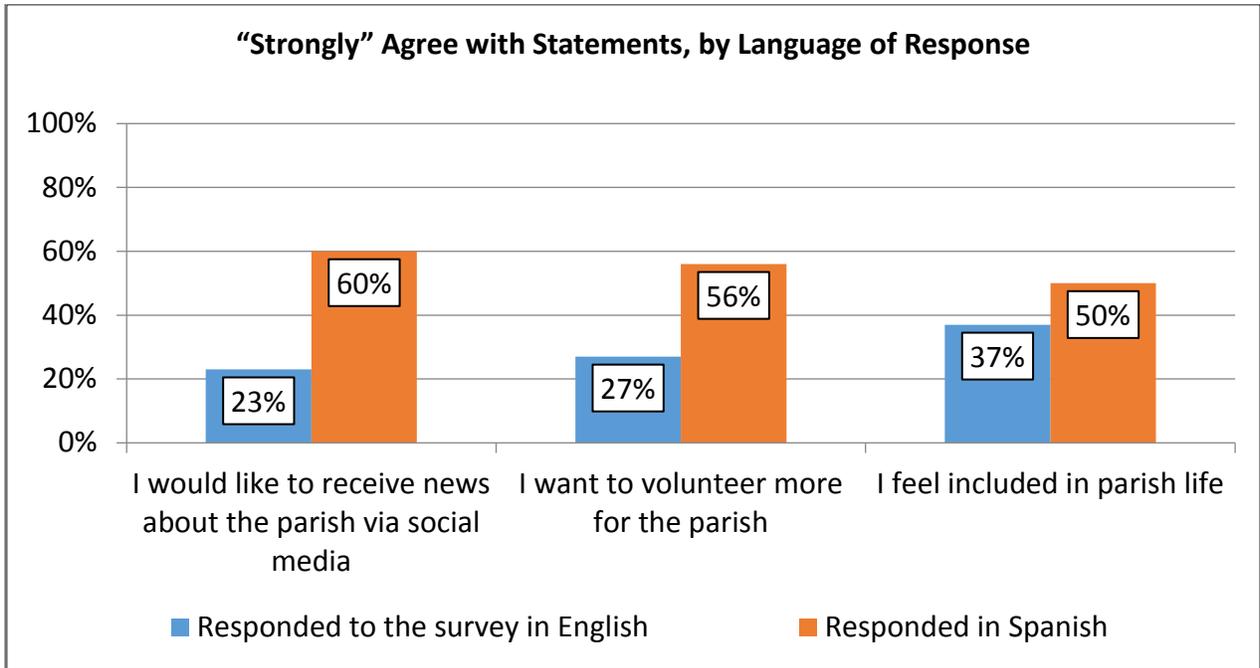


Differences by Language of Response

Those who responded to the English-language version of the survey are more likely than those responding in Spanish to “strongly” agree with the four statements presented in the figure below, most of which involve parish communications.



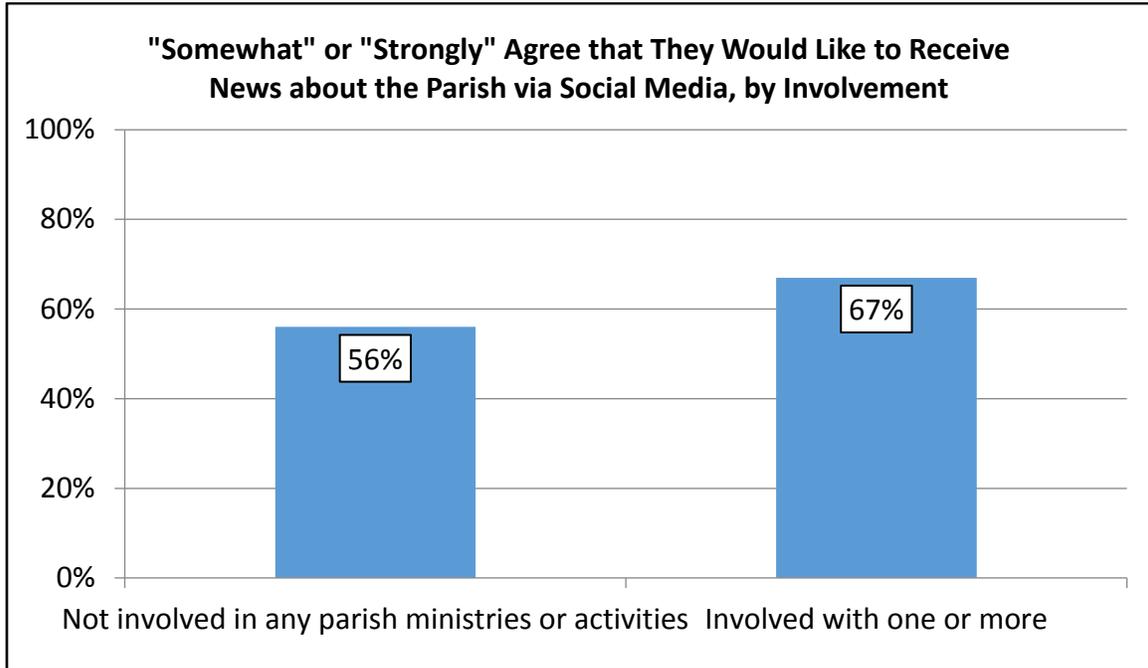
On the other hand, those who responded to the Spanish-language version of the survey are more likely than those responding in English to “strongly” agree with the three statements presented in the figure below.



