

Parish Life Survey

February 2016

Parish Life Survey

**Saint Kilian Parish
Farmingdale, New York**

**Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate
Georgetown University
Washington, DC**

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Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate

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Executive Summary

The St. Kilian Parish Life Survey was designed by the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA) at Georgetown University. The questions were derived from CARA's database of nationally tested questions. The parish distributed the questionnaire to those attending its liturgies over one weekend in November 2015. In all, there were 1,356 valid responses, with 1,229 responses to the English-language version of the questionnaire and 127 valid responses to the Spanish-language version.

Major findings can be summarized as follows:

Respondent Demographics

- The average age of St. Kilian Parish respondents in 2015 is 58 years old. Half of all respondents are age 58 or younger. The average age of those responding to the survey in Spanish (age 44) is considerably younger than the average age of those responding in English (age 59).
- CARA divides Catholics into four generations, reflective of the age categories used by many other social scientists. The most common generation at St. Kilian Parish is the Vatican II Generation, ages 55 to 72 in 2015.
- Just over six in ten respondents are female and almost four in ten are male. Almost two in three respondents to the survey say they are currently married or remarried. One in six has never married, almost one in ten is divorced or separated, and a little more than one in ten is widowed. A quarter report having at least one child or stepchild under age 18 living with them.
- A third have attained a high school diploma or less, a quarter have attended some college or have an associate's degree, and just over four in ten have a bachelor's or graduate degree. Examining the educational level by language of response to the survey, three-quarters of those responding in Spanish have a high school diploma or less, compared to three-tenths of those responding in English.

Religious Characteristics of Respondents

- On average, respondents have attended the parish for 27 years, with half having attended 23 years or less. Those responding to the survey in English have attended the parish for an average of 28 years, compared to an average of 13 years for those responding in Spanish.
- Eight in ten identify the parish as their primary place of worship and say they are registered there. Just over one in three says she or he regularly attends the parish but is *not* registered there. On average, these non-registered respondents, many of whom responded to the survey in Spanish, have attended the parish for 15 years.
- Half of those responding to the survey in Spanish report living closer to another parish, compared to three in ten of those responding in English.

Assessment of Parish Life and Needs

- Almost all respondents to the survey give St. Kilian Parish overall a positive evaluation (“good” and “excellent” combined). Nearly six in ten rate it as “excellent.”
- Efforts to meet people’s spiritual needs receive an “excellent” rating from just over a third of respondents. About four in ten rate as “excellent” efforts to nurture their relationship with Jesus Christ.
- More than half report being attracted to the parish “very much” by the following: the sense of belonging they feel there, its open and welcoming spirit, the quality of the liturgy, the quality of the preaching, and its respect for their cultural traditions.
- Children’s religious education/formation, youth ministry, visitation of the sick and homebound, developing a parish sense of community, young adult ministry, and providing opportunities for parishioners to help the needy are especially likely to receive high priority from respondents. Two-thirds or more give each “very much” priority.
- Respondents were also invited to choose from a predetermined list the three needs to which parish should give most priority. The top six identified are children’s religious education/formation, visitation of the sick and homebound, developing a parish sense of community, outreach to inactive Catholics, youth ministry, and providing opportunities for parishioners to help the needy.

Leadership

- Almost nine in ten give a positive evaluation to the vision provided by parish leaders, with four in ten rating it as “excellent.”

- Six in ten “strongly” agree that the bulletin effectively communicates issues related to parish life. Just over four in ten agree “strongly” that they feel well informed about what goes on in the parish and that they feel adequately informed about parish finances.

Worship

- Masses and liturgies in general receive a positive evaluation from more than nine in ten respondents. Half rate them as “excellent.”
- Slightly more than half rate the hospitality or sense of welcome at parish worship as “excellent.” The music and song selection in general receive an “excellent” evaluation from half to six-tenths of respondents. The homilies in general receive an “excellent” rating from just over four in ten responding parishioners.
- Nearly seven in ten attend Mass at least once a week and another quarter attend almost every week.
- When asked why they attend Mass, respondents are particularly likely to say the following “very much” explain why they do so: the Mass means a lot to them, it helps them live a Christian life, and receiving Communion weekly is important to them.
- About four in ten give “very much” priority to the parish providing more small group prayer opportunities and more opportunities for devotions such as rosaries and Eucharistic Adoration. About two-thirds of those responding to the survey in Spanish give “very much” priority to such opportunities, compared to about a third of those responding in English.

Sense of Community

- The sense of community within the parish receives a positive rating from nearly nine in ten respondents. Four in ten give it an “excellent” rating.
- Being a part of a parish community is “very” important to two-thirds of respondents.
- Developing a parish sense of community receives “very much” priority from seven in ten respondents.

Formation

- Parish efforts to educate parishioners in the faith receive a positive evaluation from almost nine in ten respondents, with just over four in ten giving these efforts an “excellent” rating.
- Efforts to foster spiritual growth receive an “excellent” rating from almost four in ten respondents. About a third rate as “excellent” efforts to offer a Catholic view on current issues and to help them practice gospel values in their daily life.

- Children’s religious education programs and youth ministry receive an “excellent” rating from just over four in ten. Just under four in ten give as high a rating to family-centered religious education programs.
- A third of those responding to the survey in Spanish say they have attended adult faith formation classes at the parish in the past five years, compared to one in ten of those responding to the survey in English.
- Faith formation for adults receives an “excellent” rating from a little more than a third.
- Children’s religious education/formation and youth ministry receive “very much” priority from more than three-quarters of respondents. Nearly six in ten place “very much” priority on adult faith formation.
- Half of those of the Millennial Generation say the parish should give “very much” priority to providing retreat opportunities, compared to roughly a third of those of the other generations.
- Just over a third report being “very” likely to spend time learning more about their faith in the next year. Those responding to the survey in Spanish are about twice as likely as those responding in English to say they are “very” likely to do so.

Stewardship

- Nine in ten agree at least “somewhat” that they understand the concept of stewardship, with almost six in ten agreeing “strongly” that they do.
- Parish efforts to encourage parishioners to share their time, talents and treasure with the parish receive a positive evaluation from nine in ten respondents. Half rate these efforts as “excellent.”
- Three in ten indicate they are “very” likely to volunteer for a parish ministry in the next year.
- Nearly four in ten report being involved with at least one ministry or activity at the parish. More than six in ten are not involved with any ministries or activities.
- A quarter or slightly fewer “strongly” agree that they would volunteer more if personally invited and that they would volunteer more if they knew parish needs. Those responding to the survey in Spanish are about twice as likely as those responding in English to “strongly” agree with both of these statements.
- One in six agrees “strongly” that they are interested in the option of giving to the parish every month with an electronic fund transfer.

- Just over a third agree “strongly” that they prefer to give to specific projects rather than a general fund and that they would help support a fundraising program for the needs of the parish.

Evangelization and Parish Outreach

- Efforts to spread the Gospel/evangelize receive a positive rating from almost nine in ten respondents. Four in ten give these efforts an “excellent” rating.
- On average, responding parishioners have invited someone to attend a parish worship service or activity 2.5 times in the past year. Almost half have invited someone at least once in the past year.
- When asked to evaluate parish service to 11 groups, respondents are most likely to give an “excellent” rating to parish services to senior citizens, families, and those sick or homebound. They are least likely to give the same rating to service to inactive Catholics and those divorced or separated.
- Respondents were asked to choose the top three groups to which the parish should give most priority for outreach. The most commonly selected groups are families and those sick or homebound, followed by teens, senior citizens, inactive Catholics, and young adults.
- Parish services to inactive Catholics receive an “excellent” rating from a quarter of respondents. A third give an “excellent” rating to the parish’s services to new parishioners.

Social Justice

- Outreach to and advocacy for those in need or distress receive a positive rating from more than nine in ten respondents. Six in ten rate these efforts as “excellent.”
- About four in ten rate parish outreach to those sick or homebound as “excellent.” Visitation of the sick and homebound receives “very much” priority from more than seven in ten.
- Nearly half of those who are unmarried and have a child or stepchild under age 18 living with them say parish services to single parents are “excellent.”
- Providing opportunities for parishioners to help the needy receives “very much” priority from two-thirds of respondents. Those of the Millennial Generation are particularly likely to say the parish should give “very much” priority to such opportunities.

Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate

Parish Life Survey **Saint Kilian Parish** **Farmingdale, New York**

Introduction

The St. Kilian Parish Life Survey was designed by the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA) at Georgetown University. The questions were derived from CARA's database of nationally tested questions. The parish distributed the questionnaire to those attending its liturgies over one weekend in November 2015. In all, there were 1,356 valid responses, with 1,229 responses to the English-language version of the questionnaire and 127 valid responses to the Spanish-language version. Following standard assumptions of statistical inference, a sample size of 1,356 provides a margin of error of approximately ± 2.6 percentage points.¹

Interpreting This Report

Most of the questions in this survey use four point response scales (“not at all,” “only a little,” “somewhat,” “very much”; or “poor,” “fair,” “good,” “excellent”). These scales allow half of the responses to be interpreted as relatively more “negative” (“poor” and “fair,” for example) and half as relatively more “positive” (“good” and “excellent,” for example). In parts of the analysis in this report, these responses are combined to allow for clearer comparisons. However, sometimes examining the most positive response distinguishes important contrasts in level of support.

In addition, readers may also wish to compare the difference between the two extreme responses, say “poor” and “excellent,” to compare the level of intensity with which opposing opinions are held. These comparisons and others may be drawn by referring to the actual percentage responses given in Appendix I. That appendix shows the percentage responses for each item, calculated out of 100 percent, as well as the percentage of all respondents that did not respond to each question, separately calculated out of 100 percent for clarity of comparison.

¹Strictly speaking, it is necessary to know the total population (in this case, the total number of adult parishioners) to calculate margin of error. CARA's standard assumption for its in-pew parish surveys is that about half of parishioners are represented. For obvious reasons, those who are represented in a given in-pew survey are disproportionately more frequent Mass attenders.

In addition to summarizing the responses to most questions for respondents as a whole, the report also compares the responses of those from selected subgroups. The first section of the report describes the characteristics of the respondents as well as the subgroups that are used in the analyses that follow. Throughout the report, the tables and charts that compare differences between and among these various subgroups are presented following the responses for parishioners as a whole in each section.

The margin of error for *differences between subgroups*, such as the differences among those of different generations or those with different levels of involvement, depends on the size of the subgroups being compared. Unless otherwise noted, all subgroup differences described in the graphs of this report are statistically significant: that is, they pass standard tests of statistical inference and can be considered to be “real” differences. In some instances, differences between or among subgroups that are not statistically significant are also noted. These differences should be treated as merely suggestive of real differences that may exist between the subgroups under consideration.

A frequent comparison made throughout this report is between those responding to the English-language version of the survey (1,229 respondents or 91 percent of all respondents) and those responding to the Spanish-language version (127 respondents or 9 percent). Only statistically significant differences will be presented, and only those with at least a 10 percentage point difference will be treated as meaningful.

CARA regularly conducts parish surveys through its Parish Life Surveys. Parish Life Surveys are a series of dynamic survey instruments for pastoral planning, including survey data collection, analyses of key stakeholders and demographic groups, and user-friendly reports and products. From the aggregate data collected through the Parish Life Survey services over the past 15 years, CARA has a database of characteristics of parish life gathered from more than 900 parishes nationwide. While this database is not a random sample of parishes, and therefore not necessarily representative of all parishes nationwide, it is the most comprehensive source of data of its kind and covers a broad range of topics important to vibrant parish life.

In this report, where possible, results from St. Kilian Parish current Parish Life Survey are compared to the aggregate responses from the Parish Life Survey National Database of Parish Life to put the parish results into a larger national context. Additionally, where available, comparisons are made to findings from a 2012 study of Catholics in-pew at 23 parishes across the country. Finally, comparisons are made to findings from CARA’s nationally representative surveys of adult self-identified Catholics conducted since 2013.

The results of this survey fairly represent the characteristics and attitudes of people ages 16 and older who attend Mass at St. Kilian Parish. It cannot be used to make inferences about populations outside of Mass attendees at the parish; it is not representative of those who do not attend Mass or those who are only involved in parish functions excluding Mass.

Section I: Demographic Characteristics of Respondents

This section of the report includes demographic and other descriptive data for respondents to this survey. These data may be helpful in considering who responded to the survey, which populations are represented in the data, and the characteristics of those present at the parish on a typical weekend.

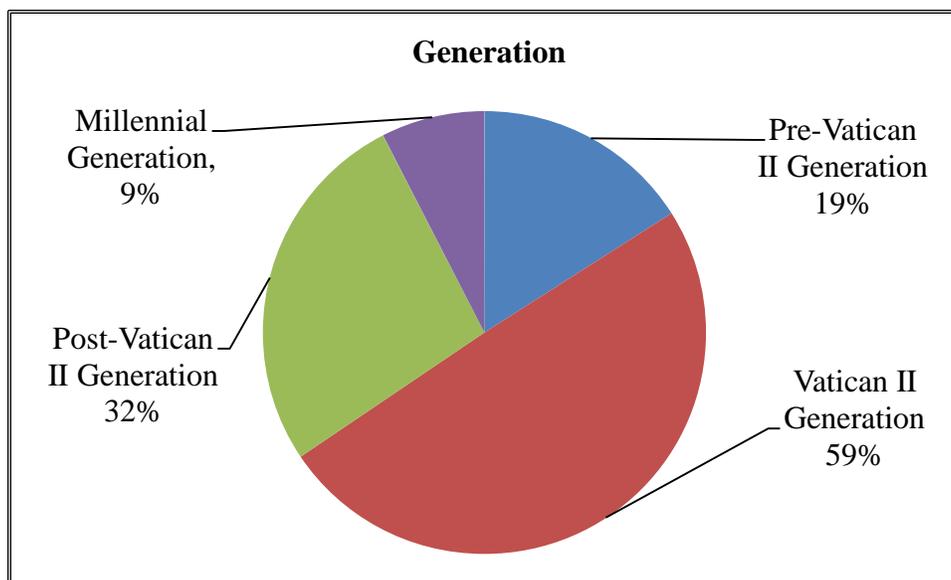
Age and Generation

Valid respondents at St. Kilian Parish surveyed in 2015 were born between 1922 and 1999. On average, respondents report an average age of 58, with half saying they are 58 or younger. Although not directly comparable as the national data comes from 2012, this is higher than the median age of 49 among all self-identified Catholics nationally.¹ The most common age range reported is 55 to 64.

Age and Generation			
Age Range	St. Kilian	Catholics In Pew Nationally*	Self-identified Catholics Nationally**
16-24	4%	4%	9%
25-34	6	9	17
35-44	10	20	20
45-54	22	23	19
55-64	23	19	20
65-74	20	15	10
75 or older	16	10	5
 Generations			
Pre-Vatican II (born 1942 or earlier)	19%	18%	10%
Vatican II (born 1943 to 1960)	39	35	32
Post-Vatican II (born 1961 to 1981)	32	39	38
Millennial (born 1982 to 2000)	9	8	19
 <i>*Source: CARA's 2012 Emerging Models study</i>			
<i>**Source: CARA's 2012 Media Use study</i>			

¹ Source: Mark M. Gray, and Mary L. Gautier. 2012. *Catholic New Media Use in the United States, 2012*.

Important differences between groups in parishes are typically found among those who belong to different generations. CARA divides Catholics into four generations, reflective of the age categories used by many other Catholic researchers. The most common generation among St. Kilian respondents is the Vatican II Generation, followed by the Post-Vatican II Generation.



- *The “Pre-Vatican II Generation,” ages 73 and over in 2015.* The Pre-Vatican II Generation was born in 1942 or earlier. Its members came of age before the Second Vatican Council. Members of the Pre-Vatican II Generation make up 19 percent of the respondents at St. Kilian Parish. That proportion is similar to the proportion of Catholics in pew nationally (18 percent), but higher than that of Catholics nationally (10 percent).
- *The “Vatican II Generation,” ages 55-72 in 2015.* These are the “Baby Boomers” who were born between 1943 and 1960, a time of great demographic and economic growth. They came of age during the time of the Second Vatican Council and their formative years likely spanned that time of profound changes in the Church. Members of the Vatican II Generation at St. Kilian Parish represent 39 percent of respondents. This percentage is slightly higher than that for in-pew Catholics nationally (35 percent) and Catholics nationally (32 percent).
- *The “Post-Vatican II Generation,” ages 34-54 in 2015.* Born between 1961 and 1981, this generation, sometimes called “Generation X” or “Baby Busters” by demographers, has no lived experience of the pre-Vatican II Church. Some 32 percent of those at St. Kilian Parish are members of this generation. This percentage is lower than the percentages of in-pew Catholics nationally (39 percent) and Catholics nationally (38 percent).
- *The “Millennial Generation,” ages 18-33 in 2015.* This generation, born in 1982 or later (up to 1996 among adults), has come of age primarily under the papacies of St. John Paul

II and Benedict XVI. Because some still live with their parents, their religious practice is often closely related to that of their families of origin. Some 9 percent of respondents at St. Kilian Parish belong to the Millennial Generation. This percentage is similar to that for in-pew Catholics nationally (8 percent), but lower than that for Catholics nationally (19 percent).

Differences by Language of Response

The average age of those responding to the survey in English is 59, compared to an average of 44 among those responding to the Spanish-language instrument. Over half (54 percent) of those responding to the Spanish-language survey are under age 45, compared to one in six (16 percent) of those responding in English.

Age Range	All St. Kilian Respondents	English- language Respondents	Spanish- language Respondents
16-24	4%	4%	4%
25-34	6	5	15
35-44	10	7	35
45-54	22	21	28
55-64	23	24	10
65-74	20	21	5
75 or older	16	17	3
Generations			
Pre-Vatican II (born 1942 or earlier)	19%	21%	4%
Vatican II (born 1943 to 1960)	39	42	14
Post-Vatican II (born 1961 to 1981)	32	29	66
Millennial (born 1982 to 2000)	9	9	15

Those responding to the Spanish-language survey are more than twice as likely as those responding in English to belong to one of the two youngest generations (81 percent compared to 38 percent).

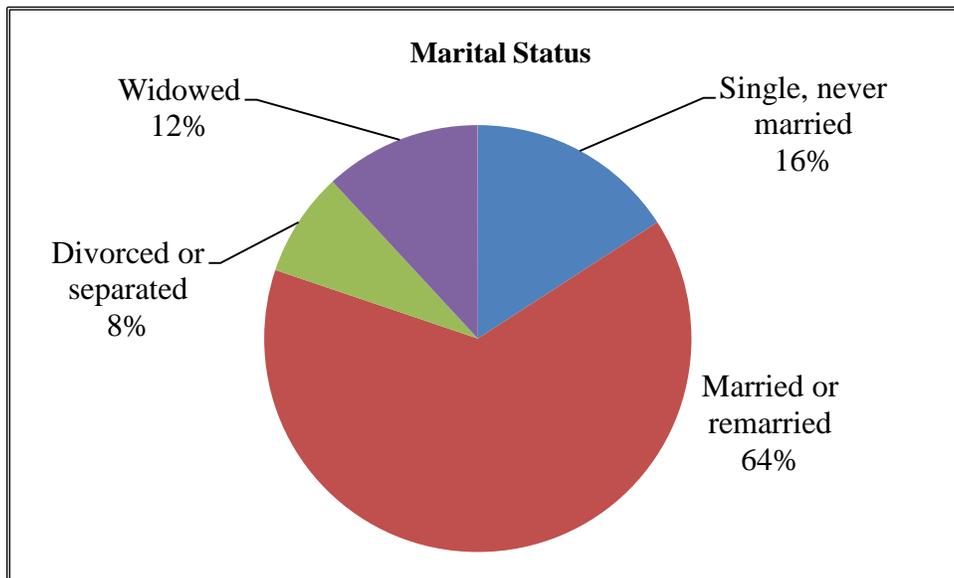
Gender and Marital Status

More than six in ten respondents (62 percent) identify as female. This is similar to the percentage among Catholics nationally in pew (64 percent) but higher than the percentage of self-identified Catholics nationally identifying as female (51 percent).

