



# 1,196 Prayers



St. Frances Cabrini, Immaculate  
Conception Parish Survey

March 18-19, 2017

# 1,200 Participated in the Parish Survey

- Good representation across parishes, age groups

Age Group	SFC	IC	Other	Total
65+	287	141	53	481
50-65	207	82	58	347
36-49	121	34	28	183
19-35	50	17	13	80
Under 18	50	48	7	105
Total	715	322	159	1,196

- 60% from SFC (70% excluding Other)
- Aged distribution relatively consistent across parishes, with IC only slightly over-indexing for both 65+ and Under 18



# “Free Form” Gives Voice, Creates Challenge

- Open-ended questions offered parishioners an opportunity to say whatever was on their minds... without limits
- Unstructured responses had to be grouped before any results could be analyzed
  - Groups initially determined on first comments reviewed
  - As assessments continued, new groups were identified
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> pass refined placement in groups... early assignment often changed
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> pass helped ensure consistency
- End-result: Data created from repetitive process



# Four Questions

1. Why do you choose to be Catholic?
2. What is your personal responsibility as a Catholic?
3. What is your personal responsibility in the parish?
4. What is your personal responsibility in the local civic community?

# First Thought Usually Determined the Group

- Key principle: People wrote first what the Holy Spirit guided them to
  - Useful approach when people listed multiple things
  - Verbs provided guidance: volunteer vs. help
- Final groups give a sense of the variety of responses

<b><u>Why Choose to Be Catholic</u></b>		<b><u>Responsibility as Catholic</u></b>		<b><u>Responsibility To Parish</u></b>		<b><u>Responsibility to Community</u></b>	
Responses	1,126	Responses	1,120	Responses	1,066	Responses	989
From Parents	55%	Living the Faith	46%	Participation & Support	67%	Represent/Example of Catholic	31%
Spiritual Reason	25%	Participate in Faith & Share	17%	Engage in Faith	13%	Evangelize	14%
One True Religion	11%	Be a Good Person	11%	Other	6%	Love God/Others	2%
My Choice	4%	Love God	10%	Educate	6%	Be involved	24%
Path to Heaven	3%	Parish Participation & Support	7%	I Should...	3%	Be a Good Example/Person	11%
Other	2%	Raise Family in the Faith	6%	Be Part of Parish Family	3%	Be a Good Citizen	8%
		Other	4%	Be a Good Person	2%	Other	7%
						Financial Support	2%
Minor Groups = 11		Minor Groups = 19		Minor Groups = 20		Minor Groups = 14	



# “Degree” is Missing from Responses

- ▶ We can get a sense of “why” and “what”...
  - ▶ Why Catholic: I was baptized
  - ▶ Responsibility as a Catholic: To love and serve my fellow mankind
  - ▶ Responsibility to Parish: To participate and support
  - ▶ Responsibility to Community: Give back in all ways possible
- ▶ ... But we cannot discern “how much”
  - ▶ How often do I attend mass?
  - ▶ Does participate in events mean help or attend?
  - ▶ What does sharing my Catholic faith entail?



# Perspectives on the Answers

- The first words typically guided placement into groups:
  - Responses often included 2 or more thoughts
  - Where there were 3 or more items, the response fell into “Other”
- As the questions moved from personal to civic:
  - Range of responses broadened significantly
  - The number of no answers increased
- As answers were grouped for analysis, results presented should be considered approximate, as another person may interpret responses in different ways
- All results exclude “No Answer” responses



