



Jesus Christ, Prince of Peace

2010 Parish Survey Report

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August 12, 2010

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"Seek counsel from every wise man, and do not think lightly of any advice that can be useful."
-Tobit 4:18:

Dear Fr. Ken:

Catholic Stewardship Consultants conducted a parish survey for Jesus Christ, Prince of Peace to better understand attitudes and perceptions about various areas of parish life.

Our primary aims were:

- To measure parishioners' understanding of Catholic stewardship — if it is a clear concept, if it is accepted, and how well it is practiced — so we can determine how to effectively develop stewardship at Prince of Peace.
- To collect parishioners' perceptions of certain parish programs and organizations so that parish life can continue to improve.
- To gather and analyze general demographic information such as age, marital status and income level to give leaders a better understanding of parishioners.
- To obtain general feedback from parishioners about parish life and make recommendations based on their responses.

To that end, we developed a self-administered survey containing nearly 100 questions. It was mailed to all 1,710 registered households in May/June 2010.

In the weeks following the mailing, the parish received 567 completed surveys to achieve a 33% response rate, which is almost three times the industry standard of 10% - 12%.

Given the population (1,710) and the number of surveys returned (567), we achieved a confidence level of 99% and a confidence interval of $\pm 4\%$. This means we are 99% sure that any given percentage with this response is accurate within ± 4 percentage points.

For example, in response to the question, "What is your perception of your role as a member of Jesus Christ, Prince of Peace?" 85% of respondents answered "Support the parish financially." If we were to speak with every active parishioner at Jesus Christ, Prince of Peace, we are 99% sure (confidence level) that between 81% and 89% ($\pm 4\%$ confidence interval) would state supporting the parish financially is one of the roles of parish membership.

The results from the survey show that Prince of Peace is a vibrant faith community. As we compared the results from this survey with other surveys we have conducted, it is clear that parishioners of Prince of Peace have a strong loyalty to their parish.

However, the results do show various areas in need of improvement. We offer a number of recommendations in specific areas for the consideration of parish leaders.

As a supplement to the actual survey results and our analysis, the raw data collected is also included in a series of appendices at the conclusion of this report.

We are confident the information in this report will help direct Prince of Peace as it continues to develop a strong community. Thank you for the opportunity to serve the parish.

Sincerely in Christ,

Catholic Stewardship Consultants, Inc.

Tommy Rose
Client Manager



Liturgy

Results and Recommendations

- 97% of those who completed the survey said that they regularly attend Mass at Jesus Christ, Prince of Peace, with 89% reporting they attend every weekend. Reported Mass attendance was as follows:

Mass Time	Attendance
Saturday 5:00 p.m.	37%
Sunday 8:00 a.m.	26%
Sunday 10:30 a.m.	29%
Sunday 6:00 p.m.	8%

- The following chart shows how people who attend different Masses indicated that “the music at the Mass I attend enhances my prayer and worship.”

Mass Time	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Saturday 5:00 p.m.	40%	41%	12%	3%	1%
Sunday 8:00 a.m.	37%	42%	17%	1%	1%
Sunday 10:30 a.m.	41%	39%	15%	4%	0%
Sunday 6:00 p.m.	49%	38%	11%	0%	0%

- 98% of those who completed the survey stated that they do not attend the Spanish Mass on the 2nd Sunday of the month.
- All of the Liturgical ministers received high marks from parishioners. The Priests received the highest marks, while the Deacons and the Ushers received the lowest marks:

“Excellent” or “Good”	Liturgical Ministry
98%	Priests
87%	Deacons
89%	Lectors
87%	Ushers
88%	Altar Servers
93%	Eucharistic Ministers
92%	Cantors
92%	Music Ministry

- When asked to give suggestions that will enhance Sunday liturgies at the parish, 29 people made comments about improving music at Mass, while 13 others had concerns about Mass length. Other respondents suggested improvements to the liturgical ministers (18 responses).
- There were numerous comments about the liturgy in response to the question “I wish Prince of Peace would...” There were requests for enhancements to the liturgies, as well as comments about the music at Mass. 55 people made comments about changes or improvements to the Mass schedule.

LITURGY RECOMMENDATIONS

- The marks given to the music ministry are amongst the highest of any parish we have worked with. The music ministers should be commended on their efforts.
- Liturgical ministries received many good marks. They should frequently be thanked for their service.



- The top two statements parishioners gave that best express their perception of their role as a member of the parish are:
 1. To attend Mass (96%)
 2. To support the parish financially (85%)
- Only 51% of respondents felt that participating in ministries and volunteering was one of their roles as a member of the parish.
- When asked how responsive the priests are to meeting parishioners' needs and requests, 81% of those surveyed indicated "very responsive" or "somewhat responsive," while only 1% responded negatively. 17% chose "neutral."
- 80% of respondents indicated that the staff was "very responsive" or "somewhat responsive" when responding to parishioners' needs and requests. Only 1% indicated that the parish office staff was "unresponsive" or "very unresponsive." 20% chose "neutral."
- The most popular topics parishioners want to read about in the monthly newsletter include "articles about parish groups and activities" (81%), "comments from our pastor" (81%), and "information on the finances of the parish" (70%).
- The top two communication tools that work best for respondents and their families to receive parish information are the bulletin (39%) and the newsletter (29%). Although the website and Facebook received low marks, it will become more important as time goes on.