Gender			
<i>Percentage responding</i>			
	St. Kilian	Catholics In Pew Nationally*	Self-identified Catholics Nationally**
Female	62%	64%	51%
Male	38	36	49

*Source: CARA's 2012 Emerging Models study
**Source: CARA's 2012 Media Use study

Nearly two in three respondents are currently married or remarried. One in six has never married, nearly one in ten is divorced or separated, and slightly more than one in ten is widowed.



The marital statuses of St. Kilian respondents are mostly similar to those of Catholics in pew nationally, with St. Kilian respondents slightly less likely to be married and slightly more likely to be widowed. Compared to Catholics nationally, St. Kilian respondents are less likely to have never married and slightly more likely to be widowed.

Marital Status			
<i>Percentage responding</i>			
		Catholics In Pew Nationally*	Self-identified Catholics Nationally**
Marital Status	St. Kilian		
Never married***	16%	15%	24%
Married or remarried	64	70	62
Divorced or separated	8	8	9
Widowed	12	7	5

**Source: CARA's 2012 Emerging Models study*
***Source: CARA's 2012 Media Use study*
****The Media Use study includes those responding "living with a partner" in the "never married" category*

Differences by Generation

Members of the Millennial Generation (74 percent) are particularly likely to have never married, those of the Post-Vatican II Generation (78 percent) are most likely to be married, and those of the Pre-Vatican II Generation (42 percent) are most likely to be widowed.

Marital Status, by Generation				
<i>Percentage responding</i>				
	Pre-Vatican II	Vatican II	Post-Vatican II	Millennial
Single, never married	4%	11%	11%	74%
Married or remarried	48	72	78	25
Divorced or separated	7	9	10	1
Widowed	42	8	1	0

Differences by Language of Response

Those responding to the Spanish-language version of the survey are more likely to have never married and *less* likely to be widowed.

Marital Status, by Language of Response			
<i>Percentage responding</i>			
Marital Status	All St. Kilian Respondents	English- language Respondents	Spanish- language Respondents
Never married	16%	15%	25%
Married or remarried	64	65	59
Divorced or separated	8	8	14
Widowed	12	13	3

Children in the Household

Some 345 respondents (75 percent) have at least one child (including stepchildren) under age 18 living with them. Altogether, respondents report 427 children or stepchildren living with them age 12 and younger and 383 living with them ages 13 to 17. When taking into account that in some households both spouses responded, however, respondents report 319 children or stepchildren living with them age 12 and younger and 287 living with them ages 13 to 17. Among those with at least one child living with them, respondents are slightly more likely to have a child age 12 or younger living with them (64 percent) than one ages 13 to 17 (59 percent).

Number of Children or Stepchildren Living with You	
<i>Percentage responding</i>	
None	75%
At least one child under 18 living with you	25
<i>Among those with at least one child:</i>	
Age 12 or younger	64%
Ages 13 to 17	59
<i>Among those with at least one child:</i>	
One child	77%
Two or more children	23

Differences by Language of Response

Some 14 percent of those responding to the English-language survey report having at least one child age 12 or younger living with them, compared to 35 percent of those responding to the Spanish-language version. In addition, 13 percent of English-language survey respondents have at least one child ages 13 to 17 living with them, compared to 21 percent of those responding to the Spanish-language version.

Level of Education

A third of St. Kilian respondents have a high school diploma or less (32 percent), another quarter have attended some college or have an associate's degree (26 percent), and just over four in ten report having a bachelor's or graduate degree.

Level of Education			
<i>Percentage responding</i>			
Level of Education	St. Kilian	Catholics In Pew Nationally*	Self-identified Catholics Nationally**
Some high school or less	6%	5%	}47%
High school diploma	26	14	
Some college	16	19	
Associate's degree	10	9	}26
Bachelor's degree	23	33	
Graduate degree	19	20	}27

**Source: CARA's 2012 Emerging Models study*
***Source: CARA's 2012 Media Use study*

Comparison to Catholics Nationally

- St. Kilian respondents are more likely than those responding in pew nationally to have a high school diploma or less (32 percent compared to 19 percent) and *less* likely to have a bachelor's or graduate degree (42 percent compared to 53 percent).
- St. Kilian respondents are *less* likely than Catholic adults nationally to have a high school diploma or less (32 percent compared to 47 percent) and more likely to have a bachelor's or graduate degree (42 percent compared to 27 percent).

Differences by Generation

As can be seen in the table below, level of education differs some by generation.

- Half of the Pre-Vatican II Generation have a high school diploma or less, compared to less than one-third of the other three generations.
- While about half of those of the Millennial (51 percent) and Post-Vatican II (48 percent) Generations have a bachelor's or graduate degree, about four-tenths of the Vatican II Generation (42 percent) and a quarter of the Pre-Vatican II Generation (25 percent) have these degrees.

Level of Education	Pre-Vatican II	Vatican II	Post-Vatican II	Millennial*
Some high school or less	5%	3%	8%	10%
High school diploma	45	25	18	22
Some college	19	16	16	9
Associate's degree	6	14	10	9
Bachelor's degree	13	23	24	33
Graduate degree	12	19	24	18

* Note that some Millennials are age 18 or slightly higher and are thus very likely to continue with their educations after high school.

Differences by Language of Response

Twenty-eight percent of those responding in English have a high school diploma or less, compared to 75 percent of those responding to the survey in Spanish.

Level of Education	All St. Kilian Respondents	English-language Respondents	Spanish-language Respondents
Some high school or less	6%	3%	37%
High school diploma	26	25	38
Some college	16	16	10
Associate's degree	10	11	6
Bachelor's degree	23	24	3
Graduate degree	19	20	6

Access to the Internet

Nearly nine in ten (86 percent) report having Internet access at home or work. In comparison, three-quarters of Catholics nationally in 2013 had Internet access.

More than nine in ten of those of the Millennial (96 percent) and Post-Vatican II (92 percent) Generations report having such access, compared to 89 percent of the Vatican II Generation and 63 percent of the Pre-Vatican II Generation. In comparison, among Catholics nationally in 2013, 84 percent of the Millennial Generation, 78 percent of the Post-Vatican II, 72 percent of the Vatican II Generation, and 70 percent of the Pre-Vatican II Generation had Internet access.

Examining the findings by language of response, 87 percent of those responding to the English-language version of the survey have Internet access at home or work, compared to 66 percent of those responding in Spanish.

Section II: Religious Characteristics of Respondents

This part of the report describes several characteristics of respondents that relate to their religious attributes and parish-related behaviors.

Relationship to the Parish

Among all respondents, 91 percent report that St. Kilian Parish is their primary place of worship and 81 percent say they are registered there. Three in ten say they live closer to another parish.

	St. Kilian	Catholics In Pew Nationally*
Primary place of worship <i>and</i> a registered parishioner	79%	78%
Primary place of worship but <i>not</i> registered	13	13
<i>Not</i> primary place of worship but registered	2	2
Visitor to the parish	7	7
Live closer to another Catholic parish	31	33

*Source: CARA's 2012 Emerging Models study

- Eight in ten respondents to the survey identify the parish as their primary place of worship *and* say they are registered there.
- More than one in ten says the parish is their primary place of worship but say they are *not* registered members. These respondents report having attended the parish for 15 years, with 55 percent saying they attend Mass at least once a week. Compared to respondents overall, they are younger (with an average age of 51) and more likely to have never married (31 percent).
- Just over one in 20 is a visitor to the parish.
- Two percent say the parish is *not* their primary place of worship but say they are registered there.
- St. Kilian respondents are very similar to Catholics in pew nationally in these measures.

Differences by Language of Response

A third of those responding to the Spanish-language instrument say the parish is their primary place of worship but they are *not* registered there, compared to one in ten of those responding to the English-language version.

Relationship to the Parish, by Language of Response			
	All St. Kilian Respondents	English-language Respondents	Spanish-language Respondents
Primary place of worship <i>and</i> a registered parishioner	79%	82%	51%
Primary place of worship but <i>not</i> registered	13	11	32
<i>Not</i> primary place of worship but registered	2	1	4
Visitor to the parish	7	6	13
Live closer to another Catholic parish	31	29	51

Half of those responding to the survey in Spanish report that they live closer to another parish, compared to three in ten of those who responded in English.

Years at the Parish

Mass attenders were asked to write in the number of years they have attended the parish. On average, respondents have attended the parish for 27 years. The median is 23 years, meaning that half of respondents have attended for 23 years or less and half have attended for 23 years or more.

Years at Parish, by Language of Response*			
<i>Percentage responding</i>			
	All St. Kilian Respondents	English- language Respondents	Spanish- language Respondents
1 year or less	5%	4%	10%
2-5 years	9	7	33
6-10 years	10	9	21
11-15 years	10	10	12
16-20 years	13	14	7
21-25 years	10	10	5
26-30 years	10	10	4
31-35 years	4	5	3
36-40 years	6	7	1
41-46 years	5	5	0
46-50 years	6	6	1
51 years or more	13	13	4
Average	26.5	27.5	12.9
Median	23	25	9
Minimum	1	1	1
Maximum	92	92	92
* Those who do not regularly attend the parish were asked to write leave the question blank. Those who have attended for less than a year were instructed to write "1."			

Three-quarters (76 percent) of those responding to the survey in Spanish have attended the parish for 15 years or less, compared to 30 percent of those responding in English.

Mass Regularly Attended

Respondents were invited to choose the one Mass they most regularly attend at the parish. The most commonly chosen Masses were the 11 a.m. Sunday (21 percent) and 5 p.m. Saturday (19 percent) Masses. Two percent of those who responded to the question say they do *not* regularly attend Mass at the parish.

<i>Which Mass do you usually attend at this parish?</i>			
<i>Percentage responding</i>			
	All St. Kilian Respondents	English- language Respondents	Spanish- language Respondents
5 p.m. Saturday	19%	21%	2%
6:15 p.m. Saturday	8	<1	88
7:30 p.m. Saturday	7	7	3
7 a.m. Sunday	7	8	0
8 a.m. Sunday	9	10	1
9:30 a.m. Sunday	15	17	0
11 a.m. Sunday	21	22	4
12:30 p.m. Sunday	12	13	1
I do <i>not</i> usually attend Mass at this parish	2	2	3

Nearly nine in ten (88 percent) of those responding to the Spanish-language version of the survey say the 6:15 p.m. Saturday Mass is their usual Mass.

Where relevant throughout the rest of the report, comparisons are made among those who report usually attending the various Masses.

Frequency of Mass Attendance

About two-thirds of respondents (68 percent) report attending Mass at least once a week. An additional quarter (24 percent) attend almost every week and about one in 20 (7 percent) attends once or twice a month. About 2 percent attend less frequently than that.

<i>About how frequently do you currently attend Mass?</i>			
<i>Percentage responding</i>			
	St. Kilian	Catholics In Pew Nationally*	Self-identified Catholics Nationally**
Never or rarely	<1	<1%	32%
A few times a year	2	2	24
Once/twice a month	7	6	10
Almost every week	24	21	11
Every week	59	57	20
More than once a week	9	14	3

*Source: CARA's 2012 Emerging Models study
**Source: CARA's 2012 Media Use study

Comparison to Catholics Nationally

- Compared to the average of parishes CARA has conducted surveys at in the past (71 percent), St. Kilian respondents are about as likely to attend Mass at least once a week (68 percent).
- St. Kilian respondents (68 percent) are considerably more likely to attend Mass at least once a week than self-identified Catholic adults nationally are (23 percent).

Differences by Generation

Members of the Pre-Vatican II Generation (88 percent) are most likely to attend Mass at least once a week, followed by those of the Vatican II Generation (75 percent), Millennial Generation (51 percent), and Post-Vatican II Generation (48 percent).

Those of the Post-Vatican II Generation (37 percent), on the other hand, are most likely to attend Mass almost every week, followed by those of the Millennial Generation (30 percent), Vatican II Generation (21 percent), and Pre-Vatican II Generation (11 percent).

Differences by Language of Response

Sixty-nine percent of those responding to the survey in English say they attend Mass at least once a week, compared to 48 percent of those responding in Spanish.

A quarter (24 percent) of those responding in English say they attend Mass almost every week, compared to 33 percent of those responding in Spanish.

Participation in Parish Formation Programs

Respondents report the following family participation in parish formation programs:

- Thirteen percent of respondents overall have attended adult religious education programs in the past five years at the parish. Thirty-four percent of those responding to the Spanish-language version have attended such classes, compared to 11 percent of those responding to the English-language version.
- Twenty-seven percent of respondents overall have children who have attended religious education classes in the past five years. Forty-nine percent of those responding to the survey in Spanish have children who have attended such classes in the past five years, compared to 25 percent of those responding in English.
- Sixteen percent of all respondents have children who have attended a local Catholic school in the past five years. Thirty-three percent of those responding to the survey in Spanish report having children who have attended a local Catholic school in the last five years, compared to 14 percent of those responding to the survey in English.

Ministry and Activity Participation

Nearly four in ten (37 percent) report being involved with at least one ministry or activity at the parish in the past year. This is *less* than the average proportion reported by parishes CARA has worked with in the past (50 percent).

Number of Ministries or Activities Involved With		
<i>Percentage responding</i>		
	St. Kilian	Parishes Nationally*
None	63%	50%
One	19	23
Two		22
Three or more	}18	3

**Source: Cumulative average from parishes conducting CARA Parish Life Surveys*

Sixteen percent of St. Kilian respondents are involved in two to four ministries or activities at the parish and 2 percent are involved in five or more.²

In the remainder of this report comparison is made between three groups of respondents according to their involvement in parish activities:

- Those *not* involved in any parish ministries or activities (770 respondents or 63 percent)
- Those involved in one parish ministry or activity (233 respondents or 19 percent)
- Those involved with two or more ministries or activities (222 respondents or 18 percent)

² Not shown in the table above

Section III: Assessment of Parish Life and Needs

Overall, the results of the St. Kilian Parish Life Survey are very positive. Fifteen particular areas were addressed in the survey instrument. These areas are featured in this section of the report, though readers are advised to consult the response frequencies in Appendix I of this document for response rates and other pertinent information about these data. The areas of parish life addressed are:

- Evaluation of Aspects of Parish Life
- Evaluation of Areas of Faith Formation
- Evaluation of Areas of Worship
- Evaluation of Parish Efforts
- Evaluation of Parish Service to Groups
- Top Priorities for Outreach to Parish Groups
- Priority for Parish Needs
- Top Priorities for Parish Needs
- Importance of Religious Behaviors
- Attraction to the Parish
- Invitations to a Parish Function
- Likelihood of Future Behaviors
- Reasons for Mass Attendance
- Attitudes about Parish Life
- Attitudes about Stewardship

Evaluation of Aspects of Parish Life

Almost all respondents (96 percent) give a positive rating (“good” and “excellent” combined) to St. Kilian Parish overall.

<i>Please evaluate these aspects of parish life</i>		
<i>Percentage responding “Good” or “Excellent”</i>		
	St. Kilian	Catholics In Pew Nationally*
St. Kilian Parish overall	96%	94%
Masses and liturgies in general	94	94
Outreach to and advocacy for those in need or distress	94	–
Encouragement to share your time, talents and treasure with the parish	91	91
Efforts to educate parishioners in the faith	88	91
Sense of community within the parish	87	87
Vision provided by parish leaders	86	90
Spreading the Gospel/evangelizing	85	88

**Source: CARA’s 2012 Emerging Models study*

More than eight in ten say the parish is “good” or “excellent” in each of the aspects of parish life evaluated.

- More than nine in ten give a positive evaluation of Masses and liturgies in general, the parish’s outreach to and advocacy for those in need or distress, and its efforts to encourage parishioners to share their time, talents, and treasure with the parish.
- Nearly nine in ten give a positive evaluation to the following aspects of parish life: parish efforts to educate parishioners in the faith, the sense of community within the parish, the vision provided by parish leaders, and efforts to spread the Gospel or evangelize.

Comparison to Parishes Nationally

In their evaluation of aspects of parish life, respondents at St. Kilian Parish responded similarly to those at parishes nationally.³

³ Only differences of 10 percentage points or more are treated as meaningful.

“Excellent” Ratings

Nearly six in ten respondents give an “excellent” rating to St. Kilian Parish overall.

<i>Please evaluate these aspects of parish life</i>		
<i>Percentage responding “Excellent”</i>		
	St. Kilian	Catholics In Pew Nationally*
Outreach to and advocacy for those in need or distress	61%	–
St. Kilian Parish overall	56	58%
Encouragement to share your time, talents and treasure with the parish	51	57
Masses and liturgies in general	50	59
Efforts to educate parishioners in the faith	44	55
Sense of community within the parish	40	46
Spreading the Gospel/evangelizing	40	45
Vision provided by parish leaders	39	50

**Source: CARA’s 2012 Emerging Models study*

- Between half and six in ten say the following are “excellent”: outreach to and advocacy for those in need or distress; encouragement to share one’s time, talents, and treasure with the parish; and Masses and liturgies in general.
- About four in ten give an “excellent” evaluation to the following: efforts to educate parishioners in the faith, the sense of community within the parish, efforts to spread the Gospel or evangelize, and the vision provided by parish leaders.

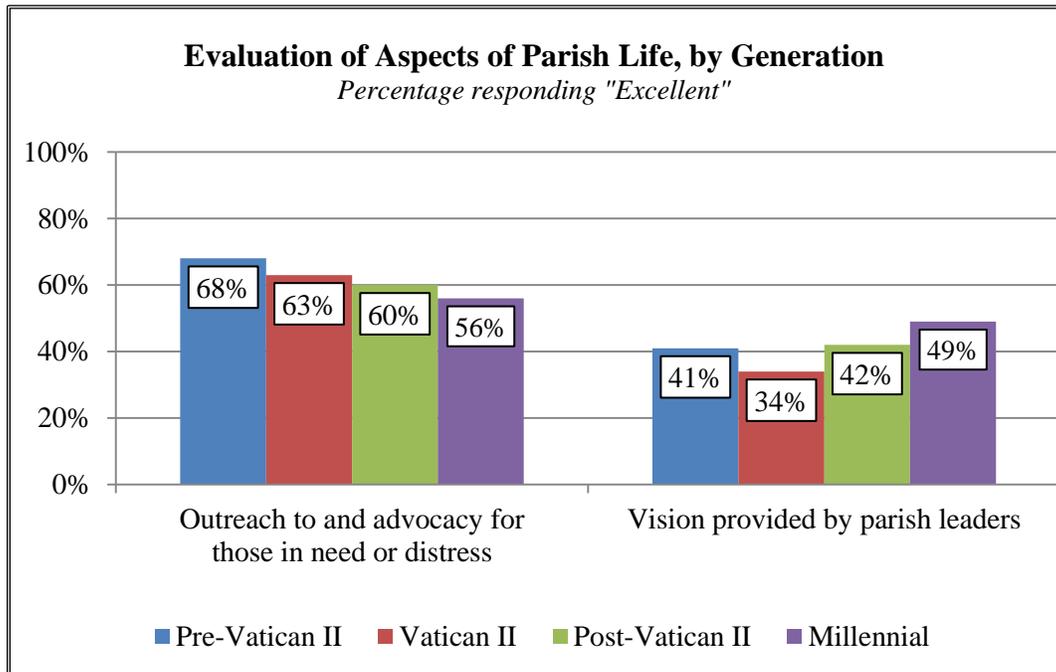
Comparison to Parishes Nationally

Those at St. Kilian Parish are *less* likely than those at parishes nationally to give an “excellent” evaluation to the following aspects of parish life:

- Efforts to educate parishioners in the faith (44 percent compared to 55 percent)
- Vision provided by parish leaders (39 percent compared to 50 percent)

Differences by Generation

The older the generation, the more likely they are to give an “excellent” rating to parish efforts to reach out and advocate for those in need or distress. Conversely, members of the Millennial Generation are especially likely to rate the vision provided by parish leaders as “excellent.” Those of the Vatican II Generation are *least* likely.



