A LETTER FROM OUR PASTOR
The Results of our Parish Survey

Dear Parishioners,

We recently conducted a comprehensive parish survey to give all parishioners an opportunity to express their views regarding parish life, stewardship, religious education, worship, outreach and many other subjects. Thanks to your responses, this survey was a success! In total, 974 parish households completed a survey, giving us many insights about parish life. These insights included many positive and constructive comments. The survey responses were entered into a database, and the results are what you see here in this newsletter.

In the coming year, these results will help us to constructively address the needs of our parish community. Please take a few moments to look through these results. They will give you a clearer vision of how the parish as a whole responded to each specific question.

The information not detailed in these published results includes the hundreds of responses that parishioners gave to several open-ended questions. There are far too many to include in this report. However, we assure you that these verbatim responses are being reviewed and evaluated.

Thank you again for your participation in our survey and for your commitment to living the Stewardship Way of Life at American Martyrs.

In Christ,


Parish Life

What is your perception of your role as a member of American Martyrs? (Multiple responses possible)
- 90% To attend Mass
- 82% Support the parish financially
- 78% Participate/volunteer in ministries and social activities
- 69% Share my faith with others
- 10% Other (94 written responses collected; top four categories listed)
  - Be an Example to Others
  - All of the Above
  - To Be a Part of a Community
  - Social Justice

I see myself as responsible for the welcoming spirit of the parish.
- 39% Strongly Agree
- 45% Agree
- 14% Neutral
- 1% Disagree
- <1% Strongly Disagree

How welcome do you feel in our parish?
- 70% Very Welcome
- 21% Somewhat Welcome
- 7% Neutral
- 2% Unwelcome
- 1% Very Unwelcome

In your experience, how responsive is our PASTOR to your needs and requests?
- 69% Very responsive
- 14% Somewhat responsive
- 7% Neutral
- 2% Unresponsive
- 1% Very unresponsive
- 7% N/A

In your experience, how responsive is the PARISH OFFICE STAFF to your needs and requests?
- 59% Very responsive
- 20% Somewhat responsive
- 9% Neutral
- 1% Unresponsive
- <1% Very unresponsive
- 11% N/A

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How do you feel each of the following leadership bodies manage the needs of the parish?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Excellent</th>
<th>Good</th>
<th>Poor</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Priests</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deacons</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parish Staff</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance Council</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pastoral Council</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Rank how you would prefer to receive parish information (*1* being *your most preferred form of communication*).

1. Bulletin
2. Email
3. Announcements at Mass
4. Web site
5. Newsletter
6. Facebook
7. Twitter

Have you received monthly issues of *Our Faith in Action* newsletter?

90% Yes 10% No

If you have received *Our Faith in Action* newsletter, did you enjoy the content?

90% Yes 10% No

How would you prefer to receive *Our Faith in Action*: *(Multiple responses possible)*

57% Online (via email or some other electronic delivery)
50% Print (current medium used)

Do you use an iPad for reading news or other publications?

46% Yes 54% No

What information do you want included in our monthly newsletter? *(Multiple responses possible)*

89% Articles about parish groups and activities
83% Comments from our pastor
66% Explanations of specific Catholic teachings
62% Articles of general Catholic interest
55% Highlights on various parishioners
53% Information on the finances of the parish
46% Diocesan-wide news
7% Other

Do you visit the American Martyrs website?

82% Yes 18% No

If you responded ‘Yes’, what information do you look for when you visit the website?

73% Upcoming Events
70% Parish Calendar
45% Event Registration Links
38% Ministry Information
37% Mass Times
12% Other *(99 written responses collected; top three categories listed)*

– Bulletin
– Contact Information
– Pastor’s Message

Have you visited the American Martyrs Facebook page?

22% Yes 78% No

Have you read Monsignor Barry’s posts?

32% Yes, occasionally 59% No
9% Yes, daily

The parish contracts with Time Warner to broadcast Sunday Mass for those who can no longer worship in person. Do you use Time Warner as your cable company?

17% Yes 83% No

If yes, do you currently view the Mass on Time Warner?

3% Yes 97% No

If you didn’t know this was an option, would you now view the Mass on Time Warner?

15% Yes 85% No

**Stewardship**

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

56% Accept it as a core Gospel value and carry it out in my life
30% Think it’s important, but find it hard to implement
10% Don’t really understand what it means
8% Feel that it’s just another way to discuss fundraising
3% Feel it’s not applicable in my life

**Stewardship of Time**

How often does your family share a meal?

