

## SUMMARY OF LIGHT THE WAY RESPONSES

12 December 2017

To date over 400 responses have been received from parishioners. As would be expected from the broad question “What is your dream for St. Christopher Parish,” the responses were highly varied and reflected a wide range of perspectives. The responses were carefully reviewed by staff members, and specific suggestions will be directed to the responsible staff person for review. Overall, the tone of the remarks were encouraging, offering suggestions for growth and constructive opinions rather than being used as an outlet for complaints. While many of the responses covered several different topics, they have been categorized by the primary themes to give you a perspective on volume by category.

**FACILITIES.** Approximately 20% (80) of the responses dealt with specific ideas to improve the physical plant. The most common comment was reflected in the 26 requests to bring back kneelers (as opposed to one against.) There were a dozen asking to retain the tree of life, and an equal amount calling for more statuary and traditional elements in the sanctuary. There were around ten responses calling for additional meeting space, and an equal number looking for a new gym. The rest of the responses were highly varied. Five parishioners were concerned about our security plans.

**SCHOOL.** 25 parishioners commented on the importance of the school to the community, and maintaining this ministry as a priority.

**OUTREACH.** There were more than 50 respondents calling for more service opportunities in the local community and beyond. Some were specific to certain groups, such as seniors and the food pantry, but most reflected a general desire for increased focus on serving others outside of our parish.

**ENGAGEMENT/MISSION.** Almost 40 responses described a vibrant, Spirit-filled parish that would energize and spread God’s Word. Closely tied to the concept, there was a significant number looking to stimulate volunteerism and passion, particularly among the young adults aged 20 to 30. In this same theme, there was a large call of increased formational and educational programming for adults in formats that speak to different age groups and seasons of life.

**FELLOWSHIP.** Closely tied to the engagement theme, there were more than 45 responses looking for fellowship and more opportunities to gather as a parish.

**WORSHIP/MUSIC.** As one might expect, worship and music were the most popular themes. Music was a common topic with highly varied responses. There was no one dominant comment, but the number of responses does demonstrate the need for variety and how music serves as a magnet to the parish. Likewise, the worship comments covered a myriad of topics from the Nicene Creed to Eucharistic Adoration. The comments will be very informative for Fr. John.