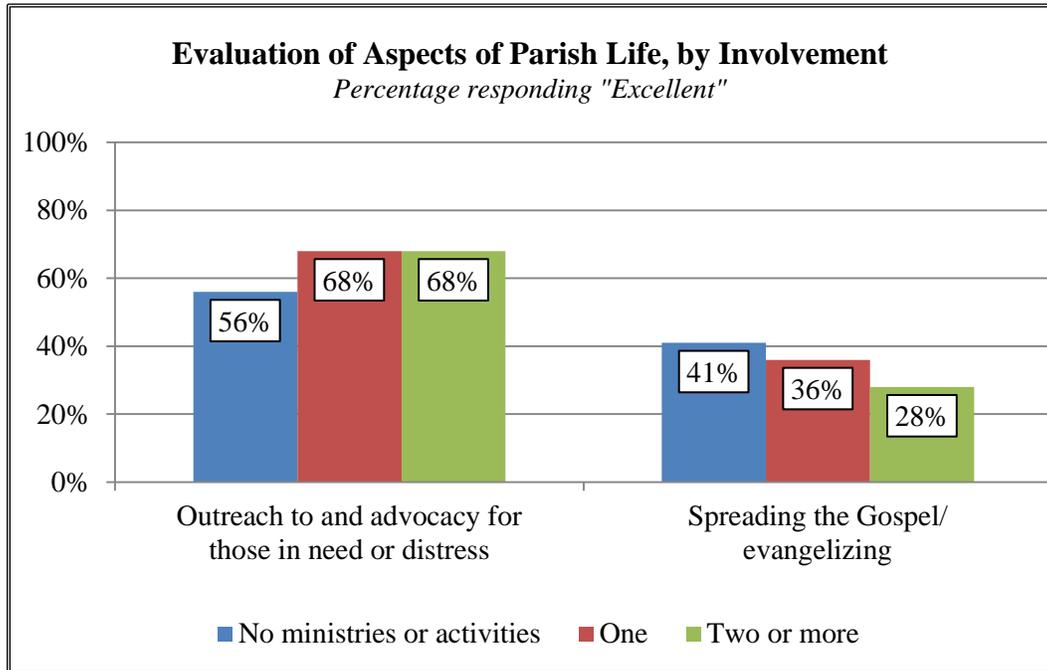
Differences by Language of Response

Those responding to the Spanish-language version of the survey are more likely than those responding to the English-language version to say the parish is “excellent” at spreading the Gospel or evangelizing (54 percent compared to 38 percent).

Those responding in English, on the other hand, are more likely than those responding in Spanish to give efforts to reach out and advocate for those in need or distress an “excellent” evaluation (62 percent compared to 46 percent).

Differences by Level of Involvement

Those involved with at least one ministry or activity at the parish are relatively more likely to give an “excellent” rating to parish efforts to reach out and advocate for those in need or distress. Concerning efforts to spread the Gospel or evangelize, on the other hand, the more involved respondents are with parish ministries or activities, the *less* likely they are to give these efforts an “excellent” evaluation.



Differences by Past Participation in Religious Education Programs

Those whose children have attended religious education classes at the parish in the past five years do *not* differ significantly from others in their evaluations of efforts to educate parishioners in the faith.

Similarly, respondents who have attended adult religious education classes at the parish in the past five years do *not* differ significantly from others in their evaluations of efforts to educate parishioners in the faith.

Evaluation of Areas of Faith Formation

More than eight in ten give a positive evaluation to each of the areas of faith formation evaluated.

	St. Kilian	Parishes Nationally*
Children’s religious education programs	87%	83%
Youth ministry	87	73
Faith formation for adults	82	71
Family-centered religious education programs	81	–

**Source: Cumulative average from parishes conducting CARA Parish Life Surveys*

Comparison to Parishes Nationally

St. Kilian respondents are more likely than those at parishes nationally to give a “good” or “excellent” evaluation to youth ministry (87 percent compared to 73 percent).

“Excellent” Ratings

More than four in ten rate as “excellent” the parish’s youth ministry and its children’s religious education programs.

<i>Please evaluate the following areas of faith formation</i>		
<i>Percentage responding “Excellent”</i>		
	St. Kilian	Parishes Nationally*
Youth ministry	43%	31%
Children’s religious education programs	42	39
Family-centered religious education programs	36	–
Faith formation for adults	35	27

**Source: Cumulative average from parishes conducting CARA Parish Life Surveys*

Family-centered religious education programs and faith formation for adults receive an “excellent” evaluation from just over a third of respondents.

Comparison to Parishes Nationally

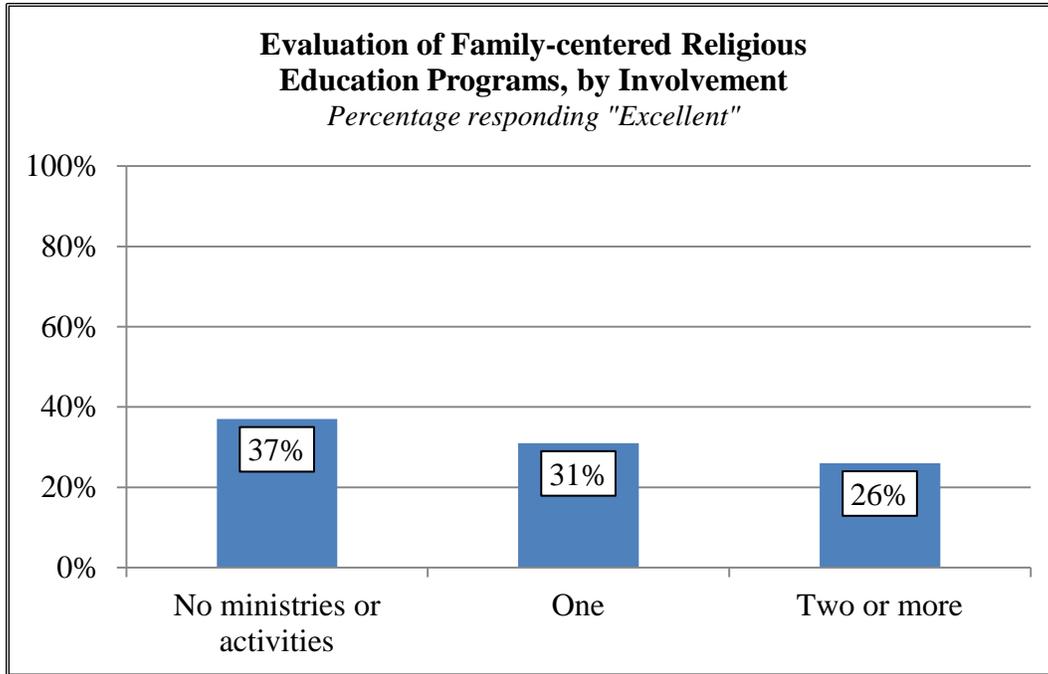
Those at St. Kilian Parish are more likely than those at parishes nationally to give an “excellent” evaluation to youth ministry (43 percent compared to 31 percent).

Differences by Language of Response

Those responding to the survey in Spanish (48 percent) are more likely than those responding in English (34 percent) to give faith formation for adults at the parish an “excellent” evaluation.

Differences by Level of Involvement

The more involved respondents are with ministries or activities at the parish, the *less* likely they are to rate family-centered religious education programs as “excellent.”



Differences by Past Participation in Religious Education Programs

Those whose children have attended religious education classes at the parish in the past five years do *not* differ significantly from others in their evaluations of family-centered religious education programs, children’s religious education programs, or youth ministry.

Similarly, respondents who have attended adult religious education classes at the parish in the past five years do *not* differ significantly from others in their evaluations of faith formation for adults at the parish.

Differences by Presence of Children in the Household

Respondents who have a child or stepchild living with them ages 13 to 17 are slightly more likely than others to give an “excellent” rating to the following areas of faith formation:

- Youth ministry at the parish (44 percent compared to 36 percent)
- Family-centered religious education programs (37 percent compared to 29 percent)

Evaluation of Areas of Worship

With one exception, more than eight in ten give a positive evaluation to each of the areas of worship shown in the table below.

<i>Please evaluate these areas of worship in general</i>		
<i>Percentage responding “Good” or “Excellent”</i>		
	St. Kilian	Catholics In Pew Nationally*
Advent and Lenten penance services	93%	–
Music	92	82%
Homilies	89	87
Song selection	88	–
People’s participation in Mass	81	75
Hospitality or sense of welcome	78	85
<i>*Source: CARA’s 2012 Emerging Models study</i>		

- About nine in ten say the following areas of worship in general are “good” or “excellent”: Advent or Lenten penance services, the music, the homilies, and the song selection.
- People’s participation in Mass and the hospitality or sense of welcome receive a positive evaluation from about eight in ten respondents.

Comparison to Parishes Nationally

Those at St. Kilian are more likely than those at parishes nationally to give a “good” or “excellent” evaluation to the music (92 percent compared to 82 percent).

“Excellent” Ratings

More than six in ten give an “excellent” evaluation to the music. The song selection receives as high a rating from half of respondents.

<i>Please evaluate these areas of worship in general</i>		
<i>Percentage responding “Excellent”</i>		
	St. Kilian	Catholics In Pew Nationally*
Music	62%	48%
Hospitality or sense of welcome	54	49
Song selection	51	–
Advent and Lenten penance services	48	–
Homilies	42	48
People’s participation in Mass	32	28

**Source: CARA’s 2012 Emerging Models study*

The hospitality or sense of welcome in general receives an “excellent” evaluation from more than half of responding parishioners.

- Nearly half rate as “excellent” the parish’s Advent and Lenten penance services.
- The homilies in general are seen as “excellent” by about four in ten respondents.
- Almost a third give an “excellent” rating to people’s participation in Mass.

Comparison to Parishes Nationally

St. Kilian respondents are more likely than those at responding in pew nationally to give an “excellent” rating to the music (62 percent compared to 48 percent).

Differences by Frequency of Mass Attendance

There are *no* significant differences in the evaluations of areas of worship between those who attend Mass at least once a week and other respondents.

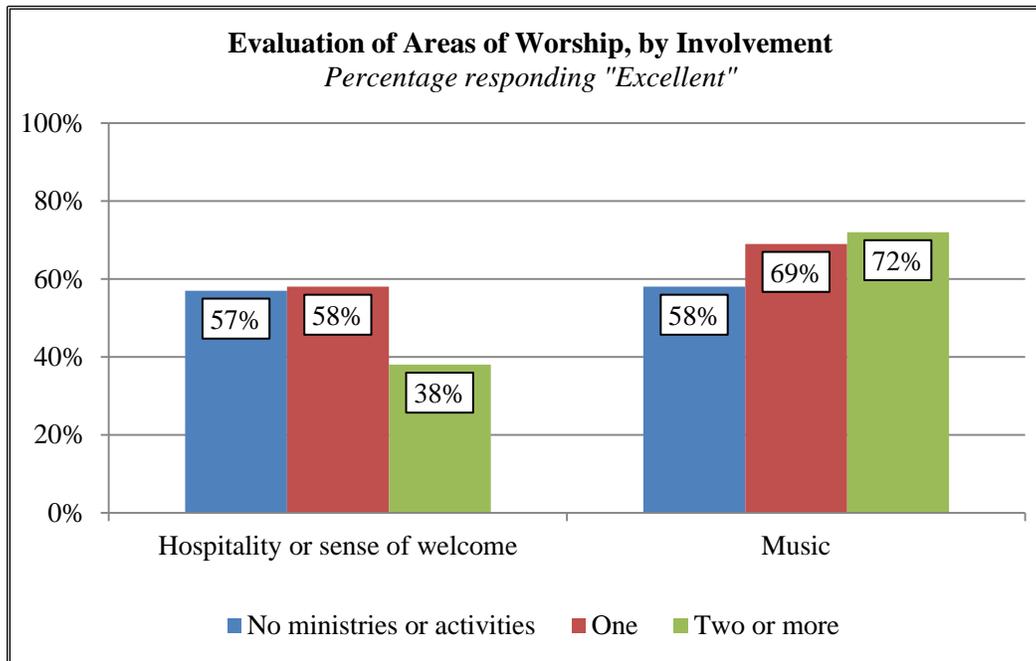
Differences by Language of Response

Those responding to the survey in Spanish are more likely than those responding in English to give an “excellent” rating to the following:

- People’s participation in Mass (57 percent compared to 30 percent)
- Homilies (57 percent compared to 41 percent)

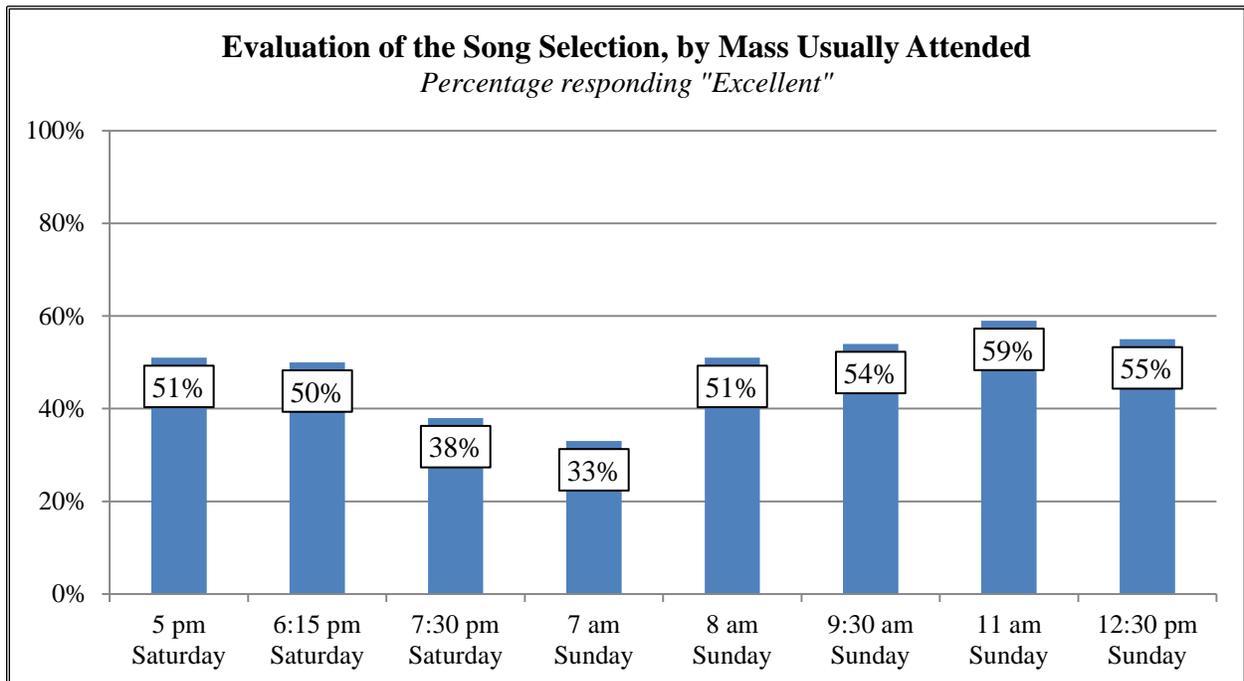
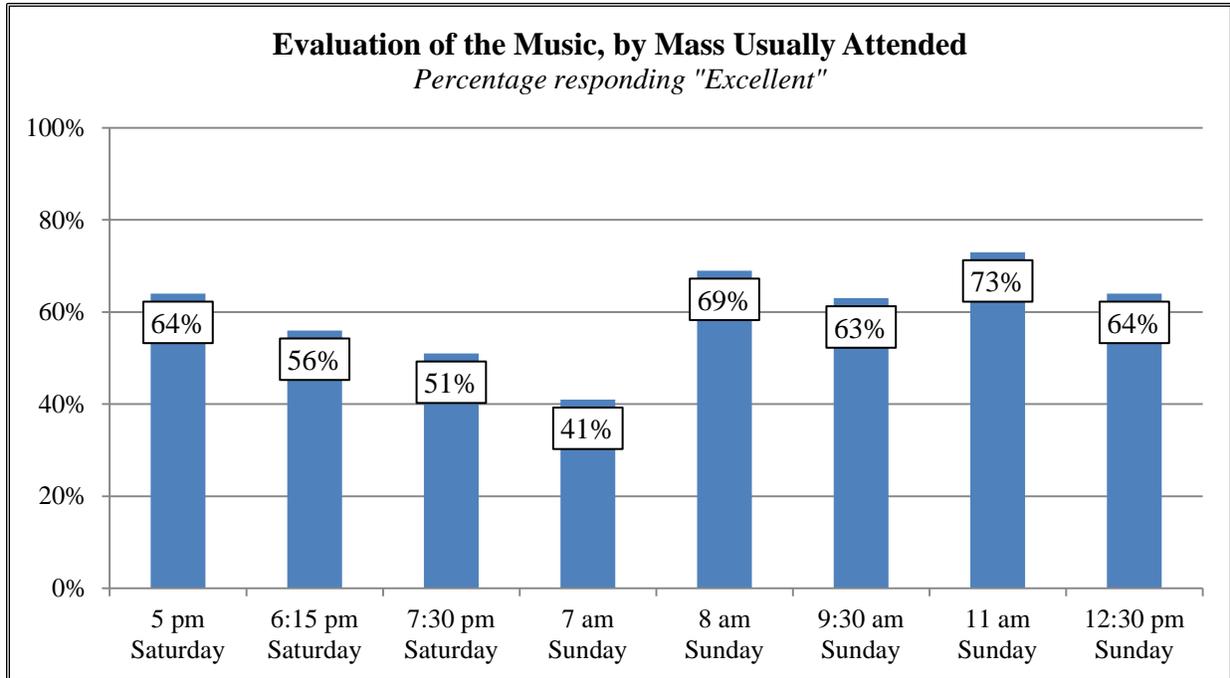
Differences by Level of Involvement

Those involved with at least two ministries or activities at the parish are *less* likely than others to give an “excellent” rating to the hospitality or sense of welcome. Conversely, the more involved respondents are with ministries and activities at the parish, the more likely they are to rate the music as “excellent.”