58% Daily
30% Several days a week
6% Once a week
6% Less than once a week
Do you say grace before meals?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>65%</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you have children at home, do you pray with them on a daily basis (in addition to grace before meals)?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>54%</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you are married, do you pray with your spouse on a daily basis (in addition to grace before meals)?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14%</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In addition to Sunday Mass and grace before meals, how often do you set aside time for personal prayer?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Daily</th>
<th>Monthly</th>
<th>Weekly</th>
<th>Every few months</th>
<th>Yearly</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>61%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you have children, do you discuss religious vocations within your family?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>41%</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Stewardship of Talent**

In how many parish ministries, committees, programs or events are you and your family actively involved?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>4 or more</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>19%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Beyond participating in weekly Masses and grace before meals, how often do you and your family rate your involvement in American Martyrs?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Very involved</th>
<th>Moderately involved</th>
<th>Somewhat involved</th>
<th>Rarely involved</th>
<th>Never involved</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What single reason (if any) has most prevented you and your family from more participation in parish ministries?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Not enough time due to family and work responsibilities</th>
<th>Haven’t yet made the effort to get involved</th>
<th>Health issues</th>
<th>Usually unaware of opportunities within the parish</th>
<th>Lack of babysitting services</th>
<th>Not interested in what the parish offers</th>
<th>Transportation</th>
<th>Other (126 written responses collected; top three categories listed)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>56%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>- Feel Disconnected/Unwelcome</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Very Involved Already/Satisfied</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Time</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Are you satisfied with your PERSONAL level of involvement in parish ministries?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Satisfied with my current level of involvement</th>
<th>Would like to become more involved</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>68%</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Are you satisfied with your FAMILY’S level of involvement in parish ministries?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Satisfied with current level of involvement</th>
<th>Would like to become more involved</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>65%</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

At what times would you and your family most likely be able to attend parish functions? (Multiple responses possible)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>After the Mass I attend</th>
<th>Weekday evenings</th>
<th>Saturday mornings</th>
<th>Sunday evenings</th>
<th>Saturday evenings</th>
<th>Weekday mornings</th>
<th>Weekday afternoons</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>52%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Stewardship of Treasure**

Each parishioner is responsible for supporting our parish financially.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strongly agree</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Strongly disagree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>56%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

How often do you make financial contributions to American Martyrs?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Every week</th>
<th>Monthly (for all the weeks in the month)</th>
<th>Once a month</th>
<th>Every other week</th>
<th>Never</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>61%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Other (113 written responses collected; top three categories listed)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- When I Attend Mass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Annually</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- When I’m Able/Afford It</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

My household’s gross annual financial contribution to the parish represents:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>0% of my annual income</th>
<th>1% - 2% of my annual income</th>
<th>3% - 4% of my annual income</th>
<th>5% - 6% of my annual income</th>
<th>7% - 8% of my annual income</th>
<th>9% - 10% of my annual income</th>
<th>11% or more of my annual income</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
How do you determine the amount you contribute in the collection?

57%  I have chosen a certain dollar amount in some other way.
15%  I give whatever I can afford that week.
13%  I don’t have a system that determines how much I give.
12%  I give a certain dollar amount based on a percentage of my income.
 2%   I don’t financially support the parish.
 1%   I base the amount on what I think the parish needs.

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

52%  We are easily able to pay our operating bills and put aside money in savings.
27%  We are easily able to pay our operating bills.
19%  I am unaware of the state of our parish finances.
 2%   We barely generate enough revenue to pay our operating bills.
<1%   We are not generating enough revenue to pay our operating bills.

Outreach

Do you serve in ministry outside of the parish?

27%  Yes
74%  No

Do you feel that American Martyrs does a good job reaching out to the following groups:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Active Parishioners</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Poor</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Local Community</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Parishioners</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shut-in Parishioners</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Christian Churches</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Religions</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Catholic Spouses</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inactive Parishioners</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

58%  Encourage more parishioner participation
48%  Increase communications about parish ministries
29%  Be more welcoming
22%  Other (157 written responses collected; top three categories listed)
   - Doing a great job already
   - More communication about outreach opportunities
   - Unsure

Liturgy

Where do you and your family regularly attend Mass?

95%  American Martyrs
 5%   Another church

How often do you attend Mass at American Martyrs?