PARISH LIFE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. Because barely half of those who returned a survey felt that participating in ministries and volunteering was one of their roles as parishioners, seek to educate them in the importance of service within the parish. Additionally, this could also point to a lack of availability of volunteer opportunities, so seek to increase those as well.**
- 2. The parish priests and parish office staff received positive marks from parishioners and should be commended.**
- 3. The parish bulletin and parish newsletter are well-received by parishioners. Prince of Peace should continue to use these tools to help inform, educate and motivate its parishioners on a consistent basis. Based on the responses from parishioners, continue to incorporate "articles about parish groups and activities" (81%), "comments from our pastor" (81%) and "information on the finances of the parish" (70%).**
- 4. As part of your comprehensive strategy to communicate with parishioners, review the way you use electronic media such as e-mail and the web site. E-mail should be considered as a way to communicate with specific groups and the parish at large. It is also clear that the website could use updating to make it more interesting to parish families.**



Adult Religious Education

Results and Recommendations

- 29% of parishioners said they have attended an Adult Religious Education program. This compares lower than the national average of 37%.
- 81% of respondents indicated that when they attended an Adult Religious Education, it was a positive experience.
- 39% of parishioners who have not attended an Adult Religious Education program in the past indicated they would consider attending one in the future.
- Parishioners expressed the most interest in “Scripture/Bible Study” (58%) They were almost as interested in “Practical Ways of Growing in Faith and Prayer” (52%) and “Church Teachings” (46%).



ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. We recommend that Jesus Christ, Prince of Peace make Adult Religious Education a top priority. 39% of respondents who have not attended an Adult Religious Education program in the past indicated they would consider attending one in the future, which shows good potential for increased adult involvement. The parish should begin or expand classes in Scripture/Bible Study, Practical Ways in Growing in Faith and Prayer and Church Teachings.**
- 2. Since 39% of the respondents stated that “family and work responsibilities” impede their involvement in parish ministries, consider offering more short courses (perhaps lasting 4-6 weeks) on particular topics. Make an effort to enhance and expand any classes, study groups, and lectures that focus on the three areas that had the highest interest.**
- 3. Based on the results of this survey, the best times to schedule Adult Religious Education events would be after Masses (44%) and weekday evenings (42%). Consider incorporating a meal prior to some sessions and providing childcare for families with young children. To serve senior parishioners, Prince of Peace may wish to consider sessions during weekday mornings and early afternoons. New opportunities for Adult Religious Education need to be heavily advertised and explained in the bulletin, from the pulpit and in the newsletter. In addition, personal invitations should be extended to parishioners as often as possible.**



Religious Ed (K-9) & Parish Youth Group

Results and Recommendations — Religious Education (Kindergarten - 9)

- 82% rated the quality of instruction in the Religious Education Programs as “excellent” or “good.” 6% thought it was fair or poor.
- 66% of respondents feel that children attending Religious Education programs receive good Catholic moral development, while only 8% answered “no.” 18% chose “somewhat,” while only 8% answered “unsure.”
- The top responses to the question, “What do you like most about our Religious Education programs?” were “the catechists and staff” (66%) and “the children/families learn about their faith” (59%).
- The top suggestions for ways to improve the Religious Education programs were “get the parents more involved” (56%) and “more training and support for the teachers” (49%).
- 46% of respondents cited “cost” as their reason for not sending their dependents to Religious Education or to the parish school.

CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. The overall marks given to the Religious Education program were favorable; however, religious education programs can always be stronger. The parish needs to reduce the number of parents who feel the program is “adequate, fair or poor” (18%) and those who are unsure or don't think children are receiving good Catholic moral development (16%). Finding ways to increase parental involvement and providing more training and support for the teachers will improve the program.**

Results and Recommendations — Parish Youth Group

- Only 9% of respondents indicated they have children in high school living in their homes.
- Of those, 13% of parents stated their high school children regularly attend Youth Ministry.
- 86% of parents with children involved rated Youth Ministry as “Excellent” or “Good” while 10% rated it “adequate” or “fair” 5% rated it poor.
- 89% of respondents feel that the children who attend the Parish Youth Group programs are receiving good Catholic moral development.
- The top responses to the question “What do you like most about our Parish Youth Group” were, “It involves the youth more in parish life” (54%) and “The Christian atmosphere in which they socialize” (50).
- Parents' top recommendation for improvement was to “Involve the youth in the parish more” (58%) and “Get more youth involved” (58%).