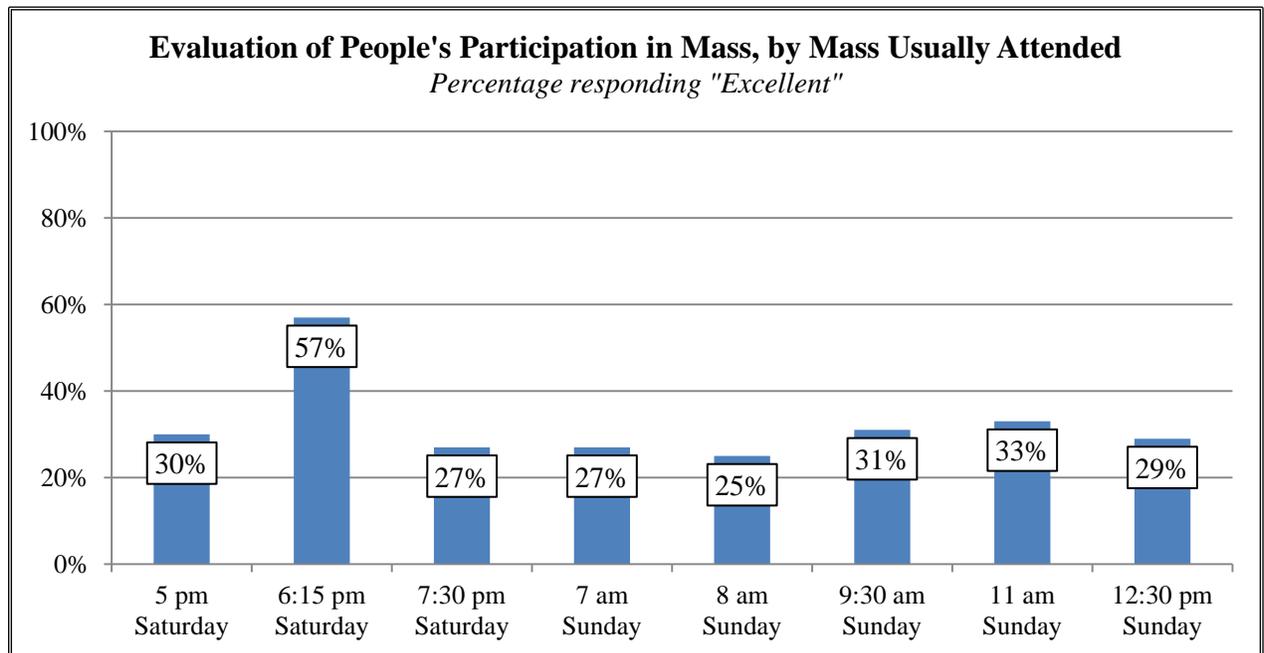
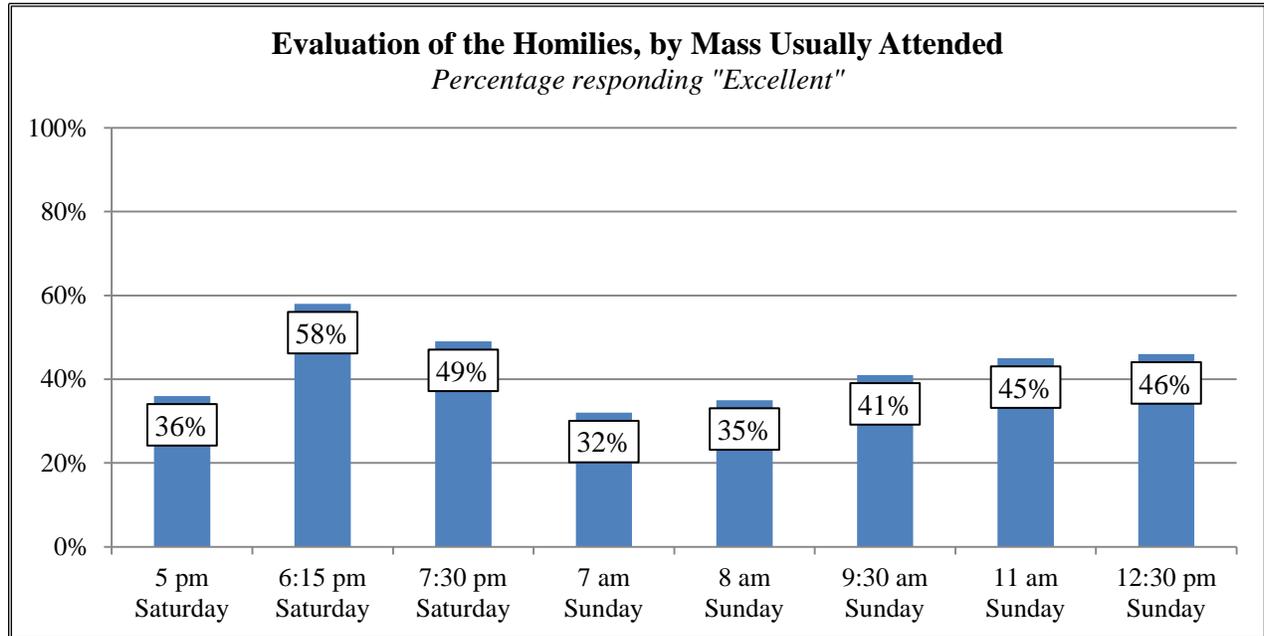


Differences by Mass Usually Attended

Those who usually attend the 7:00 a.m. Sunday Mass are *least* likely to give the music or song selection an “excellent” rating.



Those responding at the 6:15 p.m. Saturday Mass in Spanish are particularly likely to say the homilies and people's participation in Mass are "excellent."



Evaluation of Parish Efforts

Eight in ten or more give each of the parish efforts listed in the table below a positive evaluation.

	St. Kilian	Parishes Nationally*
Maintain existing facilities	91%	–
Nurture your relationship with Jesus Christ	89	89%
Foster spiritual growth	87	81
Meet people’s spiritual needs	86	83
Help you practice gospel values in your daily life	85	86
Offer a Catholic view on current issues	82	80
Reach out to parishioners like you	79	–

**Source: Cumulative average from parishes conducting CARA Parish Life Surveys*

Parish efforts to maintain existing facilities receive a “good” or “excellent” evaluation from nine in ten respondents.

- Just under nine in ten say the parish is “good” or “excellent” at efforts to nurture their relationship with Jesus Christ, foster spiritual growth, and meet people’s spiritual needs.
- A little more than eight in ten report that the parish is at least “good” at helping them practice gospel values in their daily life and at offering a Catholic view on current issues.
- Efforts to reach out to parishioners like themselves receive a positive evaluation from eight in ten respondents.

Comparison to Parishes Nationally

St. Kilian respondents are similar to those at parishes nationally in the positive evaluations they give to parish efforts.

“Excellent” Ratings

Slightly less than half say efforts to maintain existing parish facilities are “excellent.”

<i>Please evaluate parish efforts to: Percent responding “Excellent”</i>		
	St. Kilian	Parishes Nationally*
Maintain existing parish facilities	46%	–
Nurture your relationship with Jesus Christ	41	47%
Foster spiritual growth	37	35
Help you practice gospel values in your daily life	36	37
Meet people’s spiritual needs	35	40
Offer a Catholic view on current issues	35	33
Reach out to parishioners like you	29	–

**Source: Cumulative average from parishes conducting CARA Parish Life Surveys*

About four in ten give the parish an “excellent” rating for its efforts to nurture their relationship with Jesus Christ.

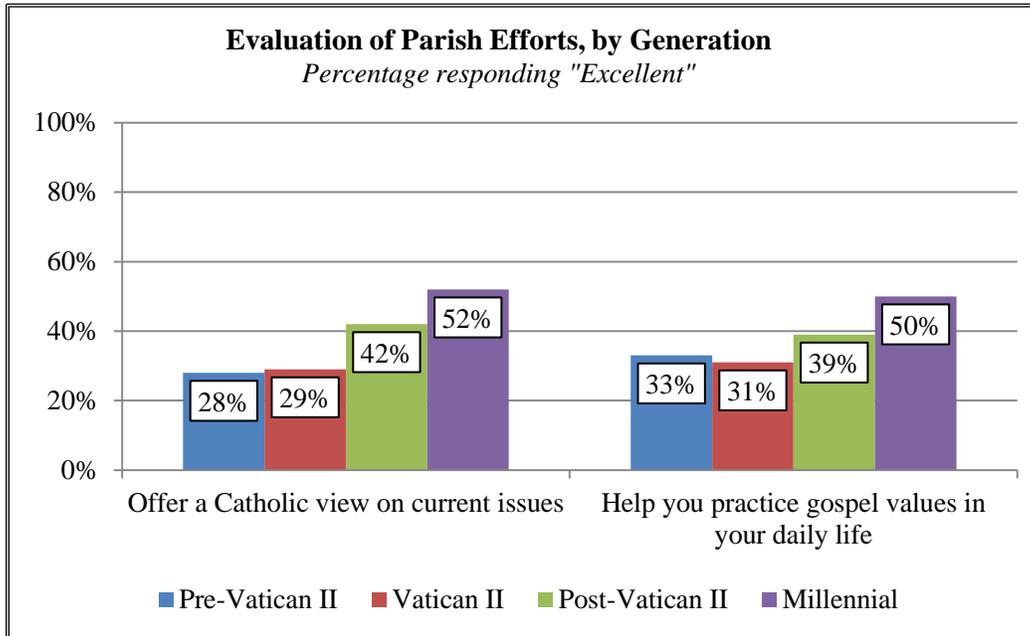
- Just over a third say the parish is “excellent” in its efforts to foster spiritual growth, help them practice gospel values in their daily life, meet people’s spiritual needs, and offer a Catholic view on current issues.
- Parish efforts to reach out to parishioners like themselves receive an “excellent” rating from three in ten respondents.

Comparison to Parishes Nationally

St. Kilian respondents are similar to those at parishes nationally in the “excellent” evaluations they give to parish efforts.

Differences by Generation

Members of the oldest generation are especially likely to rate parish efforts to offer a Catholic view on current issues and to help them practice gospel values in their daily life as “excellent,” followed by those of the Vatican II Generation.



Differences by Language of Response

Those responding to the survey in Spanish are more likely than those responding in English to rate as “excellent” parish efforts to:

- Reach out to parishioners like you (43 percent compared to 28 percent)
- Meet people’s spiritual needs (48 percent compared to 33 percent)
- Foster spiritual growth (50 percent compared to 36 percent)
- Nurture your relationship with Jesus Christ (53 percent compared to 40 percent)
- Help you practice gospel values in your daily life (47 percent compared to 35 percent)

Differences by Mass Usually Attended

Those who usually attend the 6:15 p.m. Saturday Mass in Spanish are more likely than respondents overall to give an “excellent” rating to the following parish efforts:

- Meet people’s spiritual needs (52 percent compared to 35 percent)
- Reach out to parishioners like you (44 percent compared to 29 percent)
- Foster spiritual growth (51 percent compared to 37 percent)
- Nurture your relationship with Jesus Christ (54 percent compared to 41 percent)

Evaluation of Parish Service to Groups

At least six in ten respondents at St. Kilian Parish give a positive evaluation to the parish service given to all of the groups in the table below.

<i>Please evaluate how well the parish serves these groups: Percentage responding "Good" or "Excellent"</i>		
	St. Kilian	Parishes Nationally*
Senior citizens (ages 65 and older)	90%	75%
Families	89	82
Those sick or homebound	87	80
Married couples	84	72
Teens (ages 13 to 17)	80	73
Children (ages 4 to 12)	79	77
New parishioners	78	70
Young adults (ages 18 to 35)	72	67
Single parents	71	52
Those divorced or separated	70	54
Inactive Catholics	60	54

**Source: Cumulative average from parishes conducting CARA Parish Life Surveys*

Nine in ten say parish service to senior citizens is “good” or “excellent.” Just over seven in ten give a positive evaluation to parish service to young adults.

- Between eight and nine in ten give a positive evaluation to parish services to the following groups: families (89 percent), married couples (84 percent), teens (80 percent), and children (79 percent).
- Service to those sick or homebound receives a positive evaluation from almost nine in ten respondents.
- Almost eight in ten say parish service to new parishioners is at least “good,” with six in ten giving a positive evaluation to its service to inactive Catholics.
- Parish service to single parents and those divorced or separated receives a positive evaluation from seven in ten respondents.

Comparison to Parishes Nationally

St. Kilian respondents are 12 to 19 percentage points more likely than those at parishes nationally to rate outreach to the following as “good” or “excellent”:

- Single parents (71 percent compared to 52 percent)
- Those divorced or separated (70 percent compared to 54 percent)
- Senior citizens (90 percent compared to 75 percent)
- Married couples (84 percent compared to 72 percent)

“Excellent” Ratings

Nearly half of respondents give an “excellent” rating to parish service to senior citizens. A third give as high a rating to service to young adults.

Please evaluate how well the parish serves these groups:
Percentage responding “Excellent”

	St. Kilian	Parishes Nationally*
Senior citizens (ages 65 and older)	46%	34%
Families	44	37
Those sick or homebound	42	38
Children (ages 4 to 12)	36	33
Teens (ages 13 to 17)	35	30
Married couples	35	26
New parishioners	33	29
Young adults (ages 18 to 35)	32	27
Single parents	31	17
Those divorced or separated	28	19
Inactive Catholics	25	19

**Source: Cumulative average from parishes conducting CARA
Parish Life Surveys*

More than a third give an “excellent” rating to parish service to families (44 percent), children (36 percent), teens (35 percent), and married couples (35 percent). Service to single parents (31 percent) and those divorced or separated (28 percent) receives as high an evaluation from about three in ten respondents.

- More than four in ten say parish service to those sick or homebound is “excellent.”
- A third rate parish service to new parishioners as “excellent,” with a quarter giving as high a rating to parish service to inactive Catholics.

Comparison to Parishes Nationally

St. Kilian respondents are more likely than those at parishes nationally to rate outreach to the following as “excellent”:

- Senior citizens (46 percent compared to 34 percent)
- Single parents (31 percent compared to 17 percent)

Non-response Rate

Likely due to being unfamiliar with parish service or outreach to some groups, non-response rates are more than 40 percent for service to the following groups:

- 45 percent for single parents
- 43 percent for those divorced or separated
- 42 percent for inactive Catholics

Differences by Age

Those ages 18 to 35 are more likely than other respondents to give an “excellent” rating to the parish’s service to young adults (42 percent compared to 32 percent). Moreover, those ages 18 to 35 are considerably more likely than other respondents to say parish service to senior citizens is “excellent” (69 percent compared to 44 percent).

Those ages 65 and older are *less* likely than other respondents to give an “excellent” rating to the parish’s service to senior citizens (40 percent compared to 50 percent).

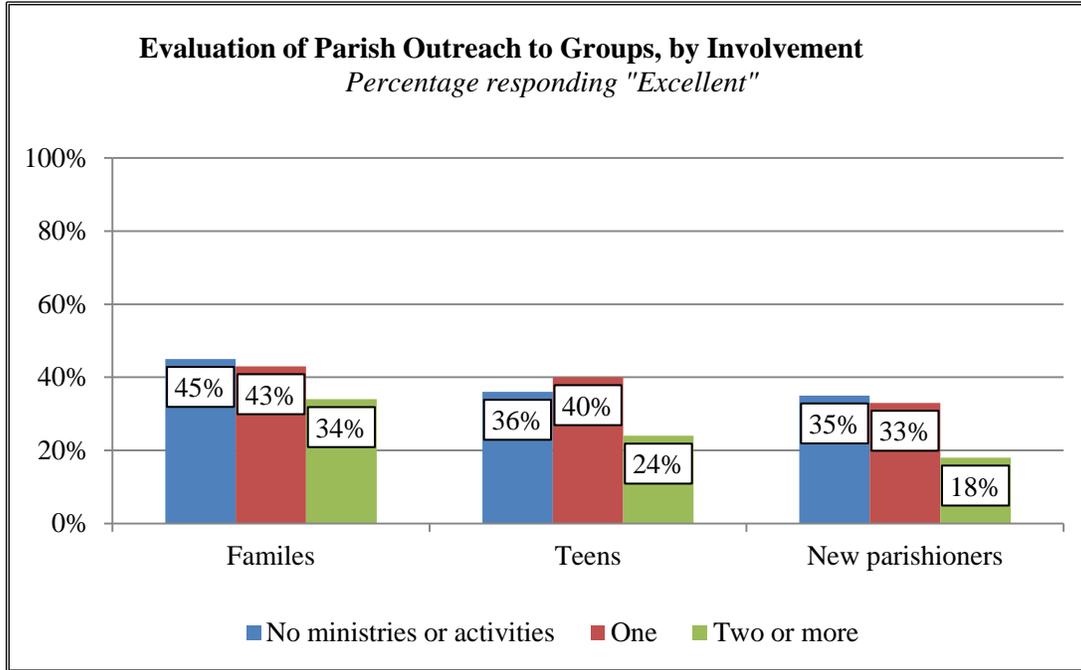
Differences by Language of Response

Those responding to the survey in Spanish are more likely than those responding in English to say parish service to the following groups is “excellent”:

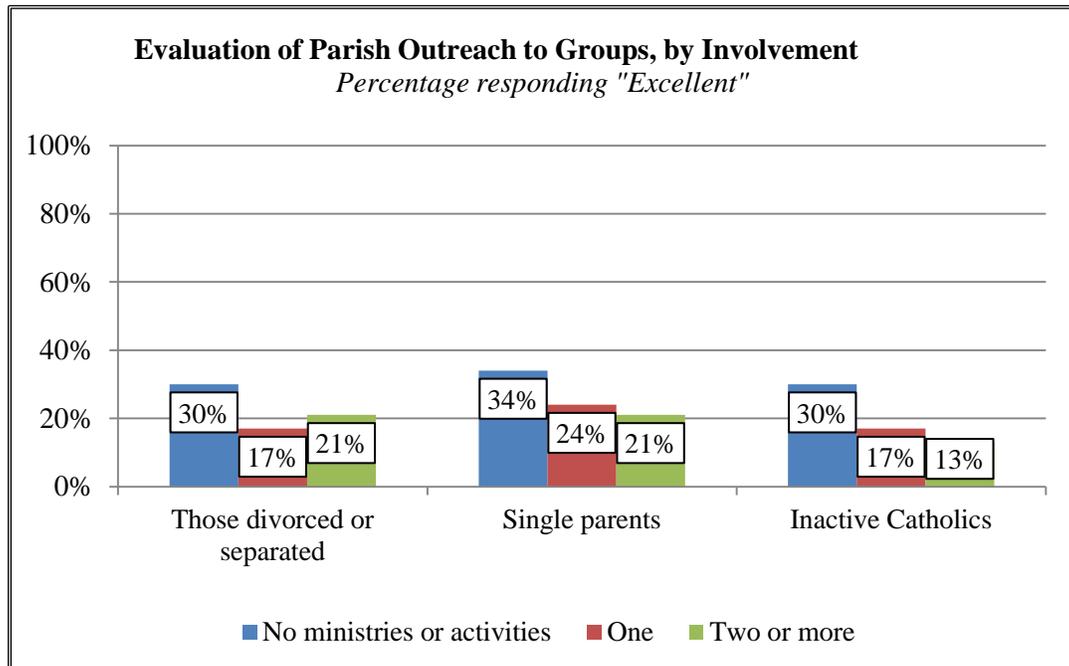
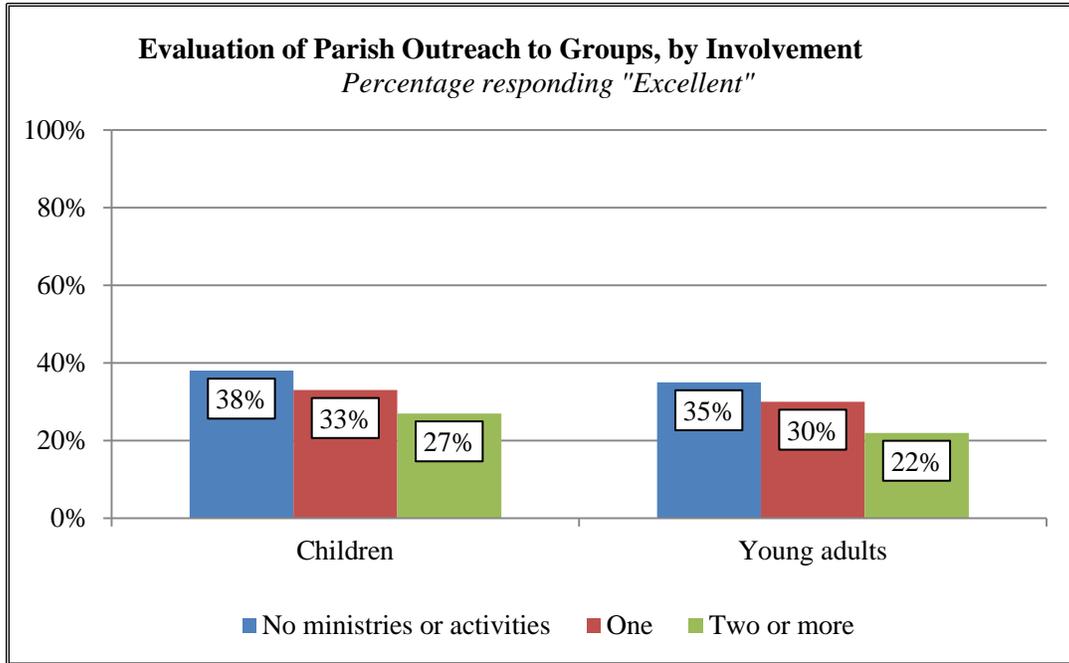
- Young adults (52 percent compared to 30 percent)
- Inactive Catholics (39 percent compared to 23 percent)
- New parishioners (47 percent compared to 31 percent)
- Those divorced or separated (40 percent compared to 26 percent)
- Teens (46 percent compared to 34 percent)
- Families (45 percent compared to 35 percent)
- Single parents (40 percent compared to 30 percent)

Differences by Level of Involvement

Those involved with at least two ministries or activities at the parish are *least* likely to give parish service to families, teens, and new parishioners an “excellent” evaluation.



The more involved with parish ministries or activities respondents are, the *less* likely they are to give an “excellent” evaluation to parish services to children and young adults. Similarly, those not involved with any ministries or activities at the parish are especially likely to give an “excellent” evaluation to parish services to those divorced or separated, single parents, and inactive Catholics.



