

The Catholic Community of St. Isidore Parish Survey for Information on Preferences, Choices and Skills

Purpose: The area covered by St. Isidore Parish is a rapidly growing part of the city of Ottawa. Our neighborhoods are also becoming increasingly cultural diverse as we welcome newcomers from many different countries. In fact, the 2011 Census reported that over a third of the population of our Parish area had a mother tongue other than English. In addition to the changing demographics, fewer Canadians are affiliating with any religion. The recently released National Household Survey indicated about a quarter of the population of the City of Ottawa reported having no religious affiliation, up from 16% a decade earlier. And young people were even less affiliated with any religious group. Moreover, a recent Statistics Canada survey reported that just over one in four Catholics in Ontario attend mass on a weekly basis. In view of the changing nature of our parish community, our pastor together with lay leaders in the Parish, feel we should have a closer look at our parish, in terms of its makeup and what parishioners feel is important to them.

The purpose of the survey, which is anonymous, is to collect information:

- a) to understand the demographic profile of the community,
- b) to understand the participation of parishioners in different ministries and committees of the parish,
- c) to obtain information on preferences and choices of the parishioners on different services provided by the parish, and
- d) to determine the level of satisfaction of the parishioners in parish activities

Your participation in this survey is voluntary, but strongly recommended. A report card prepared using the collected information in this survey will be sent to all parishioners for their information, review and comments.

A copy of this survey is available in the foyer of the St. Isidore Catholic Community Church and with the volunteers at the entrance of the church. Please drop off a completed copy in the box in the church foyer or the parish office no later than **May 30, 2025**.

Thank you in advance for your input and for completing the survey; your input is very important to assess the quality of services in the church and to plan for the future. The survey takes between ten to fifteen minutes to complete.

Instructions

- Please answer all of the questions
- Please answer for yourself only as we are interested in your views and are asking others for theirs.
- For each item which is applicable to you, checkmark one number in column A (importance) and column B (satisfaction)

1. Please evaluate these aspects of parish life

	Not Applicable to You	A Importance to you					B How do we do?			
		Very Important			Not Important		Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
		5	4	3	2	1				
Parish overall										
Sense of community within the parish										
Masses and liturgies										
Vision and leadership provided by Pastor										
Efforts to educate parishioners about the faith										
Outreach to and support for those in need										
Evangelization										

2. Please evaluate the following programs/activities

	Not Applicable to You	A Importance to you					B How do we do?			
		Very Important			Not Important		Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
		5	4	3	2	1				
Helpfulness of the parish office staff										
Weekend Mass ministries										
Children's Liturgy										
Sacramental preparation										
Faith formation for adults										
Knights of Columbus										
Catholic Women's League										
Social activities										

3. Please evaluate these areas of weekend Masses overall for the Mass you most regularly attend.

	Not Applicable to You	A Importance to you					B How do we do?			
		Very Important			Not Important		Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
		5	4	3	2	1				
Hospitality or sense of welcome										
Music										
Homilies										
Weekend Mass schedule										
Décor and environment										

4. Please evaluate parish efforts to:

	Not Applicable to You	A Importance to you					B How do we do?			
		Very Important			Not Important		Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
		5	4	3	2	1				
Welcome new parishioners										
Communicate with existing parishioners										
Foster your relationship with Jesus Christ										
Help parishioners in crisis or distress										
Invite you to participate in parish ministries										
Manage parish finances										
Focus on faith to nourish one's spiritual life										
Responsiveness of the parish to local community needs										
Responsiveness of the parish to national and international needs										

5. Parish Ministries & Programming

	Not Applicable to You	A Importance to you					B How do we do?			
		Very Important			Not Important		Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
		5	4	3	2	1				
Developing a parish sense of community										
Children's religious education/ formation										
Youth Ministry										
Young adult ministry										
Adult faith formation										
More opportunities for devotions, such as rosaries and Eucharistic Adoration										
Outreach to inactive Catholics										
Ministry to the divorced and separated										
Ministry to those grieving										
Visitation of the sick and homebound										

Providing parish services to the needy										
Seniors ministry										

6. Some specific questions to make the parish goals and objectives come alive

a) What can we do to improve attendance at the church services?
b) How can the parish become more welcoming and friendly?
c) Tell us one thing you like about St. Isidore Parish.
d) Tell us one thing we should change at St. Isidore Parish.
e) Do you make financial contributions to St. Isidore? If not, what prevents you from contributing?

7. Demographics

a) How much to the following prevent you from being more involved in parish life, such as participating in activities and programs, or volunteering to service in Mass or parish ministries

Item	Yes	No
Busy schedule or lack of time		
Lack of child care		
Health problems or a disability		
I don't feel welcome in the parish		
I had an unpleasant experience with a past or current parish staff member or pastor		
I am uncomfortable coming to activities because I don't know anyone		
There are no problems or activities that interest me		
I am already as involved as I'd like to be		

b) Please respond to the following

Item	Yes	No
I have personal relationship with God that I nurture through my prayer life		
When I attend Mass at St. Isidore I leave feeling closer to God		
I feel included in parish life		
I feel well informed about what goes on in our parish		
I feel comfortable talking to the pastor		
I would recommend St. Isidore to family and friends		

c) How often do you do the following

Item	Never	Seldom	Occasionally	Frequently
Pray or have a conversation with God				
Read the Bible				
Attend Mass				
Attend a parish function besides Mass				
Volunteer/help at the parish				
Invite someone to attend parish worship service or activity				

d) What Mass do you or your family usually attend on Saturday or Sunday

___ Sat. at 4:30 pm ___ Sun. at 9:00 am ___ Sun. at 11:00 am

e) Number of years you have been attending services in this parish (check one)

___ < 5 years ___ 5-15 years ___ > 15 years

f) Year you were born _____(4 digit year)

g) Gender (tick one) 1. Male 2. Female 3. Other 4. Prefer not to respond

h) What best describes your current marital status? (circle one)

1. Single
2. Married
3. Separated or divorced
4. Widowed

i) Number of children living with you who are:

___ Age 12 and under ___ Age 13 and older ___ Not applicable

j) Number of your children who are:

___ Grades JK to Gr 4 ___ Grades 5-6 ___ Grades 7-8 ___ Grades 9-10 ___ Grades 11-12