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. The High School Youth Group needs improvement. The percentage of participation was below average, while the parents' assessment of the program was above average.**
- 2. Use your parish database to identify families with high-school aged children, then make an effort to personally contact those families and invite their participation.**
- 3. If the Youth Ministry does not already engage in service projects, we recommend that they do so. We have seen service projects as a significant factor in successful youth programs. Any projects should be reported to the entire parish, which builds community support and attracts more young people to become involved.**
- 4. We recommend the parish invites young adults to participate in leadership roles, which often makes it more appealing to high school youth.**



Outreach

Results and Recommendations

- The chart below shows the results to the question, “Do you feel Jesus Christ, Prince of Peace Catholic Church does a good job reaching out to the following groups?”

Outreach Ministry	Yes	No	Unsure
Active Parishioners	80%	5%	15%
Inactive Parishioners	16%	22%	62%
New Parishioners	49%	6%	45%
Non-Catholic Spouses	12%	20%	68%
The Local Community	57%	8%	35%
The Poor	62%	7%	32%
Other Christian Churches	40%	7%	54%
Other Religions	27%	8%	64%

- When asked how to reach out to those in need, “Be more welcoming” (48%) and “Increase communications about parish ministries” (46%) were the top two responses.
- There were many comments about improving various outreach ministries in “I wish Prince of Peace would...”



OUTREACH RECOMMENDATIONS

- It is clear that a many parishioners are unaware how Prince of Peace reaches out to others. Parish outreach ministries need to be promoted more frequently to the parish at large. We suggest not only utilizing internal communication tools, but also diocesan and local newspapers as well.**
- Respondents feel the parish is doing a good job reaching out to active parishioners, the poor and the local community. Staff and parish volunteers working in these areas should be commended.**
- Respondents indicated that Prince of Peace needs the most improvement in reaching out to inactive parishioners and non-Catholic spouses. Our recommendation is to develop formal plans designed to reach these groups. For instance, offer literature and workshops for non-Catholic spouses. Share any new initiatives with the parish at large to show you are being proactive in these areas.**
- Investigate national programs that reach out to inactive Catholics to determine if a particular model would work well at Prince of Peace. The web site www.CatholicsComeHome.com offers such resources. The Paulists have also launched a new initiative to reach inactive Catholics.**
- Review the way you welcome new families who join the parish. The most important thing you can do is to meet with the new family personally, then facilitate their involvement in ministries so they can begin interacting with other parishioners. If you don't already have an active welcoming ministry, begin one. Their efforts should be strongly supported and evaluated by the parish leadership and staff to ensure new parishioners are introduced into the life of the parish.**



Prince of Peace Preschool, Academy (K-8) & College Preparatory (9-12)

Results and Recommendations

- Of the parishioners who responded to the survey, 80% “strongly agree” or “agree” that supporting the Prince of Peace Catholic Education System is a vital part of our mission as a parish; only 6% disagreed.
- 17% of respondents have children in grades Pre-K through 12 living in their homes. Of those, 68% have at least one of their children to the Prince of Peace Catholic Education System. (33% to Prince of Peace Academy, 29% to Prince of Peace College Preparatory, and 6% to Prince of Peace Preschool). 58% have at least one child that goes to a school outside the Prince of Peace Catholic Education System.
- Of those who have dependents in grades Pre-K through 12 living in their homes but do not send their children to Prince of Peace Schools, 36% cited “cost” as the reason.
- 90% of parents feel their children attending Prince of Peace Preschool, Academy & Preparatory receive an “Excellent” or “Good” education.
- 90% of respondents view the administration and staff as “Very or Somewhat receptive”. Only 6% responded negatively.
- 82% of parents feel children attending Prince of Peace Preschool, Academy & College Preparatory are receiving good Catholic moral development.
- Parents cited “Catholic education” and “The daily emphasis on Christian life” as the top two things they like most about Catholic School system.
- The top suggestions parents gave as a way to improve Prince of Peace Preschool, Academy & College Preparatory was to “Increase the communication with the parents” (50%), “Other” (43%), and “More training for teachers” (33%). There were many good suggestions in the “other” response that should be reviewed.

PARISH SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. Parish support of the school is strong. 90% of parents say the quality of education is “excellent” or “good” and 82% agree that children are receiving good Catholic moral development at the school. The parish should be proud of the level of education and moral development being instilled in the students. Take every opportunity to promote the excellence of the school.**
- 2. According to the results of the survey, cost is a significant impediment for a large number of families. Because of this, the parish should consider additional ways to help households that need financial assistance.**
- 3. Half the responding parents suggested an increase in communication with the parents. The school administration should explore what changes need to be made.**
- 4. Many parishes are aware that significant numbers of school families do not regularly attend Sunday Mass. We recommend that this be addressed on a pastoral level. Some parishes require weekly envelope usage by school families if they are to receive a discounted tuition.**