Differences by Level of Involvement

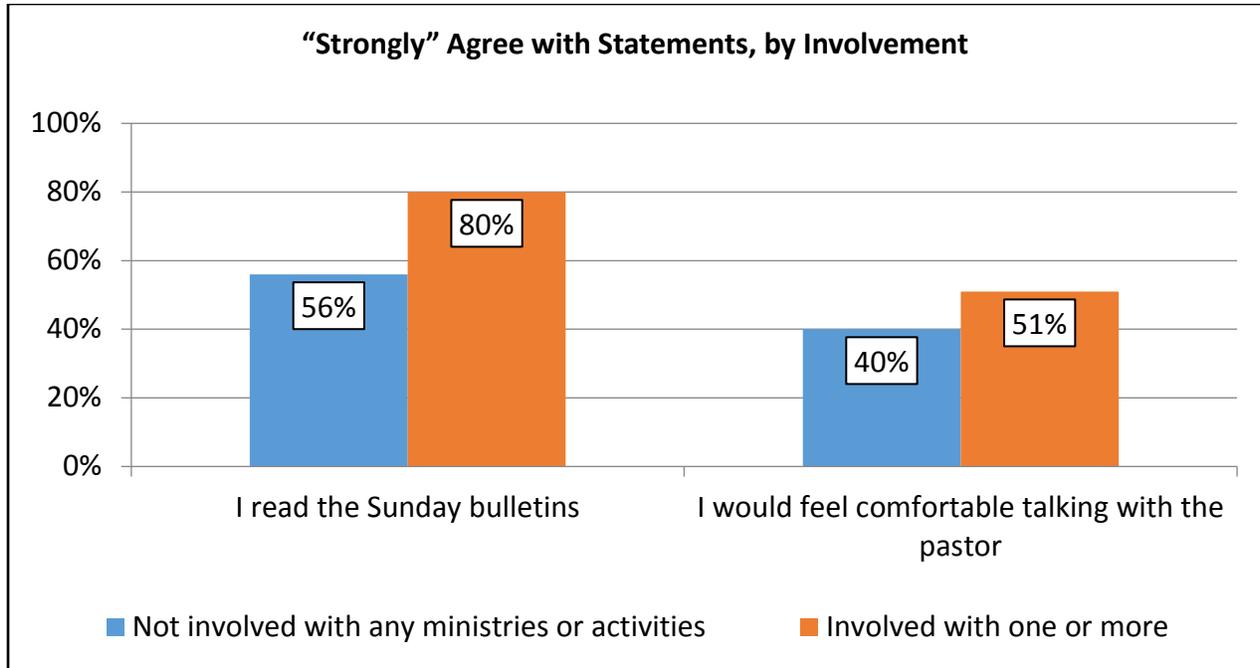
"Somewhat" or "Strongly" Agree Combined

Those involved with at least one parish ministry or activity at the parish are more likely than others to "somewhat" or "strongly" agree that they would like to receive news about the parish via social media.



