



Saint Leo the Great CATHOLIC CHURCH

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“OUR PARISH FUTURE – THE NEXT 50 YEARS”

Just over 46 years ago, Bishop George L. Leech announced the establishment of our Parish. Due to the great faith and dedication of so many, including some who are still with us and many of our loved ones who have been called home to God, and guided by our former Pastors, Father Edward Deller and Father William Sullivan, our Parish has flourished into the vibrant faith community it is today.

Now, we are undertaking a Parish Feasibility Study as we look to the future. Over the past eight months, our Feasibility Study Committee has met and prayerfully discussed our hopes for the future, overseen Focus Sessions conducted with many groups within our Parish, and last month, we conducted our Parish wide survey. The summary of that Survey can be found on our Website and I wanted to share with you some of the highlights gleaned from it.

We received 684 responses, which is an outstanding level of interest, representing about 60% of our adult Sunday Mass attendees. Those who responded represented a fair cross section of our Parish and included about one-half of our School families and one-third of our PSR families.

1. 84.2 % (583) agreed that their “overall experience at St. Leo’s has been a positive one.” (# 5)
This is a testimony to the wonderful life of faith lived by so many in our Parish. We thank God and hope to continue to share His love with so many in our Parish Family.
2. Only 9.8% (66) felt that they did not have a sense of “belonging at this Church”. (#6)
3. With regard to possible construction and/or expansion of a Parish Center/School, there, again seemed to be clear consensus:
 - a. 76.9 % (499) agreed or were open to “construction of a Parish Center with sufficient multi-purpose space and a large kitchen to accommodate Parish-wide events”. (#7)
 - b. 83.1 % (537) would support or were open to efforts “to enlarge our Parish School facilities.” (#12); while 92.7 % (607) would support or were open to “modernizing” our School facilities. (#13)
4. With regard to possible “reconstruction” to our existing Sanctuary in the Church, the largest number of Respondents favored some renovations to our brick steps for safety (259) and placing our Tabernacle in the center of our Sanctuary (251), although a slightly less number disagreed with some reconstruction (236) (#16; #17)
5. 84.7 % (552) were in favor of or open to the changing of the Sunday Anticipated Mass (Saturday evening) to either 4:00 p.m. or 4:30 p.m.



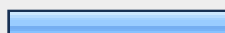
To discuss these findings and allow all of our Parishioners to share our hopes and vision, we will conduct two Parish wide sessions in our Church: on April 18th at 4:00 p.m. and April 21st at 7:30 p.m. May God continue to bless us and may our Blessed Mother intercede for us as we embrace the call to bring the Kingdom of God in our midst, here at Saint Leo’s.

Father Hahn

St. Leo the Great Parish Survey

1. Please state the number of years you have been a member of our Parish.			
		Response Percent	Response Count
1-5		19.1%	130
6-10		12.5%	85
11-15		9.9%	67
16-20		12.4%	84
20-25		11.0%	75
25+		35.1%	238
		<i>answered question</i>	679
		<i>skipped question</i>	5

2. Do you currently, or have you ever had, children enrolled in our Parish Elementary School or Parish School of Religion (PSR)? (Check all that apply).			
		Response Percent	Response Count
My children are currently enrolled in SLS		11.3%	77
My children graduated from SLS		23.2%	158
My children are currently enrolled in PSR		14.0%	95
My children completed St. Leo PSR		24.7%	168
None apply		34.1%	232
		<i>answered question</i>	681
		<i>skipped question</i>	3

3. Which category best describes your current participation in our Parish Life?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
I do not attend Sunday Mass and generally do not participate in Parish Life.		6.2%	42
I attend Sunday Mass at St. Leo's, but do not actively participate in any Ministry group.		60.4%	407
I attend Sunday Mass at St. Leo's and am active in at least one Ministry group.		33.4%	225
<i>answered question</i>			674
<i>skipped question</i>			10

4. I feel I am adequately informed of ways to participate in Parish life.							
	Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Neutral	Somewhat Agree	Agree	Rating Average	Response Count
Response	1.3% (9)	4.1% (28)	8.4% (57)	26.1% (177)	60.0% (406)	4.39	677
<i>answered question</i>							677
<i>skipped question</i>							7

5. My overall experience at St. Leo's has been a positive one.							
	Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Neutral	Somewhat Agree	Agree	Rating Average	Response Count
Response	1.0% (7)	5.8% (39)	9.0% (61)	23.6% (160)	60.6% (411)	4.37	678
<i>answered question</i>							678
<i>skipped question</i>							6

6. I have a sense of belonging at this church.							
	Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Neutral	Somewhat Agree	Agree	Rating Average	Response Count
Response	3.7% (25)	6.1% (41)	14.1% (95)	27.5% (185)	48.5% (326)	4.11	672
	<i>answered question</i>						672
	<i>skipped question</i>						12