# Survey Summary

	Why Catholic	Catholic Responsibility	Parish Responsibility	Civic Responsibility
Key Answers	From Parents – 55% Spiritual Reason – 25%	Living the Faith - 46% Participate/Share Faith - 17%	Support - 67% Engage in Faith - 13%	Example of Catholic - 29% Evangelize - 23%
Insights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>50% of responses “From Parents” included additional faith statement</li> <li>73% of reasons went beyond “Born, Baptized, Brought Up”</li> <li>One True Religion 11%, My Choice 4% and Path to Heaven 3% were other influences</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Living the Faith and Participating In/Sharing the Faith mean very different things between age groups</li> <li>Passing on the faith most important to 36-49 yr olds</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Verbs matter when exploring “support” (Volunteer, contribute, participate, help, serve)</li> <li>Variety of responses makes unclear split of TTT</li> <li>See Parish Responsibility Slides</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Broadest answer set</li> <li>2 Types of Groups               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Faith Focused (47%)</li> <li>Civic (53%)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Parish Differences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IC: +7% higher “From Parents driven by higher rates from both &gt;65 and Under 19</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Close results</li> <li>IC: +5% Higher on Participate/Share Faith</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No meaningful differences</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SFC +6% in total Faith Groups, with offset in “Be a Good Person”</li> </ul>
Age Differences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>50+: +7% higher “From Parents</li> <li>Under 18: 38% cited Spiritual Reason behind desire to love God)</li> <li>36-49: +4% selected One True Religion</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Very different age patterns between top two answers</li> <li>See Participating vs. Living the Faith slide</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trends similar to Catholic responsibilities</li> <li>Teens higher in Engagement but less in Participate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>65+ showed 40/60 split between faith &amp; civic</li> </ul>
Watch-outs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Efforts to tease out degree faith were unsuccessful</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>“Be a Good Person” may be implied in Faith</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Impossible to assess stated responsibility vs. action</li> </ul>	
Implications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opportunity exists to encourage statements of “Why Catholic?” beyond parental influence</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discussion warranted on living vs. participating in the faith</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seek quantitative data to challenge these results</li> <li>Explore different messages to engage parishioners</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>TBD</li> </ul>

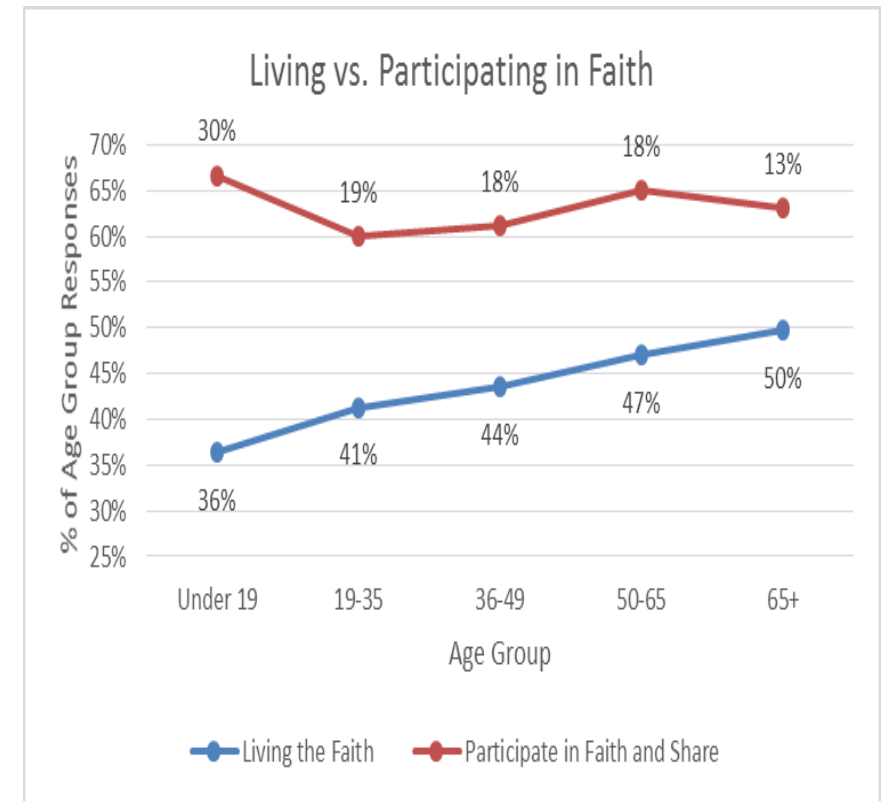


# Living the Faith vs. Participating/Sharing Faith

- Two categories represent 65% of responses, but mean very different things

Living the Faith	Participating In/Sharing Faith
Be an example of our Faith	Attend Mass
Live a Christian Life	Receive the Sacraments
Live in Alignment w/ Teachings	Evangelize
Be a Good Catholic	
Prayer	