Stewardship of Time & Talent

Results and Recommendations

- When asked for their perception of Stewardship, 80% indicated they either “accept it as a core Gospel value and carry it out in their lives” or “think it’s important but find it hard to implement.” This finding supports the parish’s decision to continue your current Stewardship initiatives.
- 67% of respondents share a meal daily with their family. 55% say grace before meals.
- For those who are married, 85% indicated they do not pray daily with their spouse at home. As for those with children, 75% stated they do not pray daily with their children (in addition to grace before meals).
- 71% of the respondents indicated that in addition to Sunday Mass and grace before meals, they set aside time for daily personal prayer.
- For those with children, 40% said they discuss religious vocations within their families
- 57% of respondents indicated they are currently active in at least one ministry. 60% indicated they are “Very, Moderately or Somewhat involved.”
- 39% of respondents cited “family and work responsibilities” as impeding more participation in parish ministries, a number that’s lower than the national average.
- When asked if they are satisfied with their current level of involvement in parish ministries, about one-fourth stated they would like to become more involved personally. Of those with families, only 24% indicated they would like their family to become more involved.
- Respondents are most likely to attend functions scheduled after the Mass they attend (44%) and weekday evenings (42%).

TIME AND TALENT RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. Based on the low numbers regarding family prayer, we strongly recommend that you emphasize the importance of practicing daily family prayer. This can be done through the newsletter, the bulletin, from the pulpit and any other communication vehicles. Our primary recommendation is that this be addressed in homilies on a more regular basis.**
- 2. In most surveys we conduct, the main impediment to greater involvement is family and work responsibilities. Because of this, great care should be taken in scheduling parish functions at times when busy families can participate. Based on the survey results, the best times to schedule events are after Masses and on weekday evenings. The parish should ensure childcare options are available to cover ministry meetings and functions so parents with younger children can attend. (Be sure to advertise the availability of childcare.) It is effective to schedule adult and child activities at the same time, especially between Sunday Mass times.**
- 3. There are three major ways to encourage people to become more involved in the parish:**
 - a. Increase the value people place on active parish membership, which occurs through deepened personal conversion and/or consistent stewardship education.**
 - b. Repeatedly offer concrete opportunities for involvement, most effectively through the parish-wide Stewardship Renewal.**
 - c. Personally invite new parishioners, and inactive or semi-active parishioners to functions or ministry meetings.****Consider developing a person-to-person “invitation network,” whereby active parishioners invite family, friends and other parishioners to events or ministry meetings. Personal invitation is by far the best way to increase involvement.**
- 4. Compared to other parishes, there is below average interest among parishioners to become more involved in ministries. We encourage parish leaders to develop more opportunities for involvement based on parishioners’ opinions expressed in this survey. Also, continue to emphasize that involvement in Jesus Christ, Prince of Peace is not only necessary for the growth of the parish family, but also personally and spiritually enriching.**
- 5. Consider imposing term limits on ministry leadership in order to bring new parishioners into ministries.**



Stewardship of Treasure

Results and Recommendations

- 91% of respondents agree with the statement that “each parishioner is responsible for supporting our parish financially.”
- 76% of parishioners stated they make financial contributions “every week,” or “monthly for all the weeks in the month.”
- Parishioners reported various ways of determining the amount of their contributions. 50% reported they have chosen a “certain dollar amount.” A low percentage (15%) indicated they base their offertory contribution on a percentage of their income.
- The following chart illustrates parish members’ perception of the church’s financial position:

Perception of Financial Position	Percentage
We are easily able to pay our operating bills and put aside money in savings.	15%
We are easily able to pay our operating bills.	32%
We barely generate enough revenue to pay our operating bills.	28%
We are not generating enough revenue to pay our operating bills.	4%
I am unaware of the state of our parish finances.	21%

TREASURE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. There are some positive results in this section, such as the 91% of parishioners who agree that each parishioner is responsible for supporting the parish financially. However, the parish needs to work on emphasizing percentage-based giving. This will be addressed during the annual Stewardship Renewal, but it also needs to be communicated throughout the year. Your goal should be to establish the tithe as a familiar benchmark for the parish community.**
- 2. Research shows that offertory giving is strengthened tremendously when parishioners write down their weekly or monthly commitment. The annual Stewardship Renewal will help to reduce haphazard giving habits. Based on experiences at other parishes, over time it also increases the amount of individuals’ gifts. In addition, we recommend the parish regularly encourage parishioners to use their envelopes.**
- 3. The majority of parishioners perceive that the parish is easily able to pay its operating expenses. We recommend that Prince of Peace begin including a periodic financial statement in the newsletter. It is best to include a paragraph of explanation next to any report, with reference to how income and expenses relate to the current budget.**
- 4. Generally, pastors speak too infrequently about money in the proper manner; that is, they speak too seldom about the wise and just management of financial resources, the negative effects of materialism, and the use of money in accord with scriptural teaching. We urge Fr. Ken and all homilists to preach a holistic message about the role of money in modern life, in which giving to the Church is presented matter-of-factly as a normal part of Christian money management.**



