



# Survey Results

## Results are organized by the three Pillars of the Renewal

It is important to note that many individual survey questions tap into one or more of the pillars, we have included ones that most apply to each pillar while recognizing they are not exclusive and overlap exists. Not all numbers add up to 100% due to rounding.

### Pillar #1

#### Form Missionary Disciples in Christ

- Invite others to know Christ
- Teach the great story of Jesus and his Church
- Practice the faith

### Pillar #2

#### Be A Church of Encounter & Witness

- Listen to others lived experience
- Witness to Christ in word & deed
- Lead with Christian mercy & compassion

### Pillar #3

#### Strengthen Family Life

- Welcome families to a sacramental life
- Engage family & youth meaningfully
- Accompany people at all stages of life

## Your Aspirations for Renewal

These are the top 6 areas of pastoral life that you told us you want us to prioritize.

1. Practice the faith - Pillar 1
2. Engage family & youth meaningfully - Pillar 3
3. Invite others to know Christ - Pillar 1
4. Teach the great story of Jesus and his Church - Pillar 1
5. Accompany people at all stages of life - Pillar 3
6. Welcome families to sacramental life - Pillar 3

All the pillars are an important part of the renewal, however, it seems clear the desires of your heart are on forming missionary disciples in Christ and strengthening family life.

## People of God

Jesus personally calls each one of us to follow Him and to remain by His side, for He deeply loves us. Empowered by His grace, these words become the very message we desire to proclaim to every member of our faith community and the world. Who are the members of our parish family?

- 121,185 population of community served by parish (2021)
- 31,062 Catholics residing in communities served (2021)
- 41,211 Registered parishioners (2023)
- 2816 weekly mass attendance (2023)

*This is my commandment: love one another as I have loved you.  
John 15:12*

## Demographics of Survey Respondents

- 1544 Parishioners completed the survey in full this was 55% of average weekly mass attendance
- 60% female, 40% male
- 19% age 65+, 67% age 35- 64, 14% age 18-34,
- 79% married, 11% single, 11% widowed, divorced, separated or common law.
- 66% Immigrant and 34% Canadian born. 83% of immigrants arrived over 5 years ago
- 46% Asian, 9% black, 4% Latino, 0% First Nations, 36% Caucasian, 2% other and 3% unknown
- 58% have attended SATG for more then 6 years
- 91% baptized as a child, 8% as an adult and 1% not baptized or converted to Catholic faith

## Form Missionary Disciples in Christ



Jesus is always calling us into deeper relationship with him. Over the past year 62% of parishioners felt their faith life had improved, 38% felt their faith had either remained the same or declined.

### What you told us about your faith life over the past year

#### Practice the Faith

- 66% pray daily, 34% of parishioners have not built a daily prayer habit
- 80% attend weekly Mass, 9% daily Mass, 11% of parishioners are not attending Mass each week
- The sacrament of reconciliation: 15% practice Monthly or more, 67% practice occasionally, 18% have not practiced within the last year
- 24% are reading scripture daily, 21% weekly, 56% do not regularly incorporate scripture into their life, this includes 17% that never read scripture.
- 42% participate in daily, weekly