Differences by Marital Status

Married respondents are *less* likely than others to give an “excellent” evaluation to parish service to married couples (31 percent compared to 43 percent).

Those divorced or separated (100 respondents), on the other hand, are more likely than others to give parish service to those divorced or separated an “excellent” evaluation (39 percent compared to 26 percent).

About 45 respondents are unmarried and report having a child or stepchild living with them currently. Some 45 percent of these respondents give an “excellent” evaluation to parish service to single parents, compared to 31 percent of respondents overall.

Differences by Presence of Children

Those with children under 18 living with them do *not* differ significantly from other respondents in how they evaluate parish service to children or to teens.

Differences by Years at the Parish

Some 150 respondents have attended the parish for five years or less. Evaluations of parish service to new parishioners among these respondents do *not* differ significantly from other respondents.

Top Priorities for Parish Outreach

Respondents were asked to choose the three groups from the list in the table below that the parish should give most priority to for outreach. Outreach to families and those sick or homebound are listed as top priorities by about four in ten respondents.

Groups Listed Among One's Top Three Priority for Outreach	
	One of their Three Top Priority
Families	40%
Those sick or homebound	38
Teens (ages 13 to 17)	34
Senior citizens (ages 65 and older)	31
Inactive Catholics	30
Young adults (ages 18 to 35)	29
Children (ages 4 to 12)	23
Single parents	18
Those divorced or separated	17
New parishioners	17
Married couples	9

Parish outreach to teens is listed as a top priority by about a third of respondents, with nearly a quarter listing outreach to children.

- About three in ten list outreach to senior citizens and to young adults as a top priority.
- Outreach to inactive Catholics is listed by three in ten respondents, with one in six listing new parishioners.
- About one in six lists outreach to single parents and to those divorced or separated as one of the top priorities for the parish. Outreach to married couples is listed by one in ten respondents.

Priority for Parish Needs

More than eight in ten give at least “somewhat” priority to each of the needs listed in the table below.

<i>How much priority should the parish give the following?</i>		
<i>Percentage responding “Somewhat” or “Very Much”</i>		
	St. Kilian	Parishes Nationally*
Children’s religious education/formation	98%	91%
Young adult ministry	98	90
Youth ministry	98	88
Visitation of the sick and homebound	97	90
Developing a parish sense of community	96	91
Providing opportunities for parishioners to help the needy	96	87
Upkeep of parish facilities	96	87
Adult faith formation	96	86
Fostering priestly or religious vocations	92	81
Outreach to inactive Catholics	90	73
Parish missions	88	–
More opportunities for devotions such as rosaries and Eucharistic Adoration	86	80
Providing retreat opportunities	83	71
More small group prayer opportunities	82	75

**Source: Cumulative average from parishes conducting CARA Parish Life Surveys*

Nearly all responding parishioners place at least “somewhat” priority on children’s religious education/formation, youth ministry, and adult faith formation.

- Young adult ministry receives “somewhat” or “very much” priority from almost all respondents.
- Almost all respondents place at least “somewhat” priority on visitation of the sick and homebound and providing opportunities for parishioners to help the needy.
- Developing a parish sense of community is given at least “somewhat” priority by nearly all respondents.
- Upkeep of parish facilities receives “somewhat” or “very much” priority from almost all respondents.

- Just over nine in ten give at least “somewhat” priority to fostering priestly or religious vocations.
- Nine in ten place at least “somewhat” priority on outreach to inactive Catholics.
- Between 82 to 88 percent place at least “somewhat” priority on parish missions, more opportunities for devotions such as rosaries and Eucharistic Adoration, providing retreat opportunities, and more small group prayer opportunities.

Comparisons to Parishes Nationally

St. Kilian respondents are 10 to 17 percentage points more likely than those at parishes nationally to give “somewhat” or “very much” priority to the following needs:

- Outreach to inactive Catholics (90 percent compared to 73 percent)
- Providing retreat opportunities (83 percent compared to 71 percent)
- Fostering priestly or religious vocations (92 percent compared to 81 percent)
- Youth ministry (98 percent compared to 88 percent)
- Adult faith formation (96 percent compared to 86 percent)

“Very Much” Priority

More than three in four give “very much” priority to children’s religious education/formation (85 percent) and youth ministry (78 percent). Almost six in ten place “very much” priority on adult faith formation, with nearly four in ten giving as much priority to providing retreat opportunities.

<i>How much priority should the parish give the following? Percentage responding “Very Much”</i>		
	St. Kilian	Parishes Nationally*
Children’s religious education/formation	85%	70%
Youth ministry	78	59
Visitation of the sick and homebound	72	55
Developing a parish sense of community	71	60
Young adult ministry	70	62
Providing opportunities for parishioners to help the needy	66	53
Upkeep of parish facilities	62	50
Adult faith formation	56	46
Outreach to inactive Catholics	56	35
Fostering priestly or religious vocations	52	37
Parish missions	41	–
More opportunities for devotions such as rosaries and Eucharistic Adoration	40	39
More small group prayer opportunities	37	34
Providing retreat opportunities	37	31

**Source: Cumulative average from parishes conducting CARA Parish Life Surveys*

Visitation of the sick and homebound (72 percent) and providing opportunities for parishioners to help the needy (66 percent) receive “very much” priority from at least two in three respondents.

- Seven in ten say the parish should give “very much” priority to developing a parish sense of community and to young adult ministry.
- Just over six in ten place “very much” priority on the upkeep of parish facilities.
- Outreach to inactive Catholics receives “very much” priority from almost six in ten.
- About half place “very much” priority on fostering priestly or religious vocations.

- About four in ten give “very much” priority to parish missions, more opportunities for devotions such as rosaries and Eucharistic Adoration, and more small group prayer opportunities.

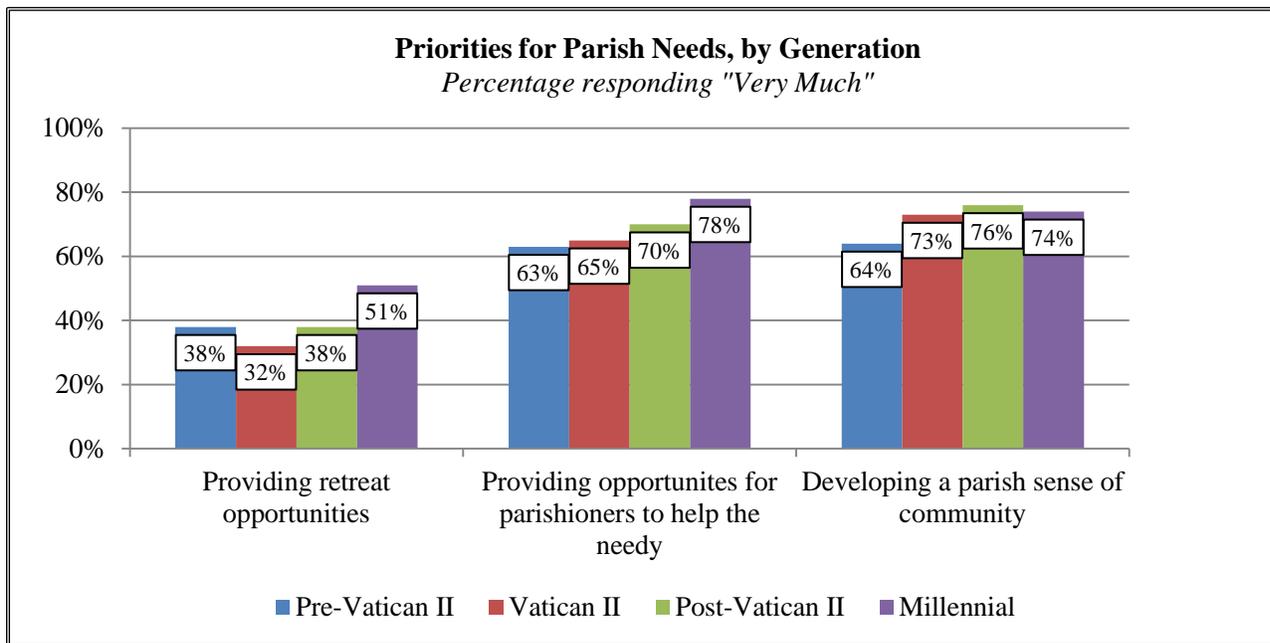
Comparisons to Parishes Nationally

Those at St. Kilian Parish are 10 to 21 percentage points more likely than those at parishes nationally to give “very much” priority to the following needs:

- Outreach to inactive Catholics (65 percent compared to 35 percent)
- Youth ministry (78 percent compared to 59 percent)
- Visitation of the sick and homebound (72 percent compared to 55 percent)
- Children’s religious education/formation (85 percent compared to 70 percent)
- Fostering priestly or religious vocations (52 percent compared to 37 percent)
- Providing opportunities for parishioners to help the needy (66 percent compared to 53 percent)
- Upkeep of parish facilities (62 percent compared to 50 percent)
- Developing a parish sense of community (71 percent compared to 60 percent)
- Adult faith formation (56 percent compared to 46 percent)

Differences by Generation

Members of the Millennial Generation are especially likely to give “very much” priority to providing retreat opportunities and providing opportunities for parishioners to help the needy. Those of the youngest three generations are most likely to place “very much” priority on developing a parish sense of community.



Differences by Language of Response

Those responding to the survey in English are more likely than those responding in Spanish to place “very much” priority on the following:

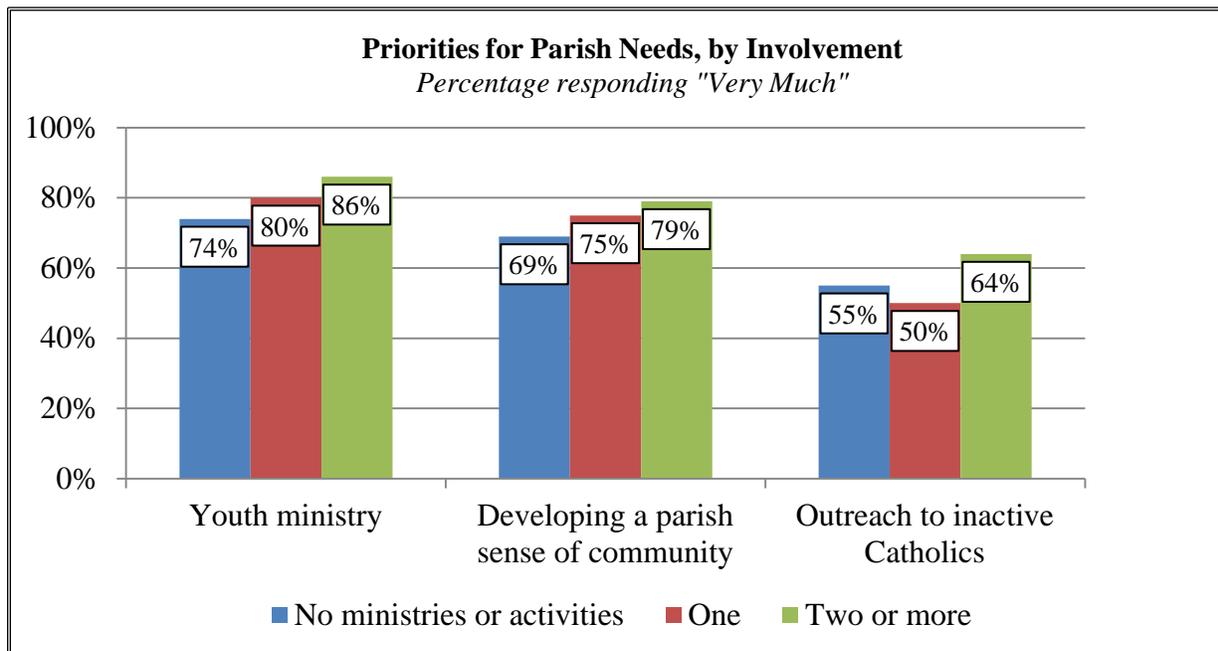
- Youth ministry (79 percent compared to 66 percent)
- Children’s religious education/formation (86 percent compared to 75 percent)

Those responding in Spanish, on the other hand, are 12 to 32 percentage points more likely than those responding in English to give “very much” priority to the following:

- More small group prayer opportunities (66 percent compared to 34 percent)
- Providing retreat opportunities (64 percent compared to 35 percent)
- More opportunities for devotions such as rosaries and Eucharistic Adoration (64 percent compared to 37 percent)
- Parish missions (58 percent compared to 40 percent)

Differences by Level of Involvement

The more involved respondents are with ministries and activities at the parish, the more likely they are to give “very much” priority to youth ministry and to developing a parish sense of community. Outreach to inactive Catholics is especially likely to receive “very much” priority from those involved with at least two ministries or activities at the parish.



Differences by Mass Usually Attended

Those saying the 6:15 p.m. Saturday Mass in Spanish is the Mass they usually attend are at least 20 percentage points more likely than respondents overall to give “very much” priority to the following needs and programs:

- More opportunities for devotions, such as rosaries and Eucharistic Adoration (68 percent compared to 40 percent)
- Providing retreat opportunities (61 percent compared to 37 percent)
- More small group prayer opportunities (57 percent compared to 37 percent)

Those saying the 8 a.m. Sunday Mass is the one they usually attend are more likely than respondents overall to give “very much” priority to young adult ministry (81 percent compared to 70 percent).

Differences by Participation in Religious Education Programs

Some 45 percent of those who have attended adult religious education classes in the past five years give “very much” priority to providing retreat opportunities, compared to 35 percent of other respondents.

Respondents whose children have attended parish religious education programs in the past five years do *not* differ significantly from others in the priority they give to children’s religious education/formation and youth ministry.

Top Priorities for Parish Needs

Respondents were asked to choose the three needs from the list below to which the parish should give most priority. Children’s religious education/formation is especially likely to be a top priority, with half of respondents listing it. Nearly three in ten list youth ministry as a top priority, just over one in ten lists adult faith formation, and almost one in ten lists providing retreat opportunities.

Needs Listed Among One’s Top Three Priorities	
<i>Percentage listing a need among their top three priorities</i>	
	One of their Three Top Priorities
Children’s religious education/formation	50%
Visitation of the sick and homebound	31
Developing a parish sense of community	31
Outreach to inactive Catholics	30
Youth ministry	28
Providing opportunities for parishioners to help the needy	28
Young adult ministry	22
Adult faith formation	14
Upkeep of parish facilities	12
Fostering priestly or religious vocations	10
Providing retreat opportunities	9
More small group prayer opportunities	9
More opportunities for devotions such as rosaries and Eucharistic Adoration	8
Parish missions	7

About three in ten list visitation of the sick and homebound and providing opportunities for parishioners to help the needy as one of their top priorities.

- Developing a parish sense of community and outreach to inactive Catholics are listed by about three in ten respondents.
- Just over two in ten list young adult ministry as a top priority for the parish.
- About one in ten lists upkeep of parish facilities and fostering priestly or religious vocations as one of the top priorities.

- Nearly one in ten lists more small group prayer opportunities, more opportunities for devotions such as rosaries and Eucharistic Adoration, and parish missions.

Differences by Language of Response

There are some variations between those who responded in different languages in their picks for the top three parish priorities. The top seven priorities listed by English-language respondents are:

- Children’s religious education/formation (50 percent)
- Developing a parish sense of community (32 percent)
- Visitation of the sick and homebound (32 percent)
- Outreach to inactive Catholics (30 percent)
- Providing opportunities for parishioners to help the needy (29 percent)
- Youth ministry (28 percent)
- Young adult ministry (22 percent)

The top seven priorities listed by Spanish language respondents are:

- Children’s religious education/formation (54 percent)
- Visitation of the sick or homebound (28 percent)
- Youth ministry (26 percent)
- Outreach to inactive Catholics (26 percent)
- Adult faith formation (24 percent)
- Providing opportunities for parishioners to help the needy (20 percent)
- Developing a parish sense of community (20 percent)

Importance of Religious Behaviors

Each of the behaviors listed in the table below are at least “somewhat” important to more than nine in ten survey respondents.

	St. Kilian	Parishes Nationally*
Developing your relationship with God	99%	98%
Helping those in need	99	95
Passing on the faith to the next generation	98	96
Being Catholic	98	95
Receiving the Eucharist	98	–
Learning more about the Catholic faith	96	91
Being part of a parish community	95	91
Learning more about the Bible	92	–

**Source: Cumulative average from parishes conducting CARA Parish Life Surveys*

Comparison to Parishes Nationally

St. Kilian respondents are similar to those responding at parishes nationally in the importance they give to the religious behaviors asked about in this section.

“Very” Important Behaviors

Nine in ten or slightly fewer say developing their relationship with God, being Catholic, and receiving the Eucharist are “very” important to them.

	St. Kilian	Parishes Nationally*
Developing your relationship with God	90%	86%
Being Catholic	90	81
Receiving the Eucharist	87	–
Passing on the faith to the next generation	85	83
Helping those in need	81	64
Being part of a parish community	67	63
Learning more about the Catholic faith	67	58
Learning more about the Bible	59	–

**Source: Cumulative average from parishes conducting CARA Parish Life Surveys*

Passing on the faith to the next generation is “very” important to more than eight in ten respondents. Two-thirds say learning more about the Catholic faith is “very” important, with six in ten placing as much importance on learning more about the Bible.

- Helping those in need is “very” important to eight in ten respondents.
- Two in three report that being part of a parish community is “very” important to them.

Comparison to Parishes Nationally

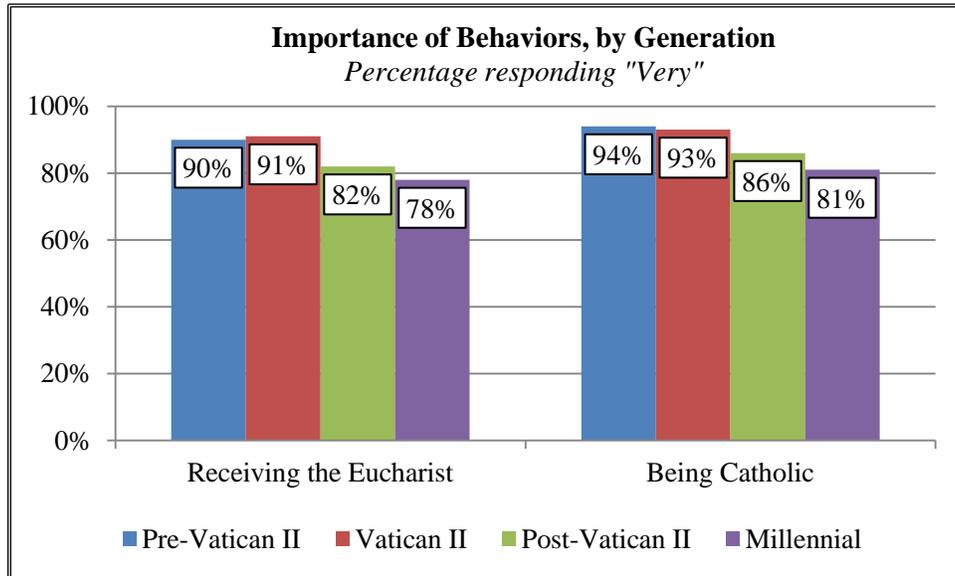
Those at St. Kilian Parish are more likely than those at parishes nationally to say that helping the needy is “very” important to them (81 percent compared to 64 percent).

Differences by Frequency of Mass Attendance

About nine in ten (92 percent) respondents who attend Mass at least once a week say receiving the Eucharist is “very” important to them, compared to 82 percent of those who say they attend almost every week and 67 percent of those who attend less frequently than that.

Differences by Generation

Consistent with the finding presented earlier that those of the youngest two generations are least likely to attend Mass at least once a week, those of the Millennial and Post-Vatican II Generations are relatively *less* likely to indicate that receiving the Eucharist is “very” important to them. Similarly, members of the two youngest generations are relatively *less* likely to indicate that being Catholic is “very” important to them.