52%  Every weekend
23%  Every weekend and some weekdays
17%  Occasional weekends (once/twice a month)
 3%   Every weekend and every weekday
 3%   Seasonally (Christmas, Easter, etc.)
 2%   I no longer attend Mass
<1%   We are not generating enough revenue to pay our operating bills.

Which Mass at American Martyrs do you most frequently attend?

27%  Sunday, 9:30 a.m.
22%  Sunday, 5:00 p.m.
18%  Saturday, 5:00 p.m.
13%  Sunday, 8:00 a.m.
12%  Sunday, 11:30 a.m.
 7%   Sunday, 7:00 a.m.

Please indicate how well the following liturgical ministers enhance your experience at Mass.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minister</th>
<th>Excellent</th>
<th>Good</th>
<th>Fair</th>
<th>Improvement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Altar Servers</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deacons</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eucharistic Ministers</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greeters</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lectors</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Priest</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ushers</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The music at the Mass I attend enhances my experience at Mass.

54%  Strongly agree
28%  Agree
13%  Neutral
 3%  Disagree
 1%  Strongly Disagree

Do you have any suggestions to help enhance our Sunday liturgies? (465 written responses collected; top three categories listed)

- Music
- Homilies
- No
Adult Enrichment

Have you attended a Faith Formation program at American Martyrs in the last five years?

- 39% Yes
- 61% No

If you have attended a Faith Formation program at American Martyrs in the last five years, was it a good experience?

- 98% Yes
- 2% No

If you haven’t attended a Faith Formation program at American Martyrs in the last five years, would you consider attending one in the future?

- 56% Yes
- 44% No

If you would like to attend a Faith Formation program, what areas would you be most likely to participate in?

(Multiple responses possible)

- 54% Practical Ways of Growing in Faith and Prayer
- 45% Scriptures/Bible Study
- 43% Retreats
- 42% Church Teachings
- 31% Ethics and Morality
- 29% Small Faith Sharing Groups
- 26% Marriage
- 7% Other

Parish School

Having a parish school is a vital part of American Martyrs mission as a parish.

- 77% Strongly agree
- 16% Agree
- 6% Neutral
- 1% Disagree
- 1% Strongly disagree

Are you aware that American Martyrs School has a tuition assistance program for those in need?

- 65% Yes
- 35% No

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

- 36% Yes
- 64% No

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

- 70% American Martyrs School
- 29% Public School
- 6% Other Private School
- <1% Home School

If you currently have children in K through 8th grade in your household and they do not attend American Martyrs School, what is the reason that they don’t attend?

- 28% More academic options at other school
- 27% Cost (I cannot afford to send my child[ren] to Catholic schools)
- 9% Cost (I would rather put my money to use in other ways)
- 7% Catholic education is not a family priority
- 1% Transportation is a problem
- 61% Other (60 written responses collected; top four categories listed)
  - Denied Admission/Waitlisted
  - Public School
  - Wish Children Could Attend
  - Not Enough Options

The shaded are responses for those who have children currently enrolled in our Parish School.

How would you rate the quality of EDUCATION that our students currently receive at American Martyrs School?

- 42% Excellent
- 47% Good
- 9% Adequate
- 1% Fair
- 1% Poor

How receptive is the FACULTY to meeting your needs?

- 49% Very receptive
- 44% Somewhat receptive
- 3% Neutral/no experience
- 5% Unreceptive
- 0% Very unreceptive

Do you feel that the children who attend our parish school are receiving good Catholic moral development?

- 82% Yes
- 14% Somewhat
- 2% No
- 2% Unsure

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What do you like most about our parish school? (Multiple responses possible)

81% Catholic education
75% Builds community
70% The daily emphasis on Christian life
55% Great teachers
10% Other (24 written responses collected; top two categories listed)
  - Caring Community
  - Teachers

How do you think we can improve our parish school? (Multiple responses possible)

64% Improve the curriculum
35% More training for teachers
32% Increase the communication with the parents
15% Increase the emphasis on Catholic Faith
49% Other (119 written responses collected; top three categories listed)
  - Issues with Teachers
  - Issues with Behavior/Bullying
  - Improve Math/Sciences

Religious Education (K - 12)

Do you have school-aged children living in your home?
44% Yes 56% No

Is your child/children currently enrolled in our Parish SRE program?
24% Yes 76% No

What do you like most about our Parish SRE program? (Multiple responses possible)