Demographics

GENDER	
Male	15%
Female	53%
Husband and wife together	32%

AGE (AVERAGE 60 YEARS)	
18-29	2%
30-39	4%
40-49	12%
50-59	18%
60-69	23%
70+	40%

ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME (AVERAGE \$44,595)	
\$0 - \$9,999	5%
\$10,000 - \$29,999	40%
\$30,000 - \$49,999	21%
\$50,000 - \$74,999	18%
\$75,000 - \$99,999	10%
\$100,000 - \$199,999	5%
\$200,000 and above	0%

MARITAL STATUS	
Married	62%
Widowed	22%
Single	9%
Divorced	6%
Separated	0%

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN A REGISTERED PARISHIONER?	
0 - 1 Year	4%
2 - 3 Years	3%
4 - 5 Years	3%
6 - 10 Years	5%
More than 10 years	85%

DO YOU HAVE DEPENDENTS LIVING IN YOUR HOME?	
Yes	21%
No	79%

RECOMMENDATIONS BASED ON DEMOGRAPHICS

1. 85% of respondents have been parishioners for 10 years or more, and only 7% stated they have been parishioners for three years or less. This is representative of a stable parish that has little turnover. A strong effort needs to be made in welcoming new parishioners and developing programs designed to make newcomers feel welcome and take ownership of the parish soon after they arrive.
2. The average annual household income of respondents is \$44,595. Continue to emphasize the principle of returning a percentage of income back to God.
3. Because of the high number of respondents 60 years and older (63%), we suggest conducting a thorough evaluation of how well the parish is reaching out and meeting the needs of seniors, as well as getting them involved in the life of the parish. Social, informative and inspirational programs, as well as spiritual care of shut-ins, should be a priority for the parish.



Open Forum

Results and Recommendations

- Parishioners were asked two open-ended questions that generated responses on a wide range of issues. In order to better understand the large number of responses, we read every comment and divided the answers into categories based on content.
- “The things I like best about Jesus Christ, Prince of Peace Catholic Church are...” (top comments)

Strengths...	Number of Comments
The Parishioners	139
Priests/Deacons/Religious	94
The Facilities	90
Spiritual/Sacrament Reasons	50

- “I wish Prince of Peace would...” (top comments)

Weaknesses...	Number of Comments
Change/Improve Parish Ministries	94
Change/Improve Grounds/Facilities	77
Change Mass Schedules	55
Finances	34

OPEN FORUM RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. Included in these responses were many well-conceived ideas, suggestions, and comments that should be carefully reviewed by the parish leadership. The responses to these two questions can be immensely valuable in addressing problems and gathering new ideas. However, because of the nature of some comments, the parish leaders who review this information need to keep it confidential.**
- 2. In response to the statement, “The things I like most about Jesus Christ, Prince of Peace Catholic Church are...” the top responses were the friendliness of the parishioners and the quality of the priests/deacons/religious. This is a good indication that a culture of hospitality already exists within the parish that can be expanded to include more parishioners.**
- 3. The responses to the question “I wish Prince of Peace would...” included comments on a wide range of issues. Most frequently suggested were to improve parish ministries, both inside and outside (outreach) of the parish.**



Summary of Conclusions

The parish survey successfully captured and opinions of a wide range of parishioners. Responses to questions are statistically significant, and give a fair representation of the views of active households. As such, the data should be seriously reviewed by parish leaders as an honest expression of parishioners' desires and needs.

At right is a list of our major recommendations, taken from the more expansive list of recommendations in the body of this report. These are based on the data in the survey, as well as our understanding of Catholic parishes in general, and of Jesus Christ, Prince of Peace in particular.

As with any survey, the information is valuable only insofar as follow-up actions are taken. One strategy is to make a list of all the small things that are relatively easy to change or improve. For example, several people suggested having breakfasts or donuts and coffee after Sunday Mass. This is fairly simple to begin, if you feel it is appropriate.

A more common approach for responding to the survey data is to try to identify larger areas of parish life that need adjustment. To guide your follow-up efforts, we recommend that parish leaders create a formal Strategic Plan. The Plan should include major goals and specific tasks, and also set deadlines and assign responsibilities. The document will help create unity of vision as you work together to make Jesus Christ, Prince of Peace an even more vibrant Stewardship Parish.