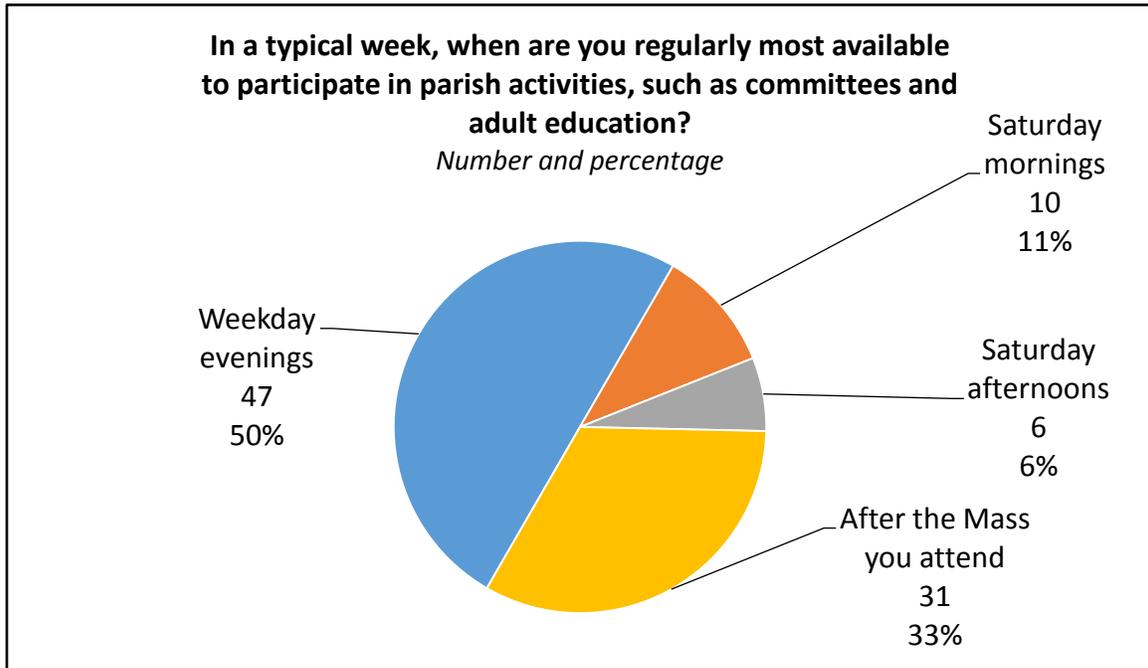
“Strongly” Agree Only

Those involved with at least one ministry or activity at the parish are more likely than others to “strongly” agree with the statements presented in the figure below.



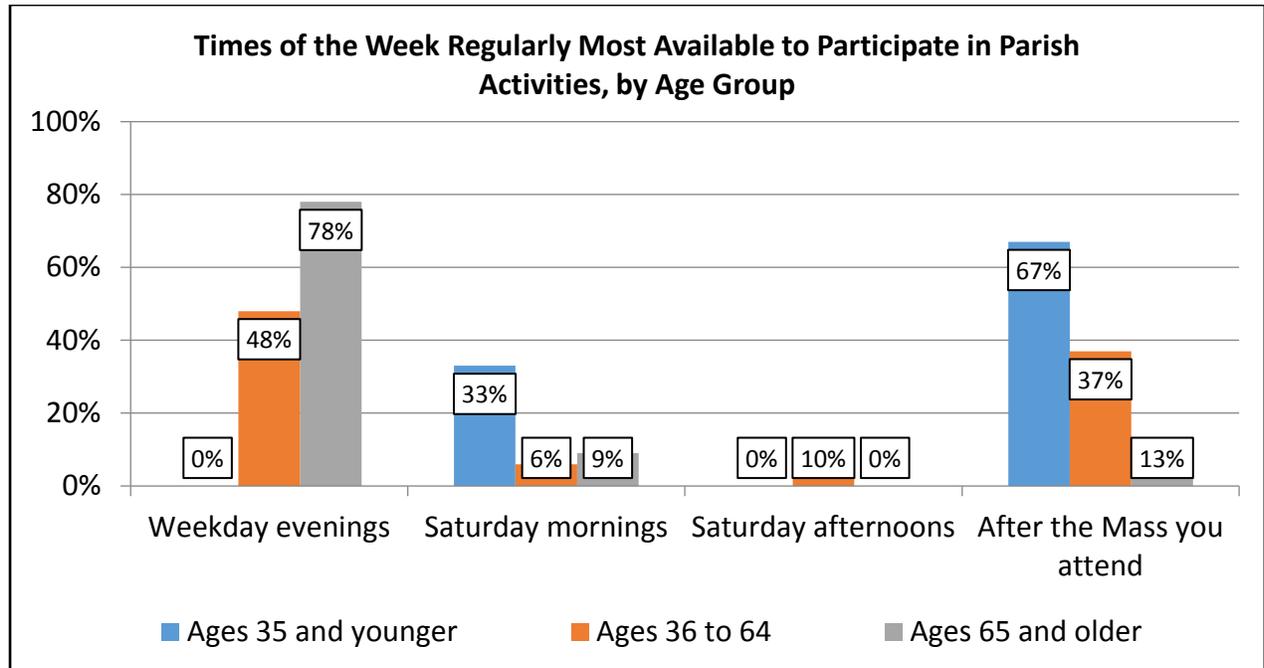
Times of the Week Available

The time of the week when respondents most commonly say they are available to participate in parish activities are weekday evenings (50%), followed by after the Mass they attend (33%). Fewer report being regularly most available on Saturday mornings (11%) and Saturday afternoons (6%).