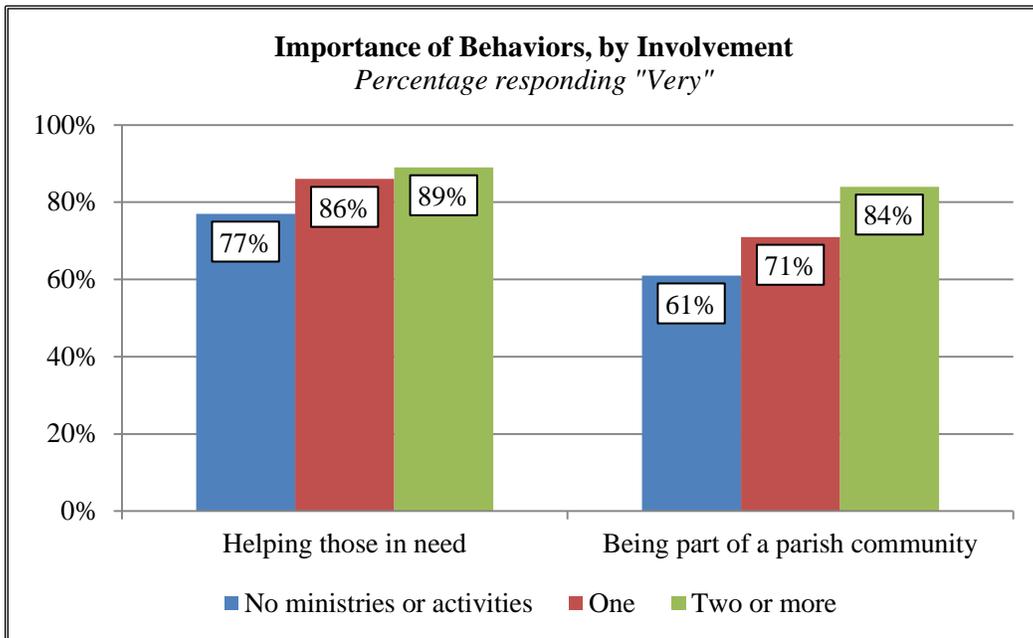
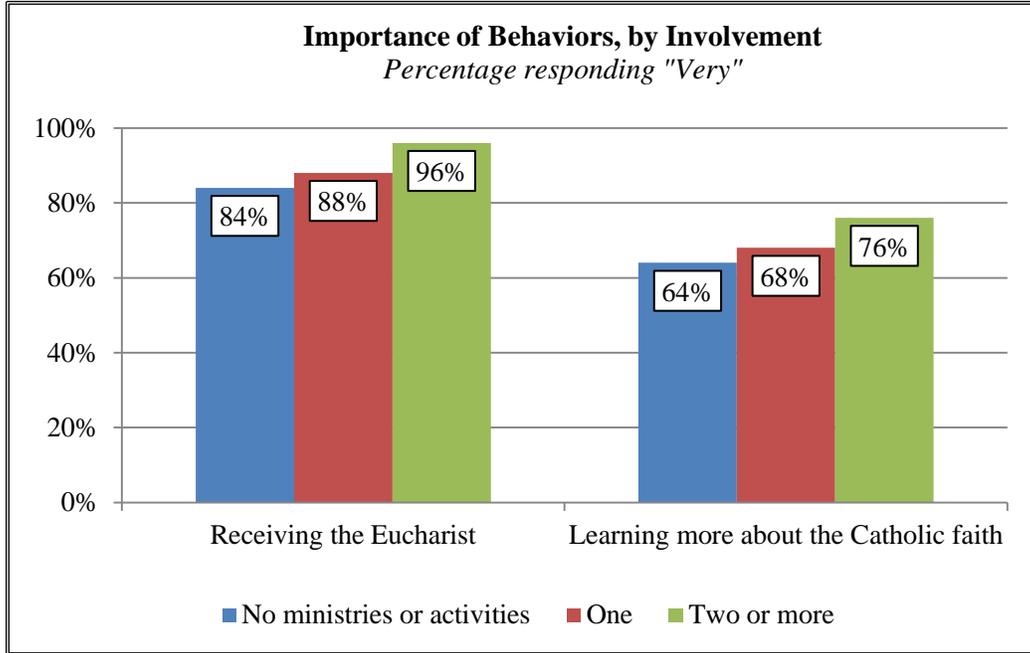
Differences by Language of Response

Those responding to the survey in Spanish are more likely than those responding in English to say the following are “very” important to them:

- Learning more about the Bible (87 percent compared to 56 percent)
- Learning more about the Catholic faith (84 percent compared to 66 percent)

Differences by Level of Involvement

The more involved respondents are with ministries and activities at the parish, the more likely they are to find the religious behaviors in the figures below “very” important.



Differences by Mass Usually Attended

Respondents who report usually attending the 6:15 p.m. Saturday Mass in Spanish are relatively more likely than respondents overall to say the following are “very” important to them.

- Learning more about the Bible (89 percent compared to 67 percent)
- Learning more about the Catholic faith (87 percent compared to 59 percent)

Differences by Past Participation in Religious Education Programs

Those who have attended adult religious education programs in the last five years are more likely than others to say the following are “very” important to them:

- Learning more about the Catholic faith (81 percent compared to 66 percent)
- Learning more about the Bible (73 percent compared to 57 percent)

Attraction to the Parish

Between 87 and 93 percent report being at least “somewhat” attracted to the parish by each of the elements listed in the table below.

<i>How much do the following attract you to the parish? Percentage responding “Somewhat” or “Very Much”</i>		
	St. Kilian	Parishes Nationally*
The quality of the liturgy	93%	89%
Its open, welcoming spirit	93	86
The sense of belonging you feel here	92	86
The quality of the preaching	91	87
Its respect for your cultural traditions	87	76

**Source: Cumulative average from parishes conducting CARA Parish Life Surveys*

Comparison to Parishes Nationally

St. Kilian respondents are more likely than those at parishes nationally to say that the parish’s respect for their cultural traditions (87 percent compared to 76 percent) attracts them to the parish at least “somewhat.”

Elements That Attract “Very Much”

Slightly more than six in ten respondents report being attracted to the parish “very much” by the sense of belonging they feel there and its open, welcoming spirit.

<i>How much do the following attract you to the parish?</i>		
<i>Percentage responding “Very Much”</i>		
	St. Kilian	Parishes Nationally*
The sense of belonging you feel here	64%	62%
Its open, welcoming spirit	63	57
The quality of the liturgy	57	55
The quality of the preaching	55	57
Its respect for your cultural traditions	52	42

**Source: Cumulative average from parishes conducting CARA Parish Life Surveys*

- Almost six in ten say the quality of the liturgy and the quality of the preaching attract them to the parish “very much.”
- The parish’s respect for their cultural traditions “very much” attracts about half of respondents to the parish.

Comparison to Parishes Nationally

St. Kilian respondents are more likely than those at parishes nationally to say that the parish’s respect for their cultural traditions (52 percent compared to 42 percent) attract them to the parish “very much.”

Differences by Language of Response

Those responding to the survey in Spanish are 13 to 25 percentage points more likely than those responding in English to say the following attract them to the parish “very much”:

- The quality of the preaching (78 percent compared to 53 percent)
- Its respect for your cultural traditions (75 percent compared to 50 percent)
- The quality of the liturgy (76 percent compared to 55 percent)
- Its open, welcoming spirit (75 percent compared to 62 percent)

Differences by Mass Usually Attended

Respondents who identify the 6:15 p.m. Saturday Mass in Spanish as their usual Mass are 16 to 25 percentage points more likely than respondents overall to report that the following attract them to the parish “very much”:

- The quality of the preaching (80 percent compared to 55 percent)
- Its respect for your cultural traditions (77 percent compared to 52 percent)
- The quality of the liturgy (81 percent compared to 57 percent)
- Its open, welcoming spirit (79 percent compared to 63 percent)

Reasons for Attending Mass

With one exception, more than nine in ten say the reasons presented in the table below at least “somewhat” explain why they attend Mass.

<i>How well do the following explain why you attend Mass?</i> <i>Percentage responding “Somewhat” or “Very Much”</i>		
	St. Kilian	Parishes Nationally*
The Mass means a lot to me	97%	95%
It helps me live a Christian life	96	–
Receiving Communion weekly is important to me	94	94
Attending Mass is my obligation	87	83

**Source: Cumulative average from parishes conducting CARA Parish Life Surveys*

Comparison to Parishes Nationally

St. Kilian respondents are similar to those at parishes nationally in how they explain why they attend Mass.

Strong Reasons for Attending Mass

About eight in ten survey respondents say the following “very much” explain why they attend Mass: the Mass means a lot to them, attending helps them live a Christian life, and receiving Communion weekly is important to them. Seven in ten say their sense of obligation “very much” explains why they attend Mass.

<i>How well do the following explain why you attend Mass?</i>		
<i>Percent responding “Very Much”</i>		
	St. Kilian	Parishes Nationally*
The Mass means a lot to me	82%	76%
It helps me live a Christian life	81	–
Receiving Communion weekly is important to me	80	81
Attending Mass is my obligation	71	65

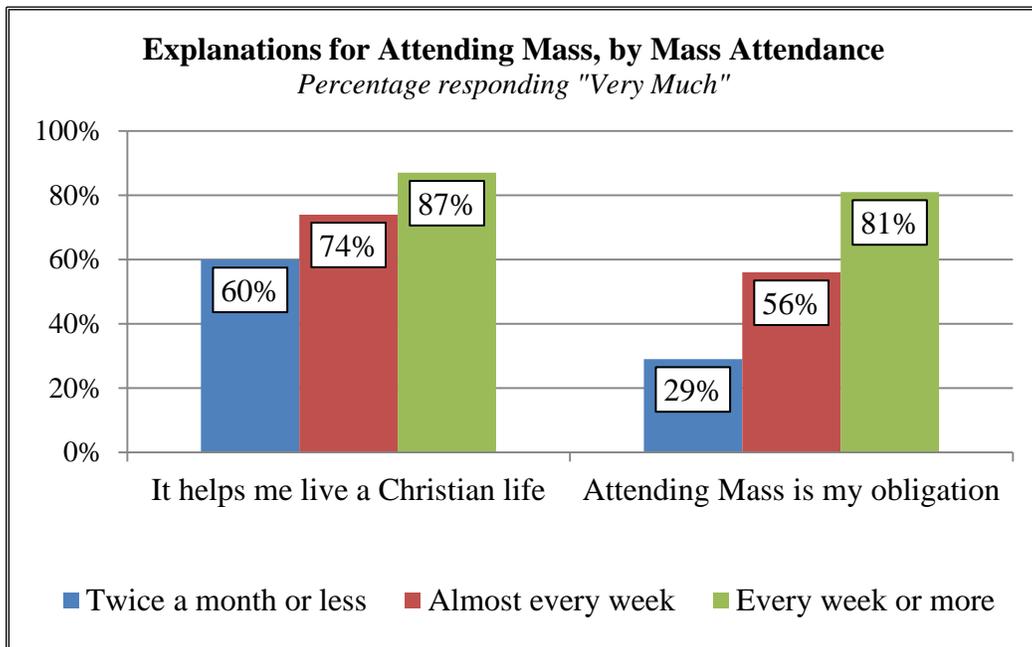
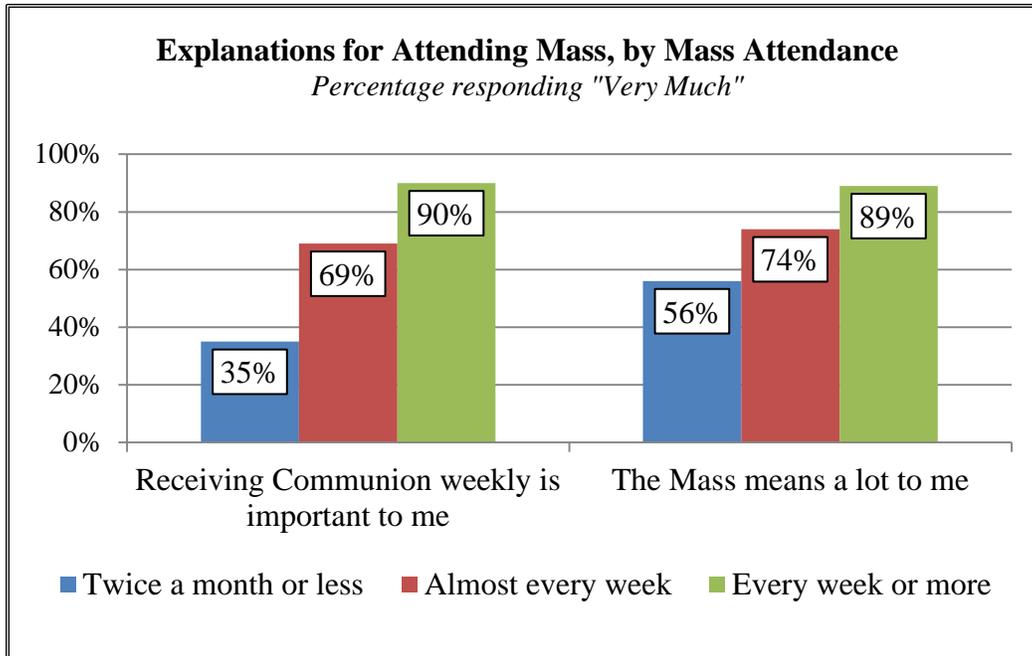
**Source: Cumulative average from parishes conducting CARA Parish Life Surveys*

Comparison to Parishes Nationally

St. Kilian respondents are similar to those at parishes nationally in how they explain why they attend Mass.

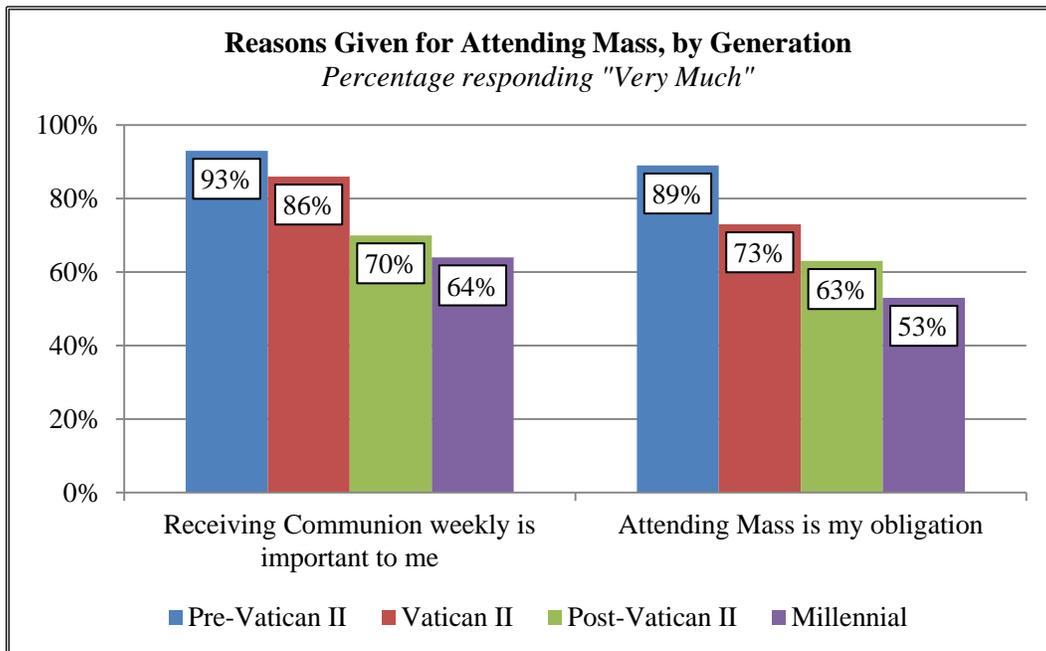
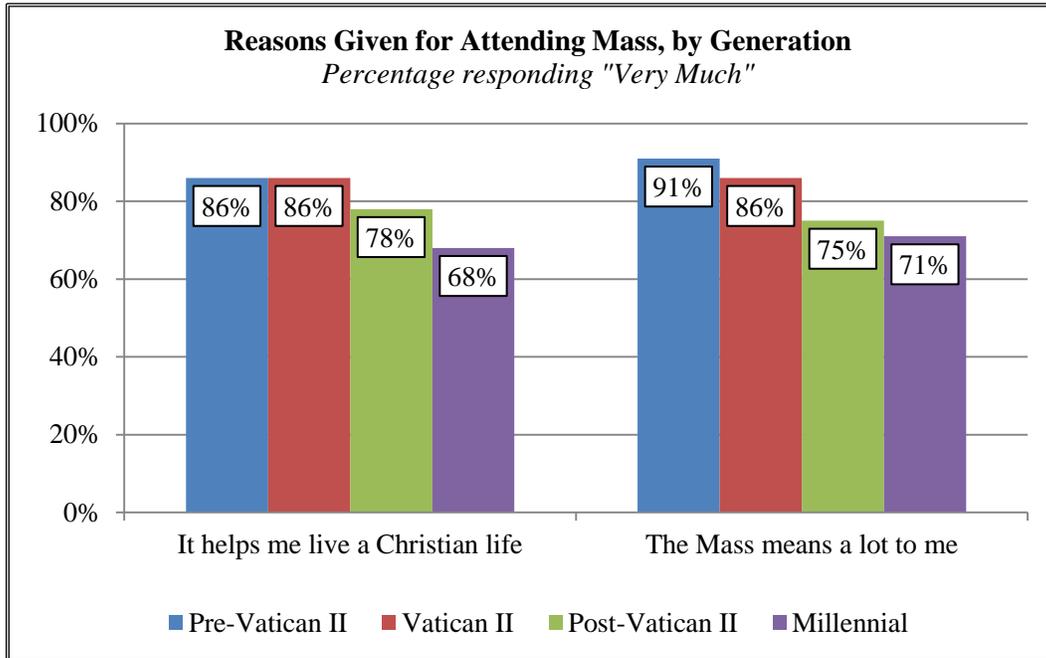
Differences by Frequency of Mass Attendance

The more frequently respondents attend Mass, the more likely they are to say the reasons in the figures below “very much” explain their attendance.



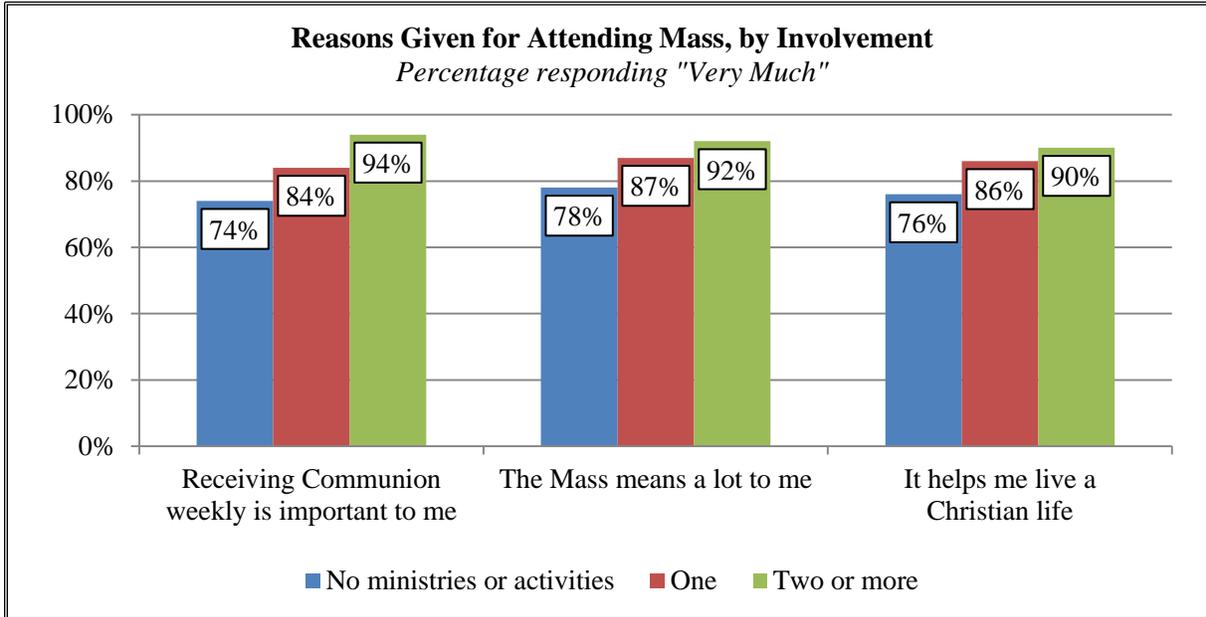
Differences by Generation

Members of the two oldest generations are especially likely to indicate that it helping them to live a Christian life “very much” explains why they attend Mass. For the other reasons shown in the figures below, the older the generation, the more likely the respondents are to say the reason “very much” explains why they attend Mass.



