



# ST. ANTHONY *of* PADUA



A LETTER FROM OUR PASTOR

## 2019 Parish Survey Results

Dear Parishioners,

As part of St. Anthony of Padua's ongoing commitment to develop stewardship as a way of life, we conducted a comprehensive parish survey in February. The survey gave all our parishioners an opportunity to express their views regarding worship, parish life, religious education, outreach, and stewardship.

The parish office received 183 completed surveys, for a 35-percent response rate. I thank you for your honesty, as well as for the time and commitment you made to complete the survey and help our parish become better and spiritually stronger.

Just before I arrived in March 2016, the parish had participated in its first Parish Survey. When I received the results later on that summer, it was obvious to me where we needed to focus our initial efforts in adopting the Stewardship way of life in our parish. One priority was on the Stewardship pillar of Hospitality, towards which we needed to focus some energies on becoming a more welcoming parish to newcomers and visitors. Three years later, this report tells us that we have had significant progress in that area.

Another priority was to improve training and formation for our liturgical ministers, in particular our servers. The new survey indicates that people believe we are improving in that area, as well. Finally, there was concern about the vitality and viability

of St. Dominic School. Our current survey indicates that our parishioners understand and embrace our school as one of the most important and significant ministries of St. Anthony Parish, and now the questions and concerns about the school tend to focus more on making sure that our families and children are better-recognized as an integral part of our worshipping community.

In all of these past efforts, the current survey indicates progress. This is not to say that we are "perfect" in these areas, but that our parishioners recognize that we are not the same parish we were three years ago! As we look ahead to the next few years, the current survey tells us that there are areas in which we need to grow. As I explained in the previous paragraph, the first area of growth needs to be our school. Yes, we need to continue to strengthen the practical concerns about growing the student body, watching expenses, and providing the necessary resources to run an outstanding educational program, but most importantly, we need to shrink the "distance" we see between the school community and the church community. We are one parish and one community, who finds our "source and summit" in the worship that takes place on Sunday, and who invests in the future of the Catholic community through integral Catholic education that flows from that Sunday worship experience.

*continued on back cover*

# 2019 Parish SURVEY RESULTS

## Liturgy

Which Mass at St. Anthony do you most frequently attend?

- 30% Saturday, 4:00 p.m.
- 14% Saturday, 6:30 p.m.
- 30% Sunday, 8:00 a.m.
- 26% Sunday, 10:30 a.m.

How often do you attend Mass?

- 93% Every weekend or almost every weekend
- 5% Occasional weekends (once or twice a month)
- 1% Once a month or less than once a month
- 1% Seasonally (Christmas, Easter, etc.)
- 1% I no longer attend Mass

When you attend Mass, approximately how often do you attend St. Anthony?

- 75% 100%
- 21% 75%
- 2% 50%
- 2% 25%

Please indicate how well the following liturgical ministers enhance your prayer and worship.

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Needs Improvement
Fr. Tom	62%	34%	3%	1%
Deacons	67%	33%	0%	0%
Greeters	31%	58%	8%	4%
Ushers	33%	58%	7%	1%
Altar Servers	32%	51%	13%	5%
Lectors	39%	57%	4%	1%
Musicians	40%	49%	9%	3%
Cantors	32%	60%	5%	3%
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	45%	51%	4%	0%

## Adult Faith Formation

Have you attended an Adult Faith Formation program at St. Anthony in the last three years?

- 18% Yes
- 82% No

If you have attended an Adult Faith Formation program at St. Anthony in the last three years, was it a good experience?

- 68% Yes
- 32% No

If you haven't attended an Adult Faith Formation program at St. Anthony in the last three years, would you consider attending one in the future?

- 53% Yes
- 47% No

If you would like to attend an Adult Faith Formation program, what areas would you be most likely to participate in? **(Multiple responses allowed)**

- 33% Church Teachings
- 60% Scriptures/Bible Study
- 25% Ethics and Morality
- 21% Marriage (Retreats or Encounters)
- 26% Small Faith Sharing Groups
- 59% Practical Ways of Growing in Faith and Prayer
- 21% Retreats
- 4% Other

# Parish Life

What is your perception of your role as a member of St. Anthony? **(Multiple responses allowed)**

- 97% To attend Mass
- 79% Participate/volunteer in ministries and social activities
- 93% Support the parish financially
- 69% Share my faith with others
- 5% Other

In your experience, how responsive is our PASTOR to your needs and requests?