MAJOR RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Although liturgical ministries received high marks, they should be reviewed for quality, and efforts should be made to continue the high level of performance. Each Mass received similar marks from parishioners.
2. A high priority should be placed on continued Adult Religious Education opportunities, since so many respondents who haven't attended a Faith Formation function in the past responded they would attend in the future. Consider offering short courses (4-6 week obligations) instead of longer ones. Based on the survey data, you will be most successful in offering classes on Practical Ways to Grow in Faith and Prayer, Church Teachings and Bible Studies after Masses and on weekday evenings. Be sure to heavily promote any new efforts in this area.
3. Review the High School Youth Group and how it functions within the parish community. Use your parish database to identify families with children, and then make an effort to personally invite their participation. Be sure you have communicated opportunities to participate in the program to parents and youth.
4. Emphasize non-Catholic spouse inclusion in parish activities. This will strengthen the nuclear family while strengthening the parish family.
5. Implement a program to reach out to inactive Catholics. Several national organizations offer successful strategies.
6. Develop a robust process for welcoming new parishioners. This should include a personal welcome, as well as efforts to get the new family involved in specific ministries and activities.
7. Consistently encourage family prayer through homilies and other communication vehicles.
8. Continue to emphasize that involvement in Jesus Christ, Prince of Peace's ministries is not only necessary for the growth of the parish family, but also personally and spiritually enriching.
9. Be sure to maintain financial transparency. Communicate clearly with parishioners about parish income, expenses, and debt. Begin to include a monthly or quarterly financial report in the newsletter.
10. To support the older members, the parish should bolster its outreach efforts and ensure that all homebound parishioners are contacted on a regular basis, receive a visit and receive Communion if desired. In addition, we recommend that Prince of Peace implement additional senior adult programs that continue to meet the needs of seniors and that keep them involved in the life of the parish.





Appendix A Survey with Percentage Results



Please check only one response per question unless otherwise indicated and be sure to print.

Liturgy

Where do you and your family regularly attend Mass?

- 97% Jesus Christ, Prince of Peace Catholic Parish
- 3% Another parish

How often do you attend Mass at Prince of Peace?

- 9% Daily
- 80% Every weekend
- 7% Occasional weekends (once a month)
- 3% Seasonally (Christmas, Easter, etc.)
- 1% I no longer attend Mass

Which Mass at Prince of Peace do you most frequently attend?

- 37% Saturday, 5:00 p.m.
- 26% Sunday, 8:00 a.m.
- 29% Sunday, 10:30 a.m.
- 8% Sunday, 6:00 p.m.

Do you attend the Spanish Mass on the 2nd Sunday of the month at 3:00 p.m.?

- 2% Yes
- 98% No

The music at the Mass I attend enhances my prayer and worship.

- 40% Strongly agree
- 42% Agree
- 15% Neutral
- 3% Disagree
- 1% Strongly disagree

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

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Needs Improvement
Priests	69%	29%	1%	1%
Deacons	34%	53%	10%	2%
Lectors	31%	58%	10%	1%
Ushers	33%	54%	12%	2%
Altar Servers	32%	56%	11%	1%
Eucharistic Ministers	38%	55%	5%	1%
Cantors	38%	54%	8%	0%
Music Ministry	47%	45%	6%	2%

Do you have any other suggestions to help enhance our Sunday liturgies?

- Change/Improve Music (29 responses)
- Improve Liturgical Ministries (18 responses)
- Change/Adjust Mass Length (13 responses)

Parish Life

What is your perception of your role as a member of Jesus Christ, Prince of Peace? **(Check all that apply)**

- 96% To attend Mass
- 51% Participate in ministries and volunteer
- 85% Support the parish financially
- 62% Share my faith with others
- 5% Other _____

In your experience, how responsive are the PRIESTS to your needs and requests?

- 61% Very responsive
- 20% Somewhat responsive
- 17% Neutral/No Knowledge
- 1% Unresponsive
- 0% Very unresponsive

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

- 65% Very responsive
- 15% Somewhat responsive
- 20% Neutral/No knowledge
- 1% Unresponsive
- 0% Very unresponsive

What information do you want included in our upcoming monthly newsletters? **(Check all that apply)**

- 81% Articles about parish groups and activities
- 81% Comments from our pastor
- 41% Highlights on various parishioners
- 70% Information on the finances of the parish
- 25% Diocesan-wide news
- 47% Articles of general Catholic interest
- 44% Explanations of specific Catholic teachings
- 6% Other _____

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

- 91% Bulletin
- 68% Newsletter
- 8.5% Website
- 3% Facebook
- 0% Twitter
- 12% Email
- 54% Announcements at Mass
- 0% Too much communication already

Adult Religious Education

Have you ever attended an Adult Religious Education program at Prince of Peace Parish?

- 29% Yes
- 71% No

If you have attended an Adult Religious Education program at Prince of Peace, was it a good experience?

- 81% Yes
- 19% No

If you haven't attended an Adult Religious Education program at Prince of Peace, would you consider attending one in the future?

- 39% Yes
- 61% No

If you would like to attend an Adult Religious Education program, what areas would you be most likely to participate in? **(Check all that apply)**

- 46% Church Teachings
- 58% Scriptures/Bible Study
- 27% Ethics and Morality
- 18% Marriage
- 33% Small Faith Sharing Groups
- 52% Practical Ways of Growing in Faith and Prayer
- 23% Retreats
- 7% Finance and Budgeting
- 9% Parenting
- 8% Other _____

Religious Education (Kindergarten - 9)

Please answer the questions in the shaded area only if your child/children are currently enrolled in one of our Religious Education programs for children Kindergarten to 9th Grade.