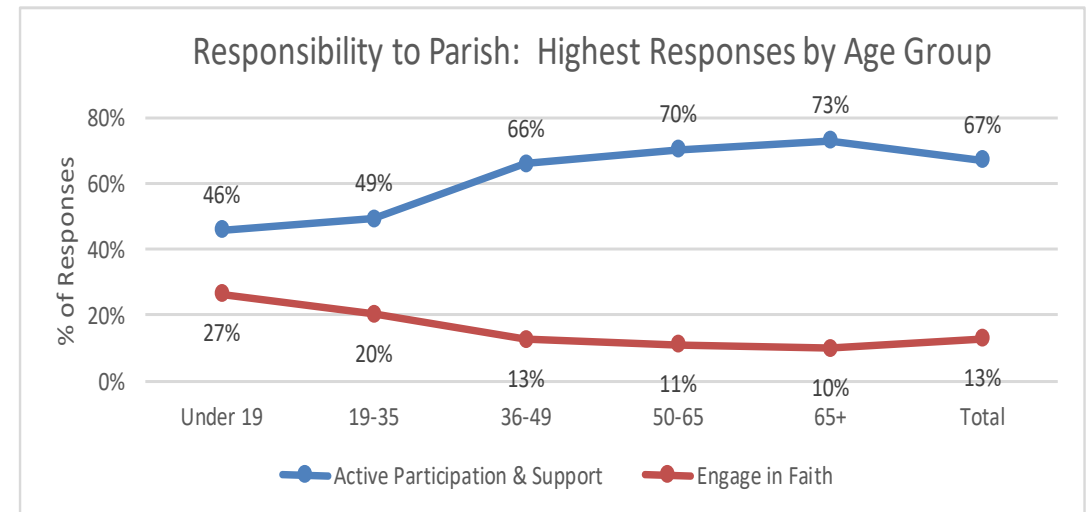
- Responses seem to represent the wisdom gained with age vs. the “experience” of the mass and sacraments



# Responsibility to Parish by Age Group Follows the Pattern Seen in Responsibility As Catholic

- Teen-agers show the highest degree of responsibility in Engagement with Faith through Mass and the Sacraments
- Response rates trend down as age increases
- Active Participation and Support shows opposite result as involvement becomes more important with experience

Responsibility to Parish	Under 19	19-35	36-49	50-65	65+	Total
Active Participation & Support	46%	49%	66%	70%	73%	67%
Engage in Faith	27%	20%	13%	11%	10%	13%
Other	10%	6%	6%	5%	7%	6%
Educate	6%	14%	10%	5%	2%	6%
I Should...	3%	6%	2%	3%	4%	3%
Be Part of Parish Family	3%	1%	2%	4%	3%	3%
Be Kind, Good Person	5%	3%	1%	1%	2%	2%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>





# What do 715 Parishioners Mean by “Participation and Support”

- ▶ Verbs or Descriptions used in responses may provide insights:
  - ▶ **Support TTT** – Willingness to support broadly in by offering time, talent and treasure
  - ▶ **General Support & Contribute** – Support in some way, and also give
  - ▶ **Contribute** – Financial support only
  - ▶ **Volunteer** – Willingness to help, either proactively or in response to request
  - ▶ **Participate or Be Involved** – Geared toward attending events
  - ▶ **Serve** – Very generic descriptor
  - ▶ **Help and Assist** – Very generic descriptors
- ▶ Very little indication of how much people really do support

# Understanding Participation and Support

30% of responses encompass all elements of Time, Talent, Treasure