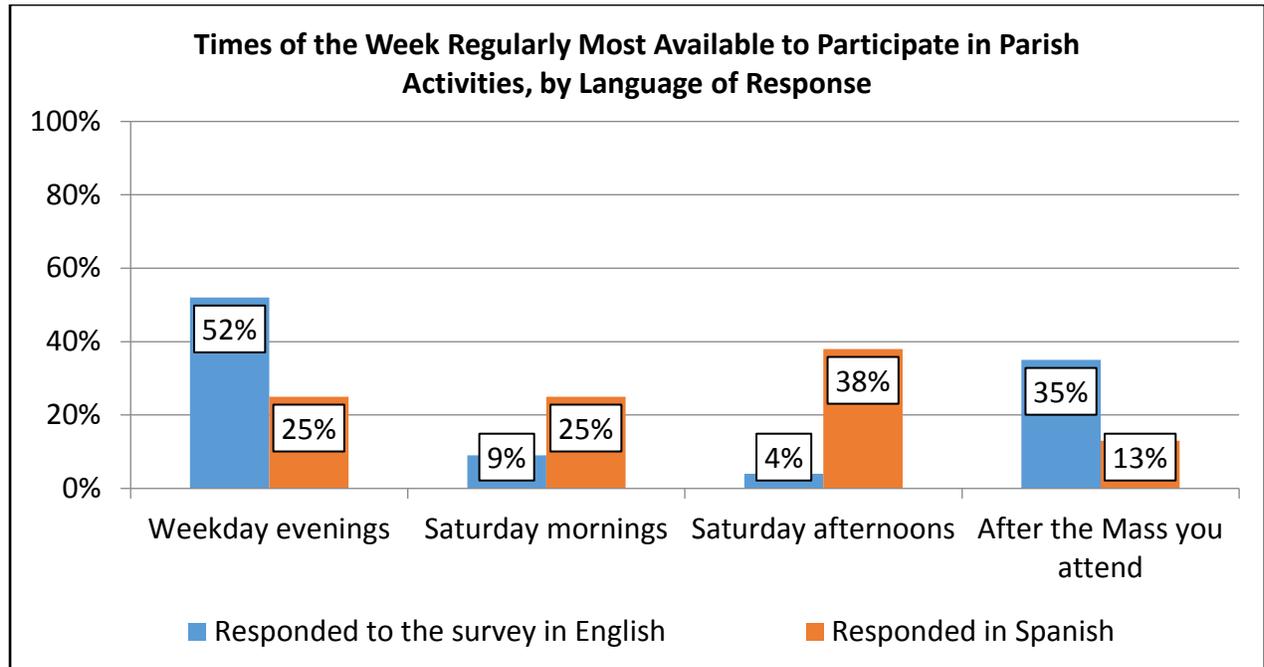
Differences by Age Group

Those ages 35 and younger are most likely to be regularly most available to participate in parish activities after the Mass they attend, with those of the other two age groups most likely to be regularly available on weekday evenings.



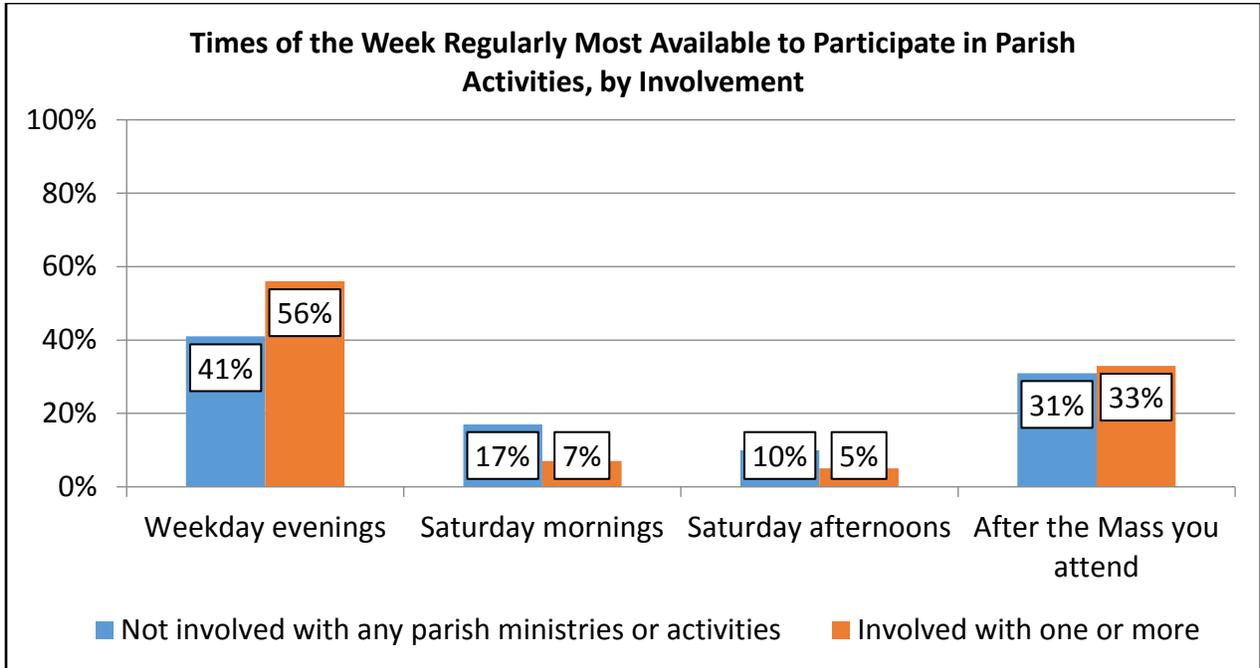
Differences by Language of Response

Those who responded to the survey in English are more likely than those responding in Spanish to report being regularly most available to participate in parish activities on weekday evenings and after the Mass they attend. Those responding in Spanish, on the other hand, are most likely to report being regularly most available on Saturday afternoons and Saturday mornings.