- 67% Very responsive
- 20% Somewhat responsive
- 12% Neutral
- 1% Unresponsive
- 0% Very unresponsive

In your experience, how responsive is the PARISH OFFICE STAFF to your needs and requests?

- 71% Very responsive
- 19% Somewhat responsive
- 9% Neutral
- 1% Unresponsive
- 0% Very unresponsive

What methods of communication would work best for you and your family to receive parish information?

**(Multiple responses allowed)**

- 92% Bulletin
- 24% Facebook
- 34% Email
- 66% Announcements at Mass
- 21% Text message
- 17% Website
- 0% Twitter
- 40% Newsletter

Have you enjoyed receiving our parish's monthly newsletters?

- 92% Yes
- 8% No

In what medium would you prefer to receive the parish's monthly newsletter:

- 78% Print (current medium used to deliver newsletter)
- 22% Online (via email or some other form of electronic delivery)

What information are you interested in learning more about at our parish? **(Multiple responses allowed)**

- 64% Parish groups and activities
- 50% Comments from our pastor
- 46% Highlights on parishioners
- 57% Information on the finances of the parish
- 20% Diocesan-wide news
- 43% Information of general Catholic interest
- 46% Explanations of specific Catholic teachings
- 4% Other

Do you use our parish's website?

- 32% Yes
- 68% No

If not, why not?

- No Computer (22)
- Use Other Sources (14)
- Website Not Updated (13)

I enjoy the new format of the Catholic Times.

- 79% Yes
- 21% No

How much of the Newsletter, Catholic Times and Bulletin do you read?

	All	Some	Very little	None
Newsletter	63%	29%	5%	3%
Catholic Times	26%	40%	21%	13%
Bulletin	83%	13%	1%	4%

In your words, what do you think Stewardship is?

- Time, Talent, & Treasure (65)
- Support the Parish (27)
- Giving Back (13)

Stewardship has had a positive impact on the parish.

- 31% Strongly agree
- 17% Neutral
- 1% Strongly Disagree
- 49% Agree
- 2% Disagree

The insights of Stewardship have had a positive impact on my spiritual way of life.

- 20% Strongly agree
- 28% Neutral
- 1% Strongly Disagree
- 49% Agree
- 2% Disagree

# Parish School of Religion (K - 8)

*The questions in the shaded area were answered only if one's child/children are currently enrolled in our Parish School of Religion (PSR) program.*

How would you rate the quality of instruction that our students receive in our PSR program?

- 25% Excellent
- 69% Good
- 0% Adequate
- 6% Fair
- 0% Poor

Do you believe that the instruction provided by our PSR program is in line with the teaching of the Catholic Church?

- 93% Yes
- 0% No
- 7% Somewhat
- 0% Unsure

What do you like most about our PSR program?

**(Multiple responses allowed)**

- 64% Director, staff and catechists
- 18% The families involved
- 73% The children/families learn about their faith
- 45% Meeting times
- 0% Other

How do you think we can improve our PSR program?

**(Multiple responses allowed)**

- 40% Get the parents more involved
- 0% Change the time
- 40% More training and support for the teachers
- 40% Improve the curriculum
- 30% Other

# St. Dominic School (Pre-K - 8)

Having a Catholic school is a vital part of St. Anthony's mission as a parish.

- 69% Strongly agree
- 18% Agree
- 9% Neutral
- 1% Disagree
- 3% Strongly disagree

Do you have children in Pre-K through 8th grade living in your home?

- 21% Yes
- 79% No

If you have children in Pre-K through 8th grade living in your home, where do they attend school?

- 62% St. Dominic School
- 0% Other Private School
- 32% Public School
- 6% Home School

If you currently have children in Pre-K through 8th grade in your household and they do not attend St. Dominic, what is the reason that they don't attend?

- 14% Transportation is a problem
- 43% More academic options at other school
- 29% Catholic education is not a family priority
- 0% Cost (I would rather put my money to use in other ways)
- 0% Cost (I cannot afford to send my child[ren] to Catholic schools)
- 14% Other

Are you aware that St. Dominic has a tuition assistance program for those in need?

- 92% Yes
- 8% No



Are you satisfied with your FAMILY'S level of involvement in School Activities?

- 30% Satisfied with current level of involvement
- 7% Would like to become more involved
- 63% Not applicable

*The questions in the shaded area were answered only if one's children currently enrolled at St. Dominic School.*

How would you rate the quality of EDUCATION that our students currently receive at St. Dominic?

