

# MAJOR THEMES FROM THE SURVEY DATA SYNTHESIS

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## 1) INCLUSIVITY: A WELCOMING CHURCH

- *"People want the church to be a home for the wounded and broken, not an institution for the perfect."*
- *"They want the church to meet people where they are, wherever they are, and walk with them, rather than judging them; to build relationships through care and authenticity, not superiority."*
- *"I would like to hear messages of radical inclusion, specifically towards people in the LGBTQ+ community."*
- *"I am interested in being a part of a racially diverse and intentionally racially inclusive faith community."*
- *"Get to know our visitors."*

### Next steps from the Parish Pastoral Council:

- ⇒ Host a brainstorm session on the idea of a Welcome Committee and what that could look like at Holy Cross. This session will occur on Monday, May 15 (after Lent); Lent's Listening Sessions were on the topic of "hospitality," which could yield context for a Welcome Committee.
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## 2) EVANGELIZATION: SERVICE AND OUTREACH

- *"Ready and willing to assume our responsibility for service in the church and in the world."*
- *"Outdoor community 24-hour pantry; partner with a local homeless or abuse shelter."*
- *"Our parish tagline, 'Courageous, Compassionate, and Catholic. Come and See! All are welcome.' implies we want to reach out, connect with others (talk and listen), and it also sounds like we're activists – marching, calling, writing to lawmakers, raising money for causes, etc."*
- *"Ask Ministries to tie their events to parish tagline so we can better see the connection."*
- *"The church needs to help parishioners understand the connection between Catholic social teaching and outreach beyond the borders of the parish."*

\*\*\*The data indicated that the following social topics most interest our parish and neighborhood:

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|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| - Election awareness/assistance | - LGBTQ+ inclusion |
| - Food insecurity               | - Racial diversity |
| - Homelessness                  |                    |

### Next steps from the Parish Pastoral Council:

- ⇒ Follow up with Ministry Leaders on applying the data synthesis to inform their planning of events, and inquire if/how PPC can support those efforts.
  - ⇒ Bill Faust, a member of the PPC, is in the process of creating a "Saturday Speaker Series" on a variety of topics to engage both parishioners and neighbors. More details to come as planning progresses.
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### 3) PARTICIPATION

- *"Youth stressed that they should not be seen and spoken of mostly as the future of the church but should be recognized for their importance now and given a significant voice in the present."*
- *"I need to meet more parishioners personally and discuss some topics and scriptures. I find most parishioners too distant."*
- *"I would like there to be more kid groups for specific age groups like children and teens. I feel like it could help me relate and help other people going through their spiritual journey."*

#### **Next steps from the Parish Pastoral Council:**

- ⇒ The PPC has been posting a weekly "Ministry Spotlight" in the bulletin to applaud the good work of our active Ministries at Holy Cross, and also as a way to publicize the Ministry contact with the hopes of encouraging more parish involvement.
  - ⇒ Host a brainstorm session on the topic of Youth Ministry and what that could look like at Holy Cross. This session will occur on Monday, May 22, so save the date!
  - ⇒ Host a brainstorm session to gather Calendar Ideas – as we progress further beyond a pandemic world, what events do you want to see at Holy Cross, be them new events or resurrecting prior events! The objective will be to generate a list and then present that to the various Ministries who may want to take the lead on planning that event. This brainstorm session will occur on Monday, May 1, so save the date!
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### 4) COMMUNICATION

- *"Get Holy Cross events and happenings in the local newspapers."*
- *"Partner with other faith organizations or secular organizations in the community."*

#### **Next steps from the Parish Pastoral Council:**

- ⇒ Support Fr. Grogan in the creation of a church calendar of events so this calendar can be accessible through a QR code in the bulletin, in the weekly Flocknote, and also published to local newspaper bulletins for a minimal fee.
  - ⇒ PPC Suggestion Box already in the vestibule as a resource to communicate ideas and concerns to the Council.
  - ⇒ Host a brainstorm session on the topic of Community Partnership and what that could look like at Holy Cross. This session will occur on Monday, May 8, so save the date!
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### 5) FAITH FORMATION: ENRICHMENT

- *"I would like to learn to pray with more specificity. I marvel at people who can offer extemporaneous prayers that are right on point."*
- *"I would like to see parish religious education listed as a parish ministry, with opportunities for participation by youth and adults in formal and conversational ways."*
- *"I am new to the parish. I would like a chance to meet others and learn more about prayer."*

#### **Next steps from the Parish Pastoral Council:**

- ⇒ Offer 150 copies of the book *Holy Moments* from Dynamic Catholic during Easter to continue the fruit of Lent.
- ⇒ Sr. Ruthann, the Director of Adult Faith Formation, routinely plans retreats and adult faith formation opportunities for the parish – please direct your attention to her weekly column in the bulletin and connect with her should you have further questions or suggestions.