7. I am in favor of the construction of a Parish Center with sufficient multi purpose space and a large kitchen to accommodate Parish-wide events.							
	Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Neutral	Somewhat Agree	Agree	Rating Average	Response Count
Response	14.8% (96)	8.3% (54)	19.6% (127)	22.8% (148)	34.5% (224)	3.54	649
	<i>answered question</i>						649
	<i>skipped question</i>						35

8. I am in favor of the construction of a new, larger Gymnasium.							
	Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Neutral	Somewhat Agree	Agree	Rating Average	Response Count
Response	22.0% (140)	14.9% (95)	27.7% (176)	14.2% (90)	21.2% (135)	2.98	636
	<i>answered question</i>						636
	<i>skipped question</i>						48

9. I am in favor of a less expansive project, limited to more meeting rooms only.							
	Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Neutral	Somewhat Agree	Agree	Rating Average	Response Count
Response	31.3% (196)	18.5% (116)	36.4% (228)	9.1% (57)	4.8% (30)	2.38	627
	<i>answered question</i>						627
	<i>skipped question</i>						57

10. I believe that all of our existing space is sufficient to accommodate all of our Parish needs.							
	Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Neutral	Somewhat Agree	Agree	Rating Average	Response Count
Response	33.5% (213)	18.6% (118)	24.1% (153)	12.3% (78)	11.6% (74)	2.50	636
	<i>answered question</i>						636
	<i>skipped question</i>						48

11. Comments:							
							Response Count
							186
	<i>answered question</i>						186
	<i>skipped question</i>						498

12. I would support efforts to enlarge our Parish School facilities.							
	Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Neutral	Somewhat Agree	Agree	Rating Average	Response Count
Response	10.4% (67)	6.5% (42)	22.4% (145)	24.0% (155)	36.7% (237)	3.70	646
	<i>answered question</i>						646
	<i>skipped question</i>						38

13. I would support efforts to modernize our School facilities to provide upgrades in utilities, technology, security, ADA accessibility and energy efficiency.

	Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Neutral	Somewhat Agree	Agree	Rating Average	Response Count
Response	4.9% (32)	2.4% (16)	16.5% (108)	27.9% (183)	48.2% (316)	4.12	655
	<i>answered question</i>						655
	<i>skipped question</i>						29

14. I think our School is adequate for our needs.






	Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Neutral	Somewhat Agree	Agree	Rating Average	Response Count
Response	32.0% (199)	23.5% (146)	28.3% (176)	10.1% (63)	6.1% (38)	2.35	622
	<i>answered question</i>						622
	<i>skipped question</i>						62

15. Comments:

	Response Count
	174
	<i>answered question</i>
	174
	<i>skipped question</i>
	510

16. I would support some reconstruction of the existing Sanctuary in our Church to improve the current interior.

	Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Neutral	Somewhat Agree	Agree	Rating Average	Response Count
Response	25.0% (154)	13.3% (82)	24.8% (153)	17.3% (107)	19.6% (121)	2.93	617
	<i>answered question</i>						617
	<i>skipped question</i>						67

17. I think the following changes to our church facility should be considered (please check all that apply):			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Tabernacle moved to the center of the Sanctuary		49.0%	251
Additional improvements to lighting		15.6%	80
Safety Improvements to the brick steps		50.6%	259
ADA Accessibility to Sanctuary		32.2%	165
Changing the décor of the back wall of the Sanctuary		32.4%	166
Seating for handicapped parishioners		71.3%	365
	Other (please specify)		60
	answered question		512
	skipped question		172

18. Comments:		
		Response Count
		178
	answered question	178
	skipped question	506

19. Recently, our Diocese has issued permission to celebrate the Sunday Anticipated Mass on Saturday afternoons as early as 4:00 p.m. I would support the change of that Saturday Mass time to either 4:00 p.m. or 4:30 p.m.

	Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Neutral	Somewhat Agree	Agree	Rating Average	Response Count
Response	11.2% (73)	4.1% (27)	19.9% (130)	11.7% (76)	53.1% (346)	3.91	652
	<i>answered question</i>						652
	<i>skipped question</i>						32

20. I think the most important goal of our Parish Life should be:

	Response Count
	376
	<i>answered question</i> 376
	<i>skipped question</i> 308

21. I think the most attractive aspect of our Parish Life is:

	Response Count
	317
	<i>answered question</i> 317
	<i>skipped question</i> 367

22. Is there any particular need of our Parish that needs immediate attention? Please explain.

	Response Count
	278
	<i>answered question</i> 278
	<i>skipped question</i> 406