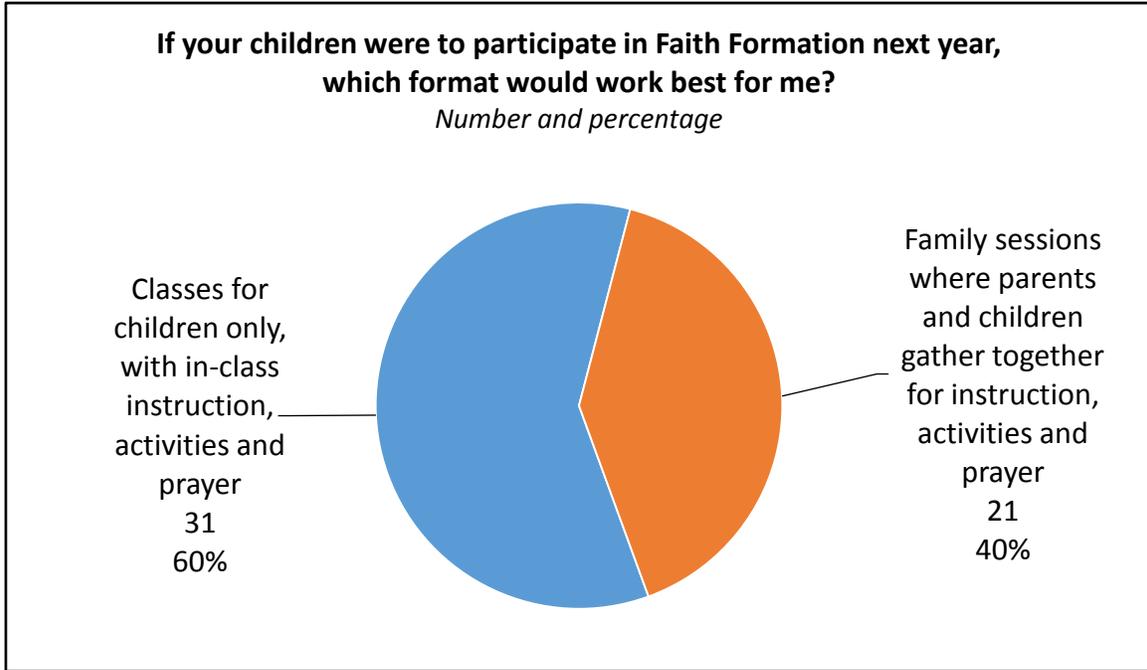
Differences by Level of Involvement

Those involved with at least one parish ministry or activity are relatively more likely than others to report being regularly most available to participate in parish activities on weekday evenings.



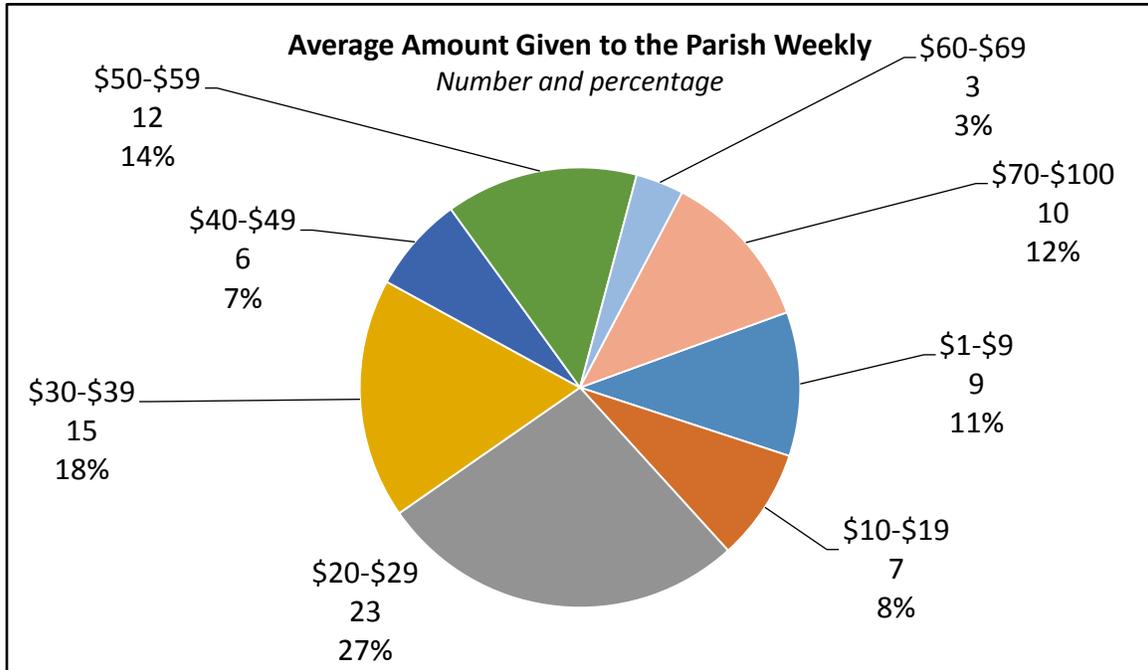
Preferred Format for Faith Formation Program

Respondents were asked which format they prefer for their children who will participate in Faith Formation next year. As is seen in the figure below, 60% prefer classes for children only, with 40% preferring family sessions where parents and children gather together.