73% That children/families learn about their faith
52% The catechists and staff
36% The families involved
13% Meeting times
10% Other (8 written responses collected; top category listed)
  - Patti Williams

How do you think we can improve our Parish SRE program? (Multiple responses possible)

47% Get the parents more involved
14% Change the time
53% More training and support for the teachers
39% Improve the curriculum
27% Other (20 written responses collected)

Youth Ministry

Do you have high school aged children living in your home?
33% Yes 67% No

Do your high school aged children regularly attend youth activities/programs at American Martyrs?
45% Occasionally 33% Never 23% Regularly

The shaded are responses for those who have children currently enrolled in our Youth Ministry program.

How would you rate the quality of the Youth Ministry program at American Martyrs?
18% Excellent
34% Good
33% Adequate
9% Fair
6% Poor

What do you like most about the Youth Ministry program? (Multiple responses possible)

57% The commitment and dedication of the staff
53% It involved the youth more in parish life
35% The Christian atmosphere in which they socialize
24% The variety of activities offered
11% Other

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Demographics

**Gender**
- 64% Female
- 36% Male

**Marital Status**
- 79% Married
- 10% Single
- 6% Divorced
- 5% Widowed
- 1% Separated

**What is your annual household income?**
- <1% $0 - $9,999
- 4% $10,000 - $29,999
- 7% $30,000 - $49,999
- 8% $50,000 - $74,999
- 10% $75,000 - $99,999
- 26% $100,000 - $199,999
- 24% $200,000 and above
- 22% Prefer not to answer

Age
- 2% 18-29
- 9% 30-39
- 29% 40-49
- 28% 50-59
- 18% 60-69
- 15% 70+

How do you think we can most improve the Youth Ministry program? (Multiple responses possible)
- 57% Increase the service opportunities
- 52% Get more youth involved
- 49% Improve the current activities
- 40% Offer more activities
- 37% Involve the youth in the parish more
- 36% Inform the parishioners more about the program
- 25% Other (20 written responses collected; top two categories listed)
  - Find out what teens really want
  - Make it more relatable to teens

How long have you attended Mass at American Martyrs?
- 3% 0 - 1 years
- 11% 2 - 5 years
- 15% 6 - 10 years
- 17% 11 - 15 years
- 13% 16 - 20 years
- 40% More than 20 years

How long have you been a registered parishioner at American Martyrs?
- 4% 0 - 1 years
- 11% 2 - 5 years
- 15% 6 - 10 years
- 18% 11 - 15 years
- 14% 16 - 20 years
- 38% More than 20 years

General Information

The things I like best about American Martyrs Catholic Community are...
(523 written responses collected; top three categories listed)
- Clergy
- Ministries/Activities in the Parish
- Sense of Belonging/Community

I wish American Martyrs would…
(392 written responses collected; top three categories listed)
- Suggestions for Additional Ministry Opportunities
- Be More Welcoming/Inclusive
- Suggestions for the School

How do you think we can most improve the Youth Ministry program? (Multiple responses possible)
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- 52% Get more youth involved
- 49% Improve the current activities
- 40% Offer more activities
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- 15% 6 - 10 years
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- 38% More than 20 years

General Information

The things I like best about American Martyrs Catholic Community are...
(523 written responses collected; top three categories listed)
- Clergy
- Ministries/Activities in the Parish
- Sense of Belonging/Community

I wish American Martyrs would…
(392 written responses collected; top three categories listed)
- Suggestions for Additional Ministry Opportunities
- Be More Welcoming/Inclusive
- Suggestions for the School
WHAT OUR SURVEY SAYS ABOUT AMERICAN MARTYRS

• The results from the survey show that American Martyrs is a vibrant faith community.

• Of those who attend Mass at American Martyrs regularly, 78% reported they attend at least each weekend, which is excellent!

• All liturgical ministers received very high scores from respondents.

• 90% of respondents felt strongly that to be a parishioner at American Martyrs one must “attend Mass.”

• The vast majority of respondents feel that SRE offers children quality instruction (84%) that is in line with Catholic teaching (91%).

• 93% of respondents feel that having a parish school is an important part of the parish’s mission.

• 98% of respondents who have attended an Adult Faith Formation program in the past five years indicated it was a positive experience.

• When asked for their perception of stewardship, 86% indicated they either “accept it as a Gospel value and carry it out in their lives” or “think it’s important but find it hard to implement.”