Differences by Level of Involvement

The more involved respondents are with ministries or activities at the parish, the more likely they are to say the reasons presented in the figure below “very much” explain why they attend Mass.



Invitations to a Parish Function

On average, St. Kilian respondents invited someone to attend a parish worship service or activity 2.5 times in the past year. More than four in ten (45 percent) did so at least once, with a quarter (23 percent) doing so three or more times.

<i>Number of times you have invited someone to attend a parish worship service or activity in the past year</i>	
<i>Percentage responding</i>	
Never	55%
Once	10
Twice	12
Three or more times	23
Average	2.5

St. Kilian respondents have a similar average number of times they have invited someone to a worship service or activity in the past year (2.5 times) to those at parishes nationally (2.2 times).

Differences by Language of Response

On average, those responding to the survey in Spanish have invited someone to attend a parish worship service or activity 5.7 times in the past year. Sixty-nine percent report having invited someone at least once during that time.

In comparison, those responding in English have invited someone to attend a parish worship service or activity 2.3 times in the past year. Forty-four percent report having invited someone at least once during that period.

Likelihood of Future Behaviors

Nine in ten respondents say they are at least “somewhat” likely to regularly spend time in personal prayer in the next year.

	St. Kilian	Parishes Nationally*
Regularly spend time in personal prayer	91%	86%
Spend time learning more about your faith	79	75
Attend a parish activity or function besides weekend Mass	75	–
Volunteer for a parish ministry	63	57

**Source: Cumulative average from parishes conducting CARA Parish Life Surveys*

Eight in ten report being “very” likely to spend time learning more about their faith in the next year.

- Three-quarters say they are “very” likely to attend a parish activity or function besides weekend Mass in the next year.
- Just over six in ten report being “very” likely to volunteer for a parish ministry in the next year.

Comparison to Parishes Nationally

St. Kilian respondents are similar to those at parishes nationally in how likely they report being to engage in the religious behaviors listed in the table above.

Strong Likelihood of Future Behaviors

About six in ten respondents say they are “very” likely to regularly spend time in personal prayer in the next year.

<i>How likely are you to do the following in the next year?</i>		
<i>Percentage responding “Very”</i>		
	St. Kilian	Parishes Nationally*
Regularly spend time in personal prayer	62%	53%
Attend a parish activity or function besides weekend Mass	40	–
Spend time learning more about your faith	36	34
Volunteer for a parish ministry	31	34

**Source: Cumulative average from parishes conducting CARA Parish Life Surveys*

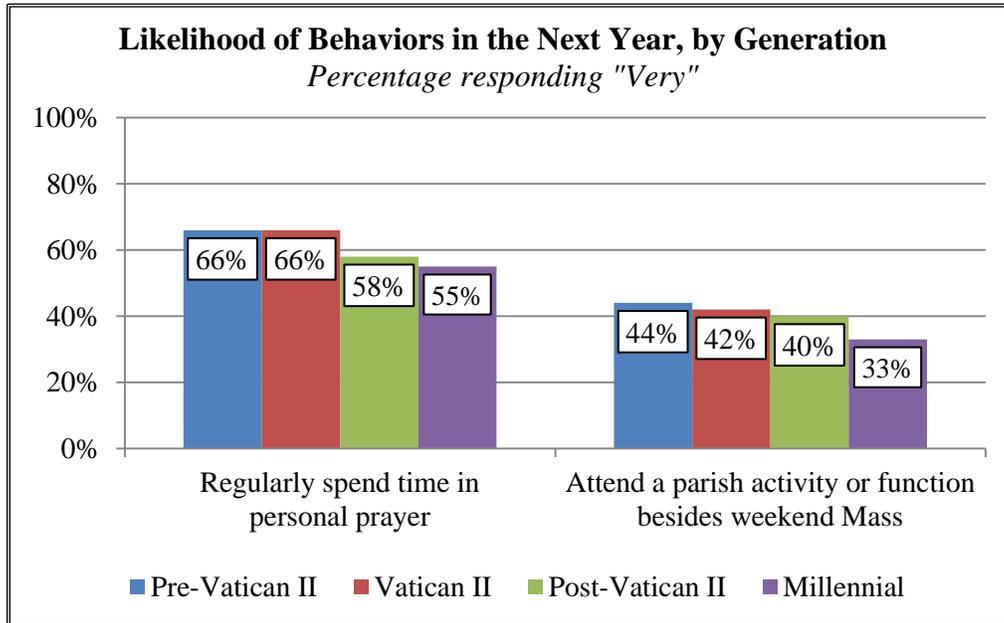
- Four in ten or slightly fewer report being “very” likely to attend a parish function or activity besides weekend Mass and to spend time learning more about their faith.
- Three in ten are “very” likely to volunteer for a parish ministry in the next year.

Comparison to Parishes Nationally

Those at St. Kilian Parish are similar to respondents at parishes nationally in how likely they report being to engage in the religious behaviors listed in the table above.

Differences by Generation

Members of the three oldest generations are especially likely to report being “very” likely to regularly spend time in personal prayer. Those of the older three generations are particularly “very” likely to attend a parish activity or function besides weekend Mass.



Differences by Language of Response

Those responding to the survey in Spanish are 16 to 36 percentage points more likely than those responding in English to report being “very” likely to do the following in the next year.

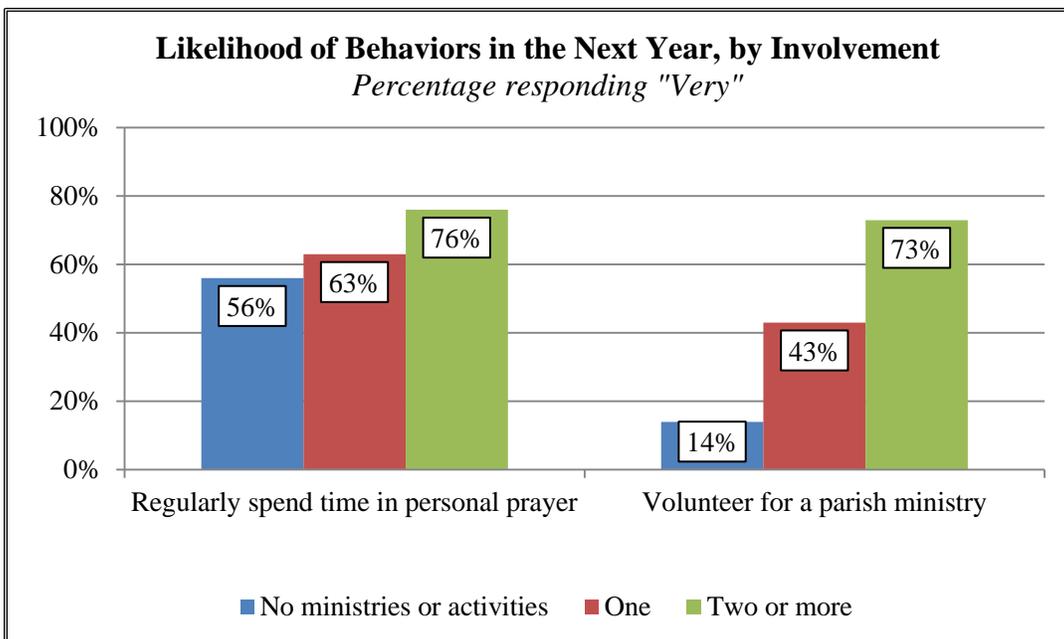
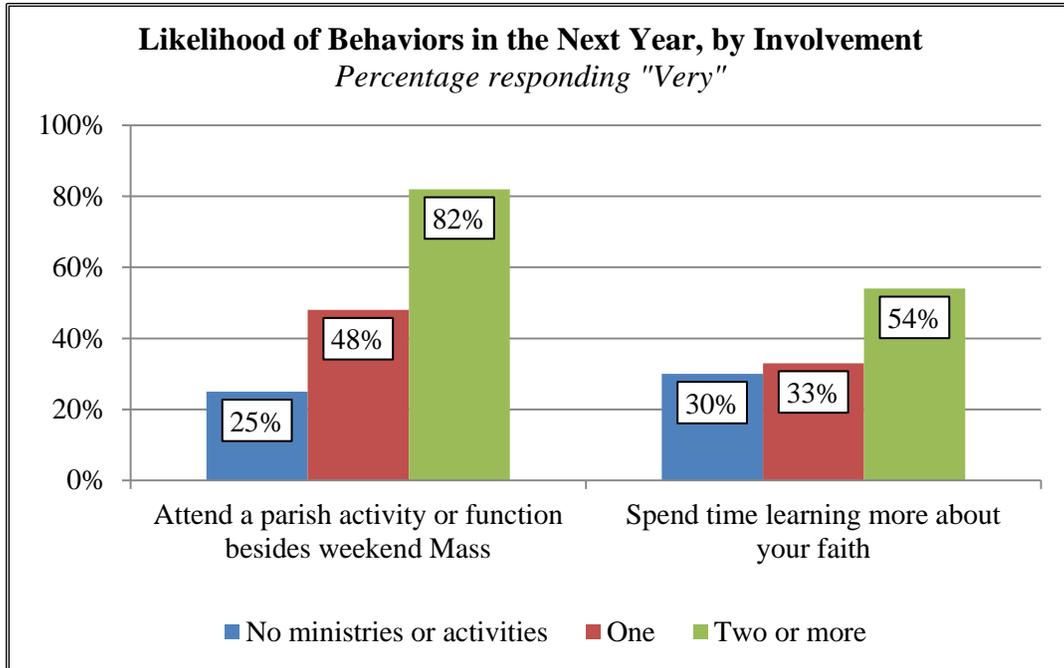
- Spend time learning more about your faith (69 percent compared to 33 percent)
- Volunteer for a parish ministry (54 percent compared to 29 percent)
- Attend a parish activity or function besides weekend Mass (55 percent compared to 39 percent)

Differences by Participation in Religious Education Classes

Some 61 percent of those who have attended adult religious education classes at the parish in the past five years say they are “very” likely to spend time learning more about their faith, compared to 31 percent of other respondents.

Differences by Level of Involvement

The more involved in ministries or activities at the parish respondents are, the more likely they are to report being “very” likely to engage in the behaviors shown in the figures below.



Attitudes about Parish Life

Approximately nine in ten “somewhat” or “strongly” agree that the bulletin effectively communicates issues related to parish life and that they feel well informed about what goes on in the parish.

<i>Please respond to the following about parish life</i>		
<i>Percentage responding “Somewhat” or “Strongly” Agree</i>		
	St. Kilian	Parishes Nationally*
The bulletin effectively communicates issues related to parish life	94%	90%
I feel well informed about what goes on in our parish	88	83
I feel adequately informed about parish finances	83	75
I use the parish website as a source of information	47	–
<i>*Source: Cumulative average from parishes conducting CARA Parish Life Surveys</i>		

- Just over eight in ten at least “somewhat” agree that they feel adequately informed about parish finances.
- Nearly half at least “somewhat” agree that they use the parish website as a source of information.

Comparisons to Parishes Nationally

St. Kilian respondents are similar to those in parishes nationally in how much they “somewhat” or “strongly” agree with the statements in the table above.

“Strongly” Agree

Six in ten “strongly” agree that the bulletin effectively communicates issues related to parish life. Just over four in ten agree “strongly” both that they feel well informed about what goes on in the parish and that they feel adequately informed about parish finances.

<i>Please respond to the following about parish life</i>		
<i>Percentage responding “Strongly” Agree</i>		
	St. Kilian	Parishes Nationally*
The bulletin effectively communicates issues related to parish life	60%	58%
I feel well informed about what goes on in our parish	43	38
I feel adequately informed about parish finances	43	37
I use the parish website as a source of information	18	–

**Source: Cumulative average from parishes conducting CARA Parish Life Surveys*

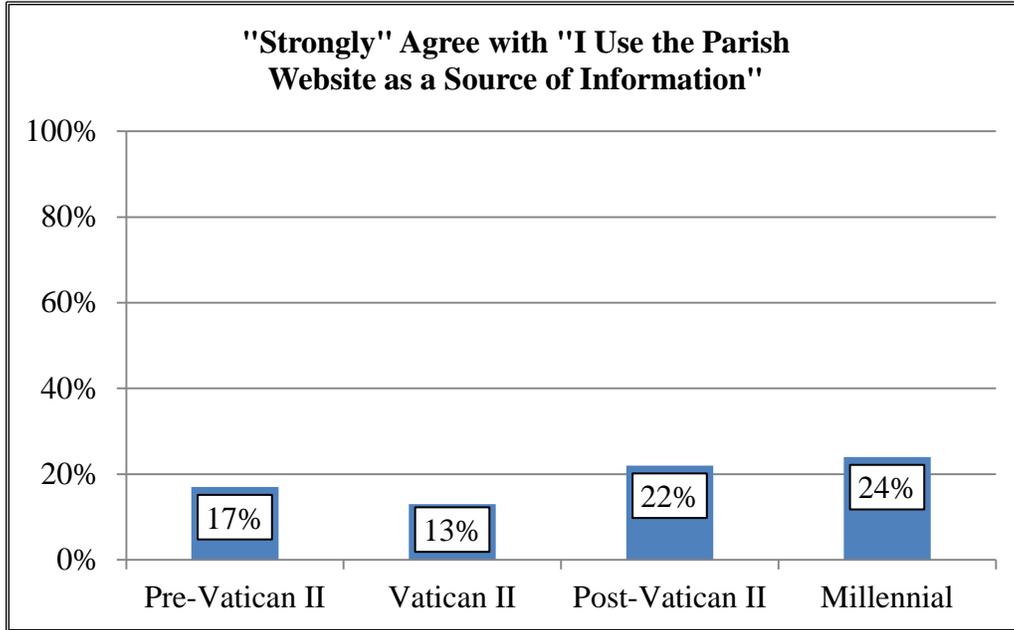
Just under two in ten “strongly” agree that they use the parish website as a source of information.

Comparisons to Parishes Nationally

Those at St. Kilian Parish are similar to respondents in parishes nationally in how much they “strongly” agree with the statements in the table above.

Differences by Generation

Members of the two youngest generations are especially likely to “strongly” agree that they use the parish website as a source of information.



Differences by Language of Response

Those responding to the survey in Spanish are more likely than those responding in English to “strongly” agree that:

- I use the parish website as a source of information (36 percent compared to 17 percent)
- I feel well informed about what goes on in our parish (56 percent compared to 42 percent)

Attitudes about Stewardship

Nine in ten “somewhat” or “strongly” agree that they understand the concept of stewardship.

<i>Please respond to the following about stewardship</i>		
<i>Percentage responding “Somewhat” or “Strongly” Agree</i>		
	St. Kilian	Parishes Nationally*
I understand the concept of stewardship	89%	85%
I would help support a fundraising program for the needs of this parish	80	86
I prefer to give to specific projects rather than a general fund	76	63
I would volunteer more if I knew parish needs	62	61
I would volunteer more if someone personally invited me	60	61
I am interested in the option of giving to the parish every month with an electronic fund transfer	34	—
<i>*Source: Cumulative average from parishes conducting CARA Parish Life Surveys</i>		

Eight in ten or slightly fewer at least “somewhat” agree that they would help support a fundraising program for the needs of the parish and that they prefer to give to specific projects rather than a general fund.

- About six in ten at least “somewhat” agree that they would volunteer more if they knew parish needs and that they would volunteer more if someone personally invited them to do so.
- A third at least “somewhat” agree that they are at least “somewhat” interested in the option of giving to the parish every month with an electronic fund transfer.

Comparisons to Parishes Nationally

St. Kilian respondents are 13 percentage points more likely than those in parishes nationally to “somewhat” or “strongly” agree that they prefer to give to specific projects rather than a general fund (76 percent compared to 63 percent).

“Strongly” Agree

Nearly six in ten “strongly” agree that they understand the concept of stewardship.

	St. Kilian	Parishes Nationally
<i>Please respond to the following about stewardship</i>		
<i>Percentage responding “Somewhat” or “Strongly” Agree</i>		
I understand the concept of stewardship	58%	51%
I prefer to give to specific projects rather than a general fund	36	27
I would help support a fundraising program for the needs of this parish	34	49
I would volunteer more if someone personally invited me	25	24
I would volunteer more if I knew parish needs	20	19
I am interested in the option of giving to the parish every month with an electronic fund transfer	17	–

**Source: Cumulative average from parishes conducting CARA Parish Life Surveys*

Just over a third “strongly” agree that they prefer to give to specific projects rather than a general fund and that they would help support a fundraising program for the needs of the parish.

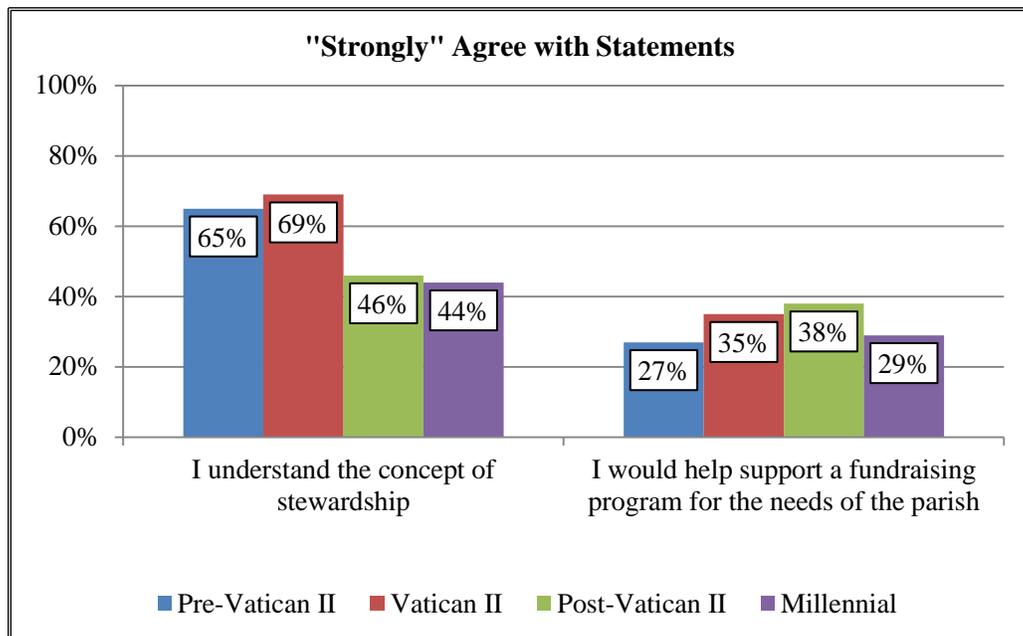
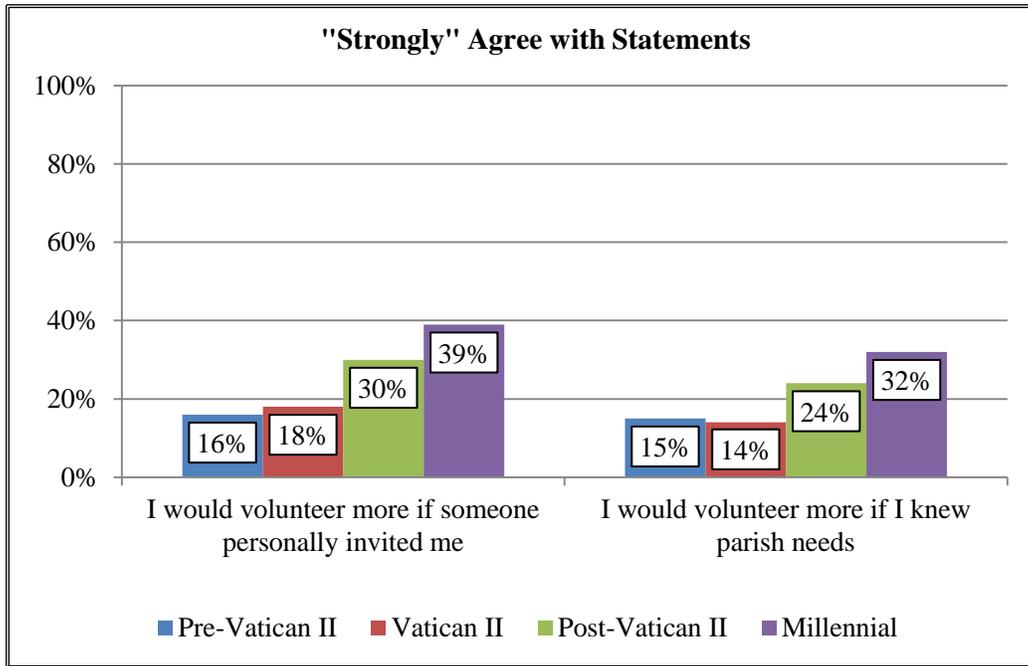
- A quarter or slightly fewer “strongly” agree that they would volunteer more if someone personally invited them to do so and that they would volunteer more if they knew parish needs.
- One in six “strongly” agrees that they are at least “somewhat” interested in the option of giving to the parish every month with an electronic fund transfer.