Average Weekly Parish Contribution

Respondents were asked to report, on average, the amount they give to the parish weekly. Some 71% give \$49 or less per week, with 29% giving \$50 or more.



Appendix I: Response Frequencies to All Questions

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

9 10 42 38 13 66. I feel included in parish life

7 13 36 44 15 67. I feel well informed about what goes on in our parish

2 6 21 71 10 68. I read the Sunday bulletins

27 19 28 27 27 69. I would like to receive news about the parish via social media (Facebook, Twitter)

13 5 20 62 22 70. I visited the parish website in the last year

10 18 30 43 16 71. I feel informed about parish finances

14 12 27 47 13 72. I would feel comfortable talking with the pastor

2 10 26 62 17 73. I understand the concept of stewardship

2 16 53 30 25 74. I want to volunteer more for the parish

75. If your children were to participate in Faith Formation next year, which *format* would work best for you?

Please select only one. NR=64

60 1. Classes for the children only, with in-class instruction, activities and prayer

40 2. Family sessions where parents and children gather together for instruction, activities and prayer

76. In a typical week, when are you *regularly most available* to participate in parish activities, such as committees and adult education? **Select only one. NR=34**

50 1. Weekday evenings 6 3. Saturday afternoons
11 2. Saturday mornings 33 4. After the Mass you attend

77. What *best* describes you? **Please select only one.**

85 1. Active Catholic since birth 1 4. Inactive Catholic

8 2. Returned Catholic 2 5. Non-Catholic

5 3. Catholic convert **NR=11**

78. About how *often* do you currently attend Mass? **NR=13**

0 1. Never or rarely 23 4. Almost every week

1 2. A few times a year 48 5. Every week

4 3. Once or twice a month 24 6. More than once a week

79. *Excluding your Mass attendance*, how many *ministries or activities* are you involved with at this parish? **NR=12**

35 1. None 32 3. Two to four

33 2. One 1 4. Five or more

Avg NR

\$35 41 80. Average amount you give to the parish weekly

25 25 81. *Years* you have attended this parish?

Leave blank if this is not your regular parish. Write "1" if one year or less.

Yes No NR

88 12 9 82. Are you registered in this parish?

94 6 8 83. Is this parish your primary place of worship?

13 87 27 84. Have you or any of your children attended the parish school in the past 5 years?

34 66 26 85. Have any of your children attended religious education classes here in the past 5 years?

23 77 18 86. Have you attended adult religious education classes here in the past 5 years?

41 59 18 87. Will/did your spouse also complete this survey?

88. Which *best* describes your residency in the area?

Please select only one. NR=11

97 1. Permanent resident 0 4. Student living in the area
2 2. Seasonal resident only during the school year
0 3. Temporary military 1 5. Visitor
assignment

Avg NR

1961 20 89. Year you were *born*: _____ (4-digit year)

90. Do you identify as: 33 1. Male 67 2. Female **NR=12**

91. What *best* describes your current marital status?

21 1. Single, never married 5 3. Divorced or separated

68 2. Married or remarried 7 4. Widowed **NR=15**

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

Sum

7 92. Ages 4 or younger 29 94. Ages 13 to 17

33 93. Ages 5 to 12 39 95. Ages 18 or older

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

2 1. Some high school or less 5 4. Associate's degree

6 2. High school diploma 45 5. Bachelor's degree

7 3. Some college/in college 35 6. Graduate degree

NR=12

97. What *best* describes your current employment status?

Please select only one.

46 1. Employed full time 0 8. Member of the military

10 2. Employed part time 2 9. Volunteer

2 3. Self-employed 0 10. High school student

2 4. Unemployed 2 11. College student

4 5. Semi-retired 1 12. Other

23 6. Retired _____

9 7. Homemaker **NR=13**

98. Which category *best* represents your total annual household income, including all those living with you? **NR=30**

7 1. Less than \$25,000 13 5. \$100,000-124,999

9 2. \$25,000-49,999 8 6. \$125,000-149,999

11 3. \$50,000-74,999 12 7. \$150,000-199,999

9 4. \$75,000-99,999 31 8. \$200,000 or more

99. What is the greatest strength of this parish?

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

Thank you for completing this survey.

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Appendix II: Complete Transcription of Open-ended Comments

Question 99: What is the greatest strength of this parish?

The comments below have been lightly edited for grammar and punctuation.

Su gente y su comunidad diversa. [Its people and diverse community.]

Nada. [Nothing.]

The building itself.

Inclusión y misa en español. [Inclusion and mass in Spanish.]

Para mí en especial la fe que me fortalece cada semana. [For me especially, it's the faith that strengthens me every week.]

My family and I have been worshipping in St. Teresa of Avila for about 25 years. We enjoy the beauty and serenity & go to be inspired. The recent downside is that Father Bob has raised the organ volume to the point of discomfort. Also, some programs like the giving tree are not done early enough and were not easily accessible like the altar as in the past. Sometimes it feels as if Fr. Bob just wants to make us feel his mark.

Parishioners, current; Eucharist, past; History & Location.

Community services.

Church beauty, music & liturgy, pastoral leadership & qualified staff.