- 56% Excellent      4% Fair
- 33% Good          0% Poor
- 7% Adequate

How receptive is the FACULTY to meeting your needs?

- 63% Very receptive
- 29% Somewhat receptive
- 4% Neutral/No experience
- 0% Unreceptive
- 4% Very unreceptive

Do you believe that the children who attend St. Dominic are receiving good Catholic moral development?

- 92% Yes
- 4% No
- 4% Somewhat
- 0% Unsure

What do you like most about St. Dominic School? **(Multiple responses allowed)**

- 79% Great teachers
- 83% The daily emphasis on Christian life
- 79% Catholic education
- 79% Builds community
- 13% Other

How do you think we can improve St. Dominic School? **(Multiple responses allowed)**

- 50% Increase the communication with the parents
- 25% Improve the curriculum
- 35% More training for teachers
- 35% Increase the emphasis on Catholic Faith
- 25% Other

# Outreach

Do you believe that St. Anthony does a good job reaching out to the following groups:

	Yes	No	Unsure
Active Parishioners	81%	4%	16%
Inactive Parishioners	12%	15%	73%
New Parishioners	49%	9%	41%
Shut-in Parishioners	53%	4%	43%
Non-Catholic Spouses	12%	18%	70%
The Local Community	43%	11%	46%
The Poor	40%	3%	57%
Other Christian Churches	14%	9%	77%
Other Religions	8%	10%	82%

What more can we do as a parish to reach out to those in need? **(Multiple responses allowed)**

- 56% Increase communications about parish ministries
- 60% Encourage more parishioner participation
- 45% Be more welcoming
- 56% Get more involved in the community
- 10% Other

# Stewardship

What is your perception of Stewardship (Time, Talent, and Treasure) when it is discussed?

- 68% Accept it as a core Gospel value and carry it out in my life
- 1% Don't really understand what it means
- 26% Think it's important, but find it hard to implement
- 3% Believe it's not applicable in my life
- 3% Believe that it's just another way to discuss fundraising

## Stewardship of Time

How often does your family share a meal?

- 75% Daily
- 18% Several days a week
- 3% Once a week
- 3% Less than once a week

*continued on page 6*

Do you say grace before meals?  
77% Yes 23% No

If you have children at home, do you pray with them on a daily basis (in addition to grace before meals)?  
39% Yes 61% No

If you are married, do you pray with your spouse on a daily basis (in addition to grace before meals)?  
23% Yes 77% No

In addition to Sunday Mass and grace before meals, how often do you set aside time for personal prayer?  
74% Daily  
17% Weekly  
1% Monthly  
4% Every few months  
0% Yearly  
4% Never

If you have children, do you discuss vocations (Religious Life, Single Life, Married Life) within your family?  
54% Yes 46% No

### Stewardship of Talent

In how many parish ministries, committees, programs or events are you actively involved?  
20% 0 15% 1  
19% 2 18% 3  
27% 4 or more

Beyond participating in weekly Masses, how do you rate your involvement in St. Anthony parish and school functions?  
18% Very involved  
25% Moderately involved  
34% Somewhat involved  
18% Rarely involved  
4% Never involved

What single reason (if any) has most prevented you from more participation in parish ministries?  
2% Not interested in what the parish offers  
21% Health issues  
7% Usually unaware of opportunities within the parish  
42% Not enough time due to family and work responsibilities  
2% Transportation  
7% Haven't yet made the effort to get involved  
0% Lack of baby-sitting services  
4% Negative experience  
2% With Staff 2% With Parishioner  
15% Other

Are you satisfied with your PERSONAL level of involvement in parish ministries?  
75% Satisfied with my current level of involvement  
25% Would like to become more involved

Are you satisfied with your FAMILY'S level of involvement in parish ministries?  
54% Satisfied with current level of involvement  
19% Would like to become more involved  
27% Not applicable

At what times would you most likely be able to attend parish functions? (**Multiple responses allowed**)  
16% Saturday mornings 31% Saturday evenings  
30% After the Sunday Mass I attend 25% Sunday evenings  
16% Weekday mornings 47% Weekday evenings  
17% Weekday afternoons

### Stewardship of Treasure

Each parishioner is responsible for supporting our parish financially.  
67% Strongly agree  
29% Agree  
4% Neutral  
0% Disagree  
0% Strongly disagree

How often do you make financial contributions to St. Anthony?

