

Diocese of Madison Parishioner Survey

Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate

All 46,343 Adults
in the Diocese

Some 46,343 respondents at the parishes of the Diocese age 18 and over responded to the questionnaire. The percentage for each response is below or beside its respective number, calculated out of 100 percent (with some rows totaling 99 or 101 percent, due to rounding). The percentage of non-response (NR) follows, separately calculated out of 100 percent.

Please use the responses below for questions 1-36.
If you are not sure how to respond, please leave a blank.

1=Not at All **3=Somewhat**
2=Only a Little **4=Very or Very Much**

How **important** are the following to you?

1	2	3	4	NR	
2	2	14	82	3	1. Being Catholic.
2	4	20	75	3	2. Participating in Mass.
2	7	31	61	5	3. Being part of the parish community.
1	3	17	79	5	4. Passing on the faith to the next generation.
2	11	43	45	6	5. Learning more about Church teachings.
2	13	42	43	6	6. Learning more about the Bible.
1	4	26	69	6	7. Helping alleviate the suffering of others.

How **important** are these diocesan ministries to you?

1	2	3	4	NR	
4	14	39	43	10	8. Ministry to rural Catholics.
2	6	27	66	7	9. Ministry to youth and young adults.
2	6	30	63	8	10. Ministry to families.
2	4	22	73	6	11. Ministry to the sick.
6	18	40	37	10	12. Ministry to the imprisoned.
5	16	43	37	10	13. Ministry to recent immigrants, such as those from Latin America, Asia, and Africa.
3	10	39	49	9	14. Training lay people for parish ministry.
3	8	31	58	8	15. Promoting vocations to the priesthood and religious life.
3	11	31	55	7	16. Support for Catholic schools.
2	3	19	77	6	17. Religious education for children and youth.
2	11	43	44	10	18. Faith formation for adults.
7	22	44	27	16	19. Evangelization.
2	8	36	54	10	20. Outreach ministry to those in need.
2	5	30	63	8	21. Ministry to those with disabilities.
1	4	26	70	7	22. Ministry to the elderly.
3	11	44	42	15	23. Stewardship of resources.
3	10	34	52	11	24. Respect life ministries.
2	8	39	51	8	25. Support of retired clergy.

How much would you **support** these ways of providing for ministry and worship in a time of fewer priests?

1	2	3	4	NR	
4	10	36	49	7	26. Coordinating Mass schedules among neighboring parishes.
8	18	39	35	8	27. Merging parishes to better meet ministry needs.
43	26	20	11	11	28. Closing parishes.
13	21	38	29	11	29. Hiring business administrators to assist pastors.
7	14	38	42	8	30. Appointment of a deacon, religious sister or brother, or lay person to administer a parish with a priest serving as a sacramental minister only.

How **willing** would you be to share the following activities and programs with other parishes in your area?

1	2	3	4	NR	
8	12	29	51	12	31. A Catholic elementary school.
13	15	27	45	15	32. A Catholic high school.
4	10	37	49	13	33. Sacramental preparation programs.
4	8	31	56	11	34. Religious education programs for children or youth.
4	9	35	53	12	35. Youth ministry programs.
4	11	36	49	12	36. Faith formation for adults.

Please use the responses below for questions 37-59.

If you are not sure how to respond, please leave a blank.

1=Strongly Disagree **3=Somewhat Agree**
2=Somewhat Disagree **4=Strongly Agree**

Please **respond** to the following about the Diocese.

1	2	3	4	NR	
5	10	43	43	9	37. I trust in the leadership of the Bishop.
3	8	40	49	12	38. I believe the Bishop fulfills the responsibilities of his office.
4	8	33	55	10	39. I believe the Bishop is concerned about the people of the Diocese and their needs.
36	17	20	27	14	40. I regularly read the <i>Catholic Herald</i> newspaper.
32	21	30	18	22	41. The <i>Catholic Herald</i> nourishes my faith life and spiritual development.
31	24	33	12	50	42. The diocesan website effectively communicates news related to the Diocese.
19	23	38	20	21	43. I understand the Diocesan Services Appeal and how the contributions are used.

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

1	2	3	4	NR	
2	4	26	68	6	44. The parish meets my spiritual needs.
2	7	29	62	8	45. I feel included in parish life.
3	8	33	56	8	46. I feel well informed about what goes on in the parish.
2	9	38	51	15	47. Stewardship as a way of life is stressed in our parish.
5	15	40	40	13	48. I am aware of the role our parish pastoral council plays in parish life.
5	13	39	42	14	49. Parishioners are encouraged to assist in the decision-making processes for the parish.
2	7	32	59	12	50. Regular participation in the sacraments is stressed by parish leaders.
3	8	30	58	11	51. The quality of liturgy attracts me to the parish.
2	5	21	72	8	52. The parish is open and welcoming.
2	4	22	73	15	53. The sacraments and parish events are accessible to people with disabilities.
12	19	35	35	27	54. I am comfortable asking this parish for help (finances, meals, respite for caretakers, etc.).
5	16	46	33	38	55. Parish programs to reach out to members with financial needs are successful.
6	16	46	32	39	56. Parish programs to reach out to members with emotional needs are successful.
1	3	20	76	9	57. Parish facilities are well-maintained.
4	7	24	66	14	58. We have adequate space for parish needs.
6	15	39	40	30	59. Parish outreach extends to non-Catholics.