Number of Masses. Fr. Salamone.

The people - all of them.

Location, history, church.

Strong preaching with wide variety of guest priests.

Its ministries.

Large, diverse community.

Sermons & music.

The people.

Lots of Catholics locally, who want a strong parish.

Resilience.

The church itself.

Leadership.

Its ability.

Homilies - English and Spanish Masses. Both.

Pastor. Site of parish. Finances.

Our priests, their homilies, their faith.

Its history. It used to be a parish with a sense of community. Now it feels like it's all about money, not the kids, us, or the community.

Masses. Youth outreach. Faith formation.

Quality of Masses. Ministries - especially WWP.

Pastor Father Bob @ 4 p.m. Saturday Mass.

Liturgies.

Excellent visiting priests.

The engagement of the families and sense of community being fostered by Faith Formation.

Good "visiting" priests to say Mass. Beautiful church interior. Many programs. Food pantry.

Well-established. Pastor.

The parishioners.

The physical appearance of the inside of our church.

The beauty of the Church.

Beauty.

It used to be traditional Catholicism and had very vibrant Religious Ed, which the pastor felt the need to completely change. Some of our catechists are now volunteering at other parishes. Way too much change. Keep 10:30 Mass and its music Catholic and traditional. Mass shouldn't sound like a Disney musical.

The people who volunteer!

The priests.

A beautiful facility and dedicated staff.

It was a good parish, and hopefully it can be one again!

Dedicated, active parishioners. Individual strengths of clergy & staff.

The many ministries that bring people together and helping others.

Homilies.

The problem with the parish is that it does not want to change. For example, the Spanish Mass being moved to 12. From what I've seen, Americans are not happy with this. Hispanics have 1 Mass and that's it. There are a handful of English Masses now.

Good liturgy.

Availability of Masses and good priests.

The Mass and priests.

The beautiful Church; the comfortable feeling! I have a renew group for 10-12 women!

The number of varied ministries.

Congregation.

Priests and quality of liturgy, homilies. Also variety.

Great priests and homilies. Willingness to change & communicate.

Sense of community & strong religious foundation.

Children's choir - 9:30 Sunday, excellent. Visionary, engaged and active pastor. Excellent liturgies, culturally planned.

Volunteers.

The Saturday 4 p.m. Mass is wonderful. It is welcoming, I love the homilies & it makes me want to consistently attend Church. The music on Sunday Masses is amazing! So is the music at holiday Masses.

Committed leadership. Strength of community & fellowship & ministry.

Community.

Children's Mass.

The parishioners.

This parish is beautiful, probably the nicest I've been to.

Too much complaining about money. Not receptive to feedback ideas, requests. Train staff in communication skills. Lower speaker volume (people are wearing ear plugs or leaving Mass and going elsewhere). Too loud. Attendance cropped off with new pastor.

The priests.

Its history and architecture.

Homiletics. One-on-one outreach.

Size, tradition and staff. We love the 9:30 children's Mass. Cassandra is great.

Children's ministry - Cassandra is great.

History and overall quality.

Its people.

After 58 years, our priests—all different but gave and giving their "all".

The variety of activities.

Leadership and the priests.

Location and community. Desire to engage.

The people.

Lots of opportunities for spiritual growth and service.

Parishioners.

Leadership and music.

Steadfastness.

Commitment of life-long parishioners. Faithful love of Christ!

Prayer.

Sense of community.

Its people.

The faithfulness of parishioners.

Music/choir. Welcoming.

Its beauty and education of its parishioners.

Music.

Strong core of faithful parishioners.

Strong history, connection to town; beautiful, useful facilitator.

The faithfulness of its members.

Music ministry. Excellent pastor.

Fr. Bob made the community a family again, thank you!

Diversity.

Beauty of the Church building. Good (illegible).

More evening Masses.

The people.

Mass effectiveness.

Liturgy.

Members are committed, interested and loyal.

Question 100: On what need or program should the parish most focus in the next one to three years?

Formacione de ministerios y recuperar las celebraciones y tradiciones tanto de la comunidad Anglo como la Hispana. [Formation of ministries and recover the celebrations and traditions of both the Anglo and Hispanic communities.]

Unir a la comunidad y mejorar la Parroquia. [Unite the community and improve the Parish.]

Preparing people to serve in ministries.

Evangelización de jovenes. [Evangelization of young people.]

Ayudar a las parejas para que sigan unidas o para mejorar sus problemas. [Help couples to stay together or to improve on their problems.]

Spirituality, community, gratitude, respect, forgiveness, charity & collegiality.

Hospitality & welcoming to visitors and outsiders. Diversity & inclusivity.

Senior programs.

Youth programs.

YA outreach. Learn and/or work with Fr. Freaes? Of the (illegible).

Children's/teens' religious formation. Teach parishioners how to become disciples. Adult faith formation. Money for Faith Formation (all ages) should always take precedence over building beautification/landscaping projects.

Meet & greets. Try to make the Church the center of our lives, not a footnote.

Community building.

Pastor being open to constructive criticism.

Religious education.

Evangelization of families.

Getting more parishioners back.