How would you rate the quality of instruction that our students receive in the Religious Education Programs?

- 40% Excellent
- 42% Good
- 12% Adequate
- 3% Fair
- 3% Poor

Do you feel that the children who attend the Religious Education programs at Prince of Peace are receiving good Catholic moral development?

- 66% Yes
- 8% No
- 18% Somewhat
- 8% Unsure

What do you like most about our Religious Education programs? **(Check all that apply)**

- 66% The catechists and staff
- 31% The families involved
- 59% The children/families learn about their faith
- 10% Meeting times
- 2% Other _____

How do you think we can improve our Religious Education programs? **(Check all that apply)**

- 56% Get the parents more involved
- 9% Change the time to _____
- 49% More training and support for the teachers
- 44% Improve the curriculum
- 19% Other _____

If you currently have dependents in grades Kindergarten through 9 in your household and they do not attend Religious Education or Prince of Peace Academy & College Preparatory, what is the reason that they don't attend?

- 8% Transportation is a problem
- 8% Catholic education is not a family priority
- 46% Cost
- 38% Other _____

Parish Youth Group

Do you have children in high school (10th - 12th grade) living in your home?

- 9% Yes
- 91% No

If you have children in high school living in your home, do they regularly attend Parish Youth Group activities/programs at Prince of Peace Church?

- 13% Yes
- 88% No

Please answer the questions in the shaded area only if you have children who attend the Parish Youth Group at Prince of Peace Church.

How would you rate the quality of the Youth Group activities/programs?

- 38% Excellent
- 48% Good
- 5% Adequate
- 5% Fair
- 5% Poor

Do you feel that the children who attend the Parish Youth Group programs are receiving good Catholic moral development?

- 89% Yes
- 5% No
- 5% Somewhat
- 0% Unsure

What do you like most about our Parish Youth Group? **(Check all that apply)**

- 42% The commitment and dedication of the staff
- 46% The variety of activities offered
- 54% It involves the youth more in parish life
- 50% The Christian atmosphere in which they socialize
- 12% Other _____

How do you think we can most improve our Parish Youth Group? **(Check all that apply)**

- 58% Involve the youth in the parish more
- 45% Inform the parishioners more about the program
- 58% Get more youth involved
- 35% Offer more activities
- 28% Improve the current activities
- 31% Increase the service opportunities
- 10% Other _____

Outreach

Do you feel that Prince of Peace Parish does a good job reaching out to the following groups:

	Yes	No	Unsure
Active Parishioners	80%	5%	15%
Inactive Parishioners	16%	22%	62%
New Parishioners	49%	6%	45%
Non-Catholic Spouses	12%	20%	68%
The Local Community	57%	8%	35%
The Poor	62%	7%	32%
Other Christian Churches	40%	7%	54%
Other Religions	27%	8%	64%

What more can we do as a parish to reach out to those in need? **(Check all that apply)**

- 46% Increase communications about parish ministries
- 43% Encourage more parishioner participation
- 48% Be more welcoming
- 42% Get more involved in the community
- 9% Other _____

Prince of Peace Preschool, Academy (K-8) & College Preparatory (9-12)

Supporting the Prince of Peace Catholic Education System is a vital part of our mission as a parish.

- 42% Strongly agree
- 38% Agree
- 14% Neutral
- 4% Disagree
- 2% Strongly disagree

Do you have dependents in preschool through 12th grade living in your home?

- 17% Yes
- 83% No

If you have dependents in preschool through 12th grade living in your home, where do they attend school? **(Check all that apply)**

- 33% Prince of Peace Academy
- 29% Prince of Peace College Preparatory
- 50% Public School
- 2% Home School
- 6% Prince of Peace Preschool
- 6% Other Preschool

If you currently have dependents in preschool through 12th grade living in your household who do not attend Prince of Peace Schools, what is the reason that they don't attend?

- 3% Transportation is a problem
- 25% More academic options at other school
- 6% Catholic education is not a family priority
- 36% Cost
- 30% Other _____

Please answer the questions in the shaded area only if you have children currently enrolled at Prince of Peace Preschool, Academy & College Preparatory.

How would you rate the quality of EDUCATION that our students currently receive at Prince of Peace Preschool, Academy & College Preparatory?

- 63% Excellent
- 27% Good
- 8% Adequate
- 2% Fair
- 0% Poor

How receptive is the ADMINISTRATION AND STAFF to meeting your needs?

- 59% Very receptive
- 31% Somewhat receptive
- 4% Neutral
- 0% Unreceptive
- 6% Very unreceptive

Do you feel that the children who attend Prince of Peace Preschool, Academy & College Preparatory are receiving good Catholic moral development?