- 57% Every week
- 5% Every other week
- 16% Once a month
- 13% Monthly (for all the weeks in the month)
- 1% Never
- 7% Other

How do you determine the amount you contribute in the offertory collection?

- 28% I give a certain dollar amount based on a percentage of my income.
- 49% I have chosen a certain dollar amount in some other way.
- 0% I base the amount on what I think the parish needs.
- 11% I give whatever I can afford that week.
- 10% I don't have a system that determines how much I give.
- 1% I don't financially support the parish.
- 1% Other

The engagement of Stewardship in our parish has led me to change my habits on how I share time, talent and treasure.

	Yes	No
Time	65%	35%
Talent	61%	39%
Treasure	70%	30%

Why or why hasn't it changed your habits?

- More Aware Now (12)
- Have Always Done (9)
- Health Issues (7)

What is your perception of our parish's current financial position?

- 1% We are easily able to pay our operating bills and put aside money in savings.
- 7% We are easily able to pay our operating bills.
- 42% We barely generate enough revenue to pay our operating bills.
- 31% We are not generating enough revenue to pay our operating bills.
- 17% I am unaware of the state of our parish finances.
- 2% We would have enough money but we spend it on unnecessary things.

## Demographics

Gender

- 15% Male 42% Female
- 42% Husband and Wife Completed Together

Marital Status (**Check one**)

- 6% Single 73% Married
- 16% Widowed 4% Divorced
- 1% Separated

Age (**You may check more than one box if husband and wife completed the survey together**)

- 2% 18-29 15% 30-39
- 8% 40-49 18% 50-59
- 31% 60-69 36% 70+

How long have you been a registered parishioner at St. Anthony?

- 4% 0-1 year 11% 2-3 years
- 8% 4-5 years 9% 6-10 years
- 68% More than 10 years

## General Information

The things I like best about St. Anthony Parish are...

- Parishioners (32)
- Welcoming Atmosphere (25)
- Clergy (21)

I wish St. Anthony would...

- Suggestions for Involvement/Outreach (21)
- Suggestions for Ministries & Activities (15)
- Suggestions for Mass (13)

# ST. ANTHONY of PADUA

2223 St. Anthony Rd.  
Quincy, IL 62305  
217-222-5996

Return Service Requested

WWW.STANTHONYPADUA.ORG

DAILY MASS: MON, TUE, & THU - 7:30 A.M.

SATURDAY: 4:00 P.M. & 6:30 P.M.

SUNDAY: 8:00 A.M. & 10:30 A.M.

CONFESSIONS: SATURDAY 5:15 - 6:15 P.M.

## 2019 Parish Survey Results *continued from front cover*

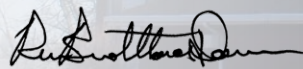
The second and third items come from comparison between the surveys in 2016 and 2019. Amazingly, almost all indicators of parish health and vitality showed improvement between the surveys, but two areas that showed little progress were in the Stewardship pillars of Christian Formation and Prayer. On page 2, we see that only 18 percent of our survey respondents have replied that they have been involved in Adult Faith Formation in the last three years. And of those that did participate, only about  $\frac{2}{3}$  found it a "good experience." On page 6, we see that while  $\frac{3}{4}$  of respondents pray before meals, that number is almost halved in homes with children. Further, only 23 percent of spouses make a habit of praying together. The results in 2019 are not much different than what we received in 2016. While all other areas of stewardship have been growing in our parish, these two areas have remained stagnant. Thus it will be a challenge for me and parish staff, as well as a challenge for all of our parishioners, to make an effort to be more intentional and diligent about making Adult Christian Formation and Prayer a shared priority.

While I am not sure yet how we will make progress in these areas, I suspect that we will need to think beyond the traditional

models of a program that meets on certain nights, like RCIA or *The Bible Timeline*, or simply announcing opportunities for confessions or devotions or other prayer activities. We must be a parish that develops resources and leaders to host and facilitate small groups of various affinities and interests. We must invite and encourage newcomers to become active in the devotional life of the Church. We must provide instruction and formation on how to pray in a way that enhances intimacy within families and among spouses, leading them to an even more fruitful encounter with our Sacramental Lord at Sunday Mass.

If we embrace this opportunity to be formed by these two pillars of stewardship, I am excited to consider what kind of parish we might be in three more years!

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Fr. Tom Donovan  
Pastor

To learn more about stewardship at St. Anthony of Padua, please contact the Stewardship Committee at [stanthonystewardship2015@gmail.com](mailto:stanthonystewardship2015@gmail.com).