Comparisons to Parishes Nationally

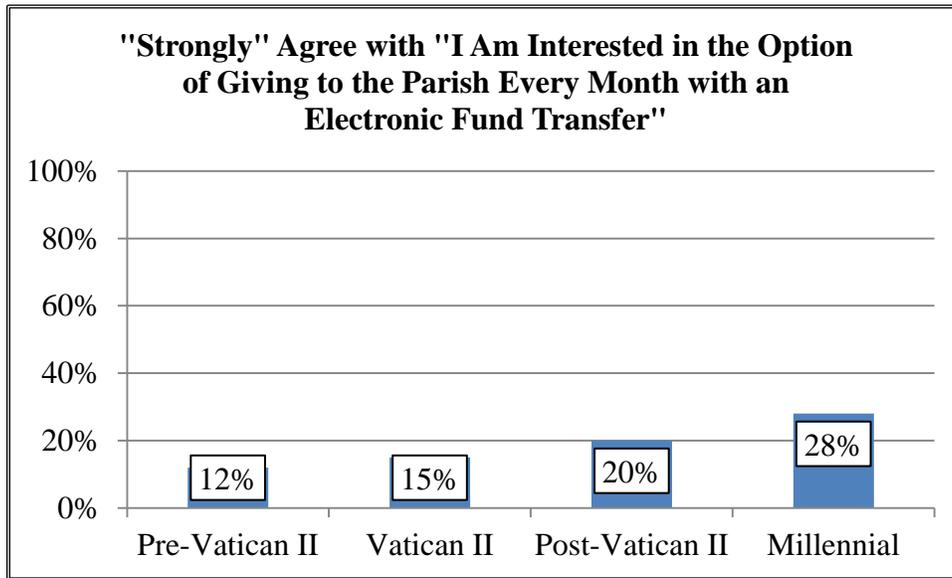
St. Kilian respondents are *less* likely than those in parishes nationally to “strongly” agree that they would help support a fundraising program for the needs of the parish (34 percent compared to 49 percent).

Differences by Generation

Members of the two youngest generations are especially likely to “strongly” agree that they would volunteer more if someone personally invited them and if they knew parish needs. Those of the two oldest generations are most likely to “strongly” agree that they understand the concept of stewardship. Members of the Post-Vatican II and Vatican II Generations are most likely to “strongly” agree that they would help support a fundraising program for the needs of the parish.



The younger the generation, the more likely they are to “strongly” agree that they are interested in the option of giving to the parish with an electronic fund transfer.



Differences by Language of Response

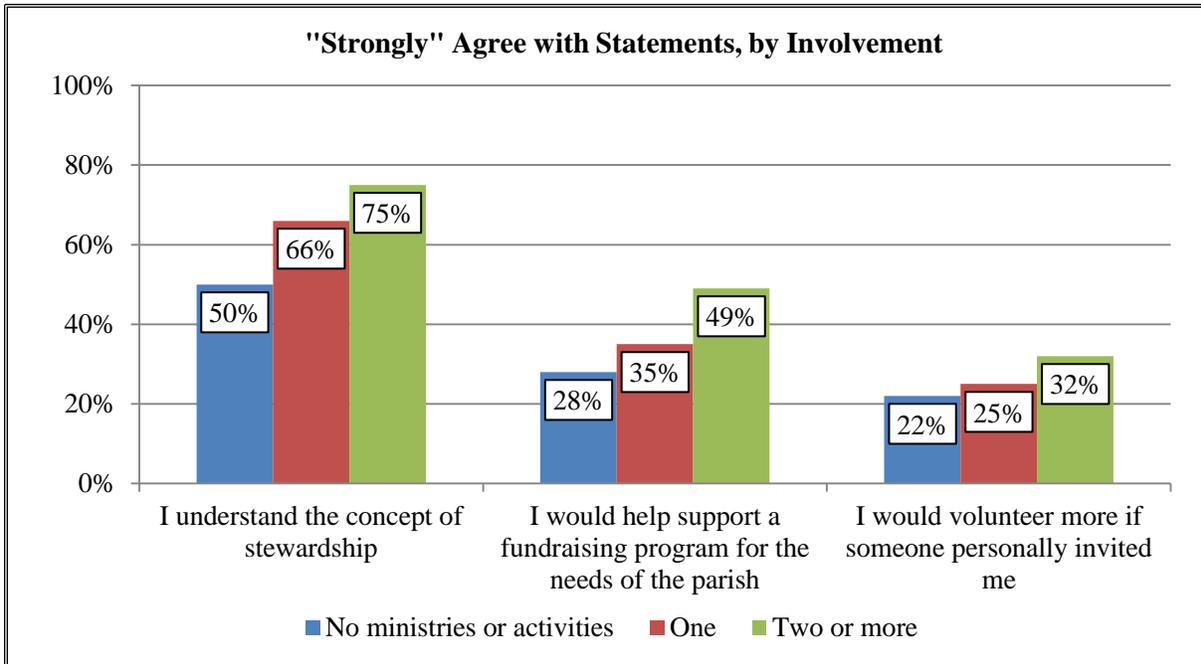
Sixty percent of those responding to the survey in English “strongly” agree that they understand the concept of stewardship, compared to 37 percent of those responding in Spanish.

Those responding in Spanish, on the other hand, are more likely than those responding in English to “strongly” agree with the following statements:

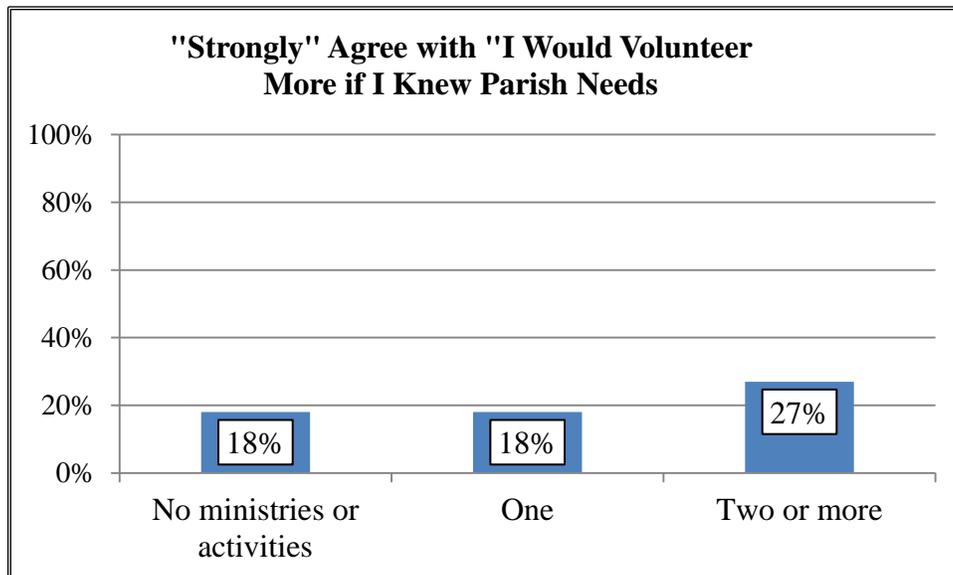
- I would volunteer more if someone personally invited me (56 percent compared to 22 percent)
- I would volunteer more if I knew parish needs (49 percent compared to 18 percent)
- I would help support a fundraising program for the needs of the parish (53 percent compared to 32 percent)
- I am interested in the option of giving to the parish every month with an electronic fund transfer (35 percent compared to 16 percent)

Differences by Level of Involvement

The more involved respondents are with ministries and activities at the parish, the more likely they are to “strongly” agree with the statements in the figure below.



Those involved with at least two ministries or activities at the parish are more likely than others to “strongly” agree that they would volunteer more if they knew parish needs.



Appendix: Response Frequencies to All Questions



Saint Kilian Parish, Farmingdale, New York
CARA – Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate

There were 1,356 respondents to the St. Kilian Parish Life Survey age 16 and older, 1,229 to the English-language version and 127 to the Spanish-language version. The percentage giving each response, calculated out of 100 percent, is shown below. The percentage not responding (NR) is shown separately, also calculated out of 100 percent.

Please use these responses for the questions below.

1=Poor **3=Good**
2=Fair **4=Excellent**
Blank=Don't Know or Not Applicable

Please evaluate these aspects of parish life.

1	2	3	4	NR	
<1	3	41	56	5	1. St. Kilian Parish overall
1	11	47	40	7	2. Sense of community within the parish
1	6	44	50	6	3. Masses and liturgies in general
2	12	46	39	10	4. Vision provided by parish leaders
1	11	43	44	9	5. Efforts to educate parishioners in the faith
1	7	40	51	9	6. Encouragement to share your time, talents and treasure with the parish
1	5	32	61	12	7. Outreach to and advocacy for those in need or distress
2	13	46	40	13	8. Spreading the Gospel/evangelizing

Please evaluate the following areas of faith formation.

1	2	3	4	NR	
3	16	46	36	25	9. Family-centered religious education programs
2	12	46	42	26	10. Children's religious education programs
3	10	44	43	30	11. Youth ministry
3	15	47	35	24	12. Faith formation for adults

Please evaluate these areas of worship in general.

1	2	3	4	NR	
2	10	34	54	7	13. Hospitality or sense of welcome
1	7	30	62	6	14. Music
3	10	36	51	7	15. Song selection
2	17	48	32	7	16. People's participation in Mass
2	9	47	42	8	17. Homilies
1	6	45	48	13	18. Advent and Lenten penance services

Please evaluate how well the parish serves these groups.

1	2	3	4	NR	
2	10	45	44	19	19. Families
4	18	43	36	29	20. Children (ages 4 to 12)
3	16	45	35	30	21. Teens (ages 13 to 17)
7	21	40	32	32	22. Young adults (ages 18 to 35)
2	9	44	46	24	23. Senior citizens (age 65 and older)
2	14	49	35	29	24. Married couples
8	22	42	28	43	25. Those divorced or separated
7	22	40	31	45	26. Single parents
2	11	46	42	34	27. Those sick or homebound
14	26	35	25	42	28. Inactive Catholics
5	17	45	33	38	29. New parishioners

Using the numbers for items 19-29 above, to which three groups should the parish give most priority for outreach? Overall NR for Qs 30 to 32=38

30. _____ 31. _____ 32. _____

Please use these responses for the questions below.

1=Poor

3=Good

2=Fair

4=Excellent

Blank=Don't Know or Not Applicable

Please *evaluate* parish efforts to:

1	2	3	4	NR	
4	17	50	29	13	33. Reach out to parishioners like you
1	10	48	41	12	34. Nurture your relationship with Jesus Christ
2	11	50	37	13	35. Foster spiritual growth
2	8	45	46	13	36. Maintain existing parish facilities
4	14	48	35	13	37. Offer a Catholic view on current issues
2	13	50	36	13	38. Help you practice gospel values in your daily life
2	13	51	35	16	39. Meet people's spiritual needs

Please use these responses for the questions below.

1=None

3=Somewhat

2=Only a Little

4=Very or Very Much

Blank=Don't Know or Not Applicable

How much *priority* should the parish give to the following?

1	2	3	4	NR	
1	2	13	85	13	40. Children's religious education/formation
<1	2	20	78	15	41. Youth ministry
1	3	41	56	16	42. Adult faith formation
1	2	28	70	18	43. Young adult ministry
1	15	46	37	17	44. Providing retreat opportunities
1	11	47	41	18	45. Parish missions
2	16	45	37	20	46. More small group prayer opportunities
1	13	47	40	20	47. More opportunities for devotions such as rosaries and Eucharistic Adoration
2	8	34	56	16	48. Outreach to inactive Catholics
1	2	25	72	15	49. Visitation of the sick and homebound
1	3	30	66	15	50. Providing opportunities for parishioners to help the needy
1	7	40	52	19	51. Fostering priestly or religious vocations
1	3	25	71	15	52. Developing a parish sense of community
<1	4	34	62	14	53. Upkeep of parish facilities

Using the numbers for items 40-53 above, to which three needs should the parish give **most priority**?

NR for Qs 54-56 Overall = 32

54. _____ 55. _____ 56. _____

How *important* are the following to you?

1	2	3	4	NR	
<1	2	9	90	5	57. Being Catholic
<1	1	9	90	6	58. Developing your relationship with God
1	4	29	67	8	59. Learning more about the Catholic faith
<1	1	13	85	9	60. Passing on the faith to the next generation
1	7	33	59	9	61. Learning more about the Bible
1	1	11	87	7	62. Receiving the Eucharist
1	5	28	67	8	63. Being part of a parish community
<1	1	18	81	6	64. Helping those in need

Please use these responses for the questions below.
1=Not at All **3=Somewhat**
2=Only a Little **4=Very or Very Much**
Blank=Don't Know or Not Applicable

How much do the following **attract** you to this parish?

- | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | NR | |
|---|---|----|----|----|---|
| 1 | 6 | 30 | 63 | 11 | 65. Its open, welcoming spirit |
| 1 | 6 | 36 | 57 | 13 | 66. The quality of the liturgy |
| 2 | 7 | 36 | 55 | 12 | 67. The quality of the preaching |
| 4 | 9 | 35 | 52 | 18 | 68. Its respect for your cultural traditions |
| 2 | 6 | 28 | 64 | 11 | 69. The sense of belonging that you feel here |

How **likely** are you to do the following in the next year?

- | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | NR | |
|----|----|----|----|----|---|
| 7 | 18 | 35 | 40 | 12 | 70. Attend a parish activity or function besides Mass |
| 1 | 8 | 30 | 62 | 10 | 71. Regularly spend time in personal prayer |
| 3 | 18 | 44 | 36 | 13 | 72. Spend time learning more about your faith |
| 14 | 24 | 32 | 31 | 15 | 73. Volunteer for a parish ministry |

How much do the following **explain** why you attend Mass?

- | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | NR | |
|---|---|----|----|----|---|
| 1 | 2 | 15 | 82 | 8 | 74. The Mass means a lot to me |
| 1 | 3 | 15 | 81 | 9 | 75. It helps me live a Christian life |
| 2 | 4 | 14 | 80 | 9 | 76. Receiving Communion weekly is important to me |
| 5 | 8 | 17 | 71 | 10 | 77. Attending Mass is my obligation |

Please use these responses for the questions below.
1=Strongly Disagree **3=Somewhat Agree**
2=Somewhat Disagree **4=Strongly Agree**
Blank=Don't Know or Not Applicable

Please **respond** to the following about parish life.

- | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | NR | |
|----|----|----|----|----|---|
| 3 | 9 | 45 | 43 | 12 | 78. I feel well informed about what goes on in our parish |
| 1 | 5 | 33 | 60 | 10 | 79. The bulletin effectively communicates issues related to parish life |
| 32 | 21 | 29 | 18 | 27 | 80. I use the parish website as a source of information |
| 6 | 11 | 40 | 43 | 15 | 81. I feel adequately informed about parish finances |

Please **respond** to the following about stewardship.

- | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | NR | |
|----|----|----|----|----|--|
| 4 | 7 | 30 | 58 | 16 | 82. I understand the concept of stewardship |
| 11 | 27 | 42 | 20 | 27 | 83. I would volunteer more if I knew parish needs |
| 13 | 27 | 35 | 25 | 26 | 84. I would volunteer more if someone personally invited me |
| 5 | 15 | 46 | 34 | 22 | 85. I would help support a fundraising program for the needs of the parish |
| 8 | 17 | 40 | 36 | 23 | 86. I prefer to give to specific projects rather than a general fund |
| 47 | 19 | 17 | 17 | 24 | 87. I am interested in the option of giving to the parish every month with an electronic fund transfer |

88. About how **frequently** do you currently attend Mass?

- | | | | | |
|----|--------------------------|----|--------------------------|-------------|
| <1 | 1. Never or rarely | 24 | 4. Almost every week | |
| 2 | 2. A few times a year | 59 | 5. Every week | NR=8 |
| 7 | 3. Once or twice a month | 9 | 6. More than once a week | |

89. Which Mass do you *usually* attend at this parish?

Please select only one Mass time. NR=11

- | | | | |
|----|---|----|--------------------|
| 2 | 1. I do <u>not</u> usually attend Mass at this parish | 7 | 5. Sunday 7:00 am |
| 19 | 2. Saturday 5:00 pm | 15 | 7. Sunday 9:30 am |
| 8 | 3. Saturday 6:15 pm | 21 | 8. Sunday 11:00 am |
| 7 | 4. Saturday 7:30 pm | 12 | 9. Sunday 12:30 pm |

90. How many *ministries or activities* are you involved with at the parish? **NR=10**

- | | | | |
|----|---------|----|-----------------|
| 63 | 1. None | 16 | 3. Two to four |
| 19 | 2. One | 2 | 4. Five or more |

Avg NR

26.5 18 91. *Years* you have attended this parish? **Leave blank if this is not your regular parish.**

Write "1" if one year or less.

2.5 27 92. *Number of times* you have invited someone to attend a parish worship service or activity in the past year? **Write "0" if none.**

Yes No NR

- | | | | |
|----|----|----|--|
| 81 | 19 | 8 | 93. Are you registered in this parish? |
| 91 | 9 | 8 | 94. Is this parish your primary place of worship? |
| 31 | 69 | 10 | 95. Do you currently live closer to another parish? |
| 16 | 84 | 18 | 96. Have any of your children attended a local Catholic school in the past five years? |
| 27 | 73 | 19 | 97. Have any of your children attended religious education classes here in the past 5 years? |
| 13 | 87 | 14 | 98. Have you attended adult religious education classes here in the past 5 years? |
| 86 | 15 | 12 | 99. Do you have Internet access at home or work? |
| 46 | 54 | 24 | 100. Will/did your spouse also complete this survey? |

101. Year you were *born*: **Avg=1957 NR=12**

102. Gender: 38 1. Male 62 2. Female **NR=8**

103. What *best* describes your current marital status?

- | | | | |
|----|--------------------------|----|--------------------------|
| 16 | 1. Single, never married | 8 | 3. Divorced or separated |
| 65 | 2. Married or remarried | 12 | 4. Widowed NR=9 |

Number of your children or stepchildren living with you who are: **Leave blank if none or not applicable.**

Sum

Sum

427 104. Age 12 or younger 383 105. Ages 13 to 17

106. What *best* describes your highest level of education? **NR=11**

- | | | | |
|----|-----------------------------|----|-----------------------|
| 6 | 1. Some high school or less | 10 | 4. Associate's degree |
| 26 | 2. High school diploma | 23 | 5. Bachelor's degree |
| 16 | 3. Some college | 19 | 6. Graduate degree |

Thank you for completing this survey.
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