- 82% Yes
- 0% No
- 14% Somewhat
- 4% Unsure

What do you like most about Prince of Peace Preschool, Academy & College Preparatory? **(Check all that apply)**

- 70% Great teachers
- 79% The daily emphasis on Christian life
- 83% Catholic education
- 68% Builds community
- 23% Other _____

How do you think we can improve Prince of Peace Preschool, Academy & College Preparatory? **(Check all that apply)**

- 50% Increase the communication with the parents
- 26% Improve the curriculum
- 33% More training for teachers
- 22% Increase the emphasis on Catholic Faith
- 43% Other _____

Stewardship

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

- 48% Accept it as a core Gospel value and carry it out in my life
- 5% Don't really understand what it means
- 32% Think it's important, but find it hard to implement
- 7% Feel it's not applicable in my life
- 8% Feel that it's just another way to discuss fundraising

Stewardship of Time

How often does your family share a meal?

- 67% Daily
- 20% Several days a week
- 6% Once a week
- 7% Less than once a week

Do you say grace before meals?

- 55% Yes
- 45% No

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

- 25% Yes
- 75% No

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

- 15% Yes
- 85% No

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

- 71% Daily
- 17% Weekly
- 4% Monthly
- 2% Every few months
- 0% Yearly
- 6% Never

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

- 40% Yes
- 60% No

Stewardship of Talent

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

- 43% 0
- 22% 1
- 15% 2
- 10% 3
- 10% 4 or more

Beyond participating in weekly Masses, how do you rate your involvement in Prince of Peace parish?

- 8% Very involved
- 20% Moderately involved
- 32% Somewhat involved
- 30% Rarely involved
- 11% Never involved

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

- 4% Not interested in what the parish offers
- 22% Health issues
- 9% Usually unaware of opportunities within the parish
- 39% Not enough time due to family and work responsibilities
- 5% Transportation
- 20% Haven't yet made the effort to get involved
- 1% Lack of babysitting services

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

- 78% Satisfied with my current level of involvement
- 22% Would like to become more involved

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

- 50% Satisfied with current level of involvement
- 16% Would like to become more involved
- 34% Not applicable

At what times would you most likely be able to attend parish functions? **(Check all that apply)**

- 23% Weekday mornings
- 42% Weekday evenings
- 9% Saturday mornings
- 16% Saturday evenings
- 44% After the Mass I attend
- 19% Sunday evenings

Stewardship of Treasure

Each parishioner is responsible for supporting our parish financially.

- 48% Strongly agree
- 43% Agree
- 8% Neutral
- 1% Disagree
- 0% Strongly disagree

How often do you make financial contributions to Prince of Peace?

- 58% Every week
- 7% About every other week
- 11% About once a month
- 18% Monthly (for all the weeks in the month)
- 1% Never
- 6% Other _____

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

- 15% I base my contribution on a percentage of my income.
- 50% I have chosen a certain dollar amount.
- 1% I base the amount on what I think the parish needs.
- 11% I base the amount on what I think is my fair share.
- 17% I give whatever I can afford that week.
- 5% I don't have a system that determines how much I give.
- 1% I don't financially support the parish.

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

- 3% 0% of my annual income
- 35% 1% - 2% of my annual income
- 23% 3% - 4% of my annual income
- 21% 5% - 6% of my annual income
- 9% 7% - 8% of my annual income
- 7% 9% - 10% of my annual income
- 2% 11% or more of my annual income

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

- 15% We are easily able to pay our operating bills and put aside money in savings.
- 32% We are easily able to pay our operating bills.
- 28% We barely generate enough revenue to pay our operating bills.
- 4% We are not generating enough revenue to pay our operating bills.
- 21% I am unaware of the state of our parish finances..

Demographics

Gender

- 15% Male
- 53% Female
- 32% Husband and Wife Completed Together

Marital Status **(Check one)**

- 9% Single
- 62% Married
- 22% Widowed
- 6% Divorced
- 0% Separated

What is your annual household income?

- 5% \$0 - \$9,999
- 40% \$10,000 - \$29,999
- 21% \$30,000 - \$49,999
- 18% \$50,000 - \$74,999
- 10% \$75,000 - \$99,999
- 5% \$100,000 - \$199,999
- 0% \$200,000 and above

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

2% 18-29
4% 30-39
12% 40-49
18% 50-59
23% 60-69
40% 70+

Do you have dependents living in your home?

21% Yes
79% No

How long have you been a registered parishioner at Jesus Christ, Prince of Peace?

4% 0 - 1 year
3% 2-3 years
3% 4-5 years
5% 6-10 years
85% More than 10 years

General Information

The things I like best about Jesus Christ, Prince of Peace Catholic Parish are... **(Please print)**

Parishioners/Sense of Community (139 responses)
Priests/Deacons/Religious (94 responses)
Parish Facilities (90 responses)

I wish Prince of Peace would... **(Please print)**

Improve/Change Ministries (94 responses)
Improve/Change Parish Facilities (77 responses)
Change Mass Schedules (55 responses)

Jesus Christ, Prince of Peace Catholic Parish

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