Please use the responses below for questions 60-86.
If you are not sure how to respond, please leave a blank.

1=Poor

3=Good

2=Fair

4=Excellent

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

1 2 3 4 NR

- 1 6 37 55 7 60. Overall satisfaction with the parish.
2 10 38 51 9 61. Sense of community within the parish.
2 6 31 62 8 62. Masses and liturgies in general.
2 10 42 46 16 63. Vision provided by parish leaders.
3 10 41 46 20 64. Management of parish finances.
1 7 41 51 16 65. Parish efforts to live out gospel values.
2 8 39 51 16 66. Parish efforts to foster spiritual growth.
9 25 40 26 31 67. Outreach to inactive Catholics.

Please **evaluate** these parish programs.

1 2 3 4 NR

- 3 9 40 48 26 68. Children's religious education programs.
4 14 43 40 32 69. Youth ministry.
2 6 34 58 58 70. Area Catholic school. *Leave blank if none.*
5 18 47 30 35 71. Adult religious education programs.
2 10 45 43 32 72. Sacramental preparation programs.
3 14 47 36 37 73. Programs assisting those in need.

Please **evaluate** parish outreach to the following groups.

1 2 3 4 NR

- 3 12 43 43 37 74. Children (ages 3 to 12).
5 15 43 38 38 75. Teens (ages 13 to 17).
9 24 42 25 45 76. Single adults.
5 18 46 32 39 77. Married couples.
12 27 40 21 50 78. Divorced and separated.
9 25 42 23 51 79. Single parents.
2 8 40 50 36 80. The sick.
3 11 43 44 42 81. Those with disabilities.
6 22 46 27 51 82. Those with financial needs.
4 14 43 40 39 83. New parishioners.
8 19 43 31 56 84. Hispanics/Latinos.
10 22 43 25 62 85. Asians/Pacific Islanders.
11 22 42 26 61 86. Africans.

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

Yes No NR

- 84 16 3 87. Are you registered in this parish?
90 10 4 88. Is this parish your primary place of worship?
52 48 42 89. Do/did any of your children attend the area Catholic school? *Leave blank if none.*
67 33 22 90. Do/did any of your children attend religious education classes at the parish?
30 70 12 91. Have you ever attended adult religious education classes at the parish?
64 36 20 92. Will/did your spouse also complete this survey?

93. About how *frequently* do you attend Mass at this time?

- 1 1. Never or rarely. 30 4. Almost every week.
3 2. A few times a year. 48 5. Every week. **NR=4**
7 3. Once or twice a month. 11 6. More than once a week.

94. How many *ministries or activities* are you involved with at the parish? **NR=6**

- 43 1. None. 30 3. Two to four.
24 2. One. 3 4. Five or more.

Avg. NR

- 23.1 10 95. How many years have you attended this parish? *If this is not your regular parish, write "0".*
19.7 20 96. Average amount you give to the parish weekly. Write "0" if you do not give.
94.6 31 97. Average annual contribution to the Diocesan Services Appeal. Write "0" if you do not give.

How many *miles one-way* would you be willing to travel for the following?

Avg. NR

- 11.3 35 98. A shared program or activity with an area parish.
10.8 30 99. Weekend Mass at a neighboring parish.

Avg. NR

1950 6 100. Year you were born: 19____.

101. Gender: 41 1. Male. 59 2. Female. **NR=4**

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

- 11 1. Single, never married. 5 3. Divorced or separated.
75 2. Married/remarried. 9 4. Widowed. **NR=6**

How many of your *children living with you* are:

Write "0" if none. (Taking item 92 into account.)

Sum

Sum

- 3,692 103. In pre-school or younger? 2,423 106. In grades 7-8?
1,121 104. In kindergarten? 4,674 107. In grades 9-12?
6,918 105. In grades 1-6? 6,354 108. Over age 18?

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

- 33 1. Some high school/diploma. 24 3. Bachelor's degree.
28 2. Some college/associate degree. 15 4. Graduate degree.

NR=9

What is your *primary* racial or ethnic identity?

Please check all that apply.

NR=10

- 2 110. African/African. 3 113. Hispanic/Latino(a).
American/Black. 5 114. Native American/
88 111. Anglo/White/European. American Indian.
1 112. Asian/Pacific Islander. 2 115. Other: _____.

116. What *type of area* do you live in? **NR=6**

- 48 1. A city. 25 2. A town. 27 3. A rural area.

117. Your ZIP code is: _____. **NR=8**

118. Which category *best* represents your total household income, including all those living with you? **NR=17**

- 12 1. \$19,999 or less. 17 4. \$60,000-79,999.
22 2. \$20,000-39,999. 12 5. \$80,000-99,999.
21 3. \$40,000-59,999. 16 6. \$100,000 or above.

119. On what **need or program** should the parish most focus?

120. On what **need or program** should the Diocese most focus?

Thank you for completing this survey.
Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA)
Georgetown University, Washington, DC 20057
Phone: (202) 687-8080 Fax: (202) 687-8083
©2005, All rights reserved.