Rebuilding trust in the Catholic Church.

Sense of community. Faith formation. Genuine friendliness.

New-comer. Welcome dinners.

Community-meaningful outreach & homilies that strike home with our kids and will keep them interested. A CCD program that creates a sense of Catholic community for their peers. Why are any decisions, like doing Faith Formation, made without parish involvement? We need a pastor that cares about community more than himself!

Thank you for Adoration chapel. Continue to foster love for Christ in the sacraments & community outreach.

Changing Faith Formation back to original format—so important to keep the young families engaged.

Attract more parishioners who either stopped going to Mass, and/or left St. Teresa's in the last few years.

CCD program.

Music (even acapella) at 7:30 am Sunday Mass.

A sincere effort to find out why the attendance has declined. More reverence during Mass—Mass is too noisy. Organ too loud, cantors don't need that loud microphones. Microphones.

Young adult ministries.

Mass attendance low—why? Fix declining attendance. Fix sound system...too noisy. New pastor who relates better to parishioners.

New pastor.

Getting back on track, financially.

Undo the destruction of our community by Fr. Bob, please.

Develop stronger community/unity of parish members.

Bible study for adults.

Introduce traditional Mass elements.

Reclaiming youth/families to our Religious Ed. They are our future. Make sure the content is good. You have lost many of the very faithful who used to donate. Keep the school going too!

Getting people back into this parish. Pastor needs to be more flexible. Losing too many members.

A sense of community between parishioners.

A new pastor who is interested in the spiritual growth of the parishioners, not just the real estate.

Growing stewardship. Growing ministry responsibilities. Fostering community & welcoming those who've been away.

Bringing parents and children back to their faith.

Adult formation.

People don't want this change and aren't happy with it, and it's not fair. The parish is a place of worship and not of hate. I have seen this parish at its rock-bottom, and it is coming up; I am happy that it is. I am tired of feeling that the Hispanics are being pushed aside. I do feel that the priests have connected with the community and I'm happy to see that.

Preserving financial stability. We do not need a \$10k fountain.

Getting people back to the parish!

Continuing the Mass once a month at SR. Housing. We also give them a party following the Mass.

Building community.

Engagement and what that really means. Struggle with what "closer to God" means.

Get parishioners that don't attend Mass to attend; get more people involved with parish ministries.

Rebuild trust in the Church. Welcome children in mixed-faith families.

Service opportunities for families & kids.

There is too much equating contributions with the person's desire to be in Church.

Continued community support. Youth outreach. Thank you.

Retaining clergy.

Perhaps outreach to young adult Catholics - years ago there used to be Theology on Tap programs.

Adult Ed., evangelization, spiritual life of parishioners, need a parish Council open to all.

The homilies at this Church are very poor. There are major issues in this world right now - abortion, pre-marital sex, drugs, etc. You want to appeal to young adults. Talk about how to deal with those challenges. Stop trying to appeal to everyone. Tell people about the faith, and what Catholicism is.

For residents of summit seniors' building.

Social justice. More sense of solidarity between English- and Spanish-speaking parishioners.

We don't need a fountain.

Developing a greater sense of community.

Faith formation of young people.

This parish has become a joke. This Monsignor knows how to waste money. That's it. Why is it necessary to maintain a truck with a plow and hire out to clear the snow? You keep saying this parish needs money. Why punish those who do attend for those who don't?

More laity involvement - possibility? Of women being trained as deacons. Thanks for listening!

Greater outreach/education of parishioners. Please improve the music. The new folks in charge rarely, if ever, sing or perform the great Catholic tradition of sacred music (Ave Maria, Ave Verum, Salve Regina, Masses). Instead, we have "popular" songs. The music is so bad that I am tempted to leave the parish and join another Church with continues the tradition of Church & sacred music.

Marian Liturgy.

Return to CCD & teen programs.

Reconnecting the people. Many feel alienated. CCD program!

Helping the homeless and poor. Other Churches have homily guests from Morristown. Hosting AA NA meetings.

Pastoral leadership and warmth.

Bringing people back to Church.

Bringing people together on a social level.

Teaching the dignity of life at all phases, New Community Center, Adoration Chapel!

Pay bills, keep the Church in good shape.

Adult programs, (illegible) and e-mail for commuting full-time employment.

Teens.

Passing on our faith. Staying true to the truth.

Don't turn away young people who want to marry here, even if they are not current parishioners.

Reaching out & pulling in more people that come only on holidays. Focus on inspirational sermons & music and beauty of Mass.

Less rules and regulations; more spirituality.

Re-establish the Church itself following all of the scandals.

Unity & ministry - I don't understand how a parish this size lacks lectors, altar servers. Parish at large seems dated from ministries.

The need to foster a sense of community involvement.

Young adults.

Teens' Catholic Formation. Young adults "Days with the Lord".

Bringing young adults back with Saturday 7 p.m. anticipated Mass.

Better music. Preferable organ music.

Creating a community environment with adult faith formation. Evangelization of parishioners' irregular & regular participants.

Outside speakers. Advent/Lenten "Missions" at Church.

Religious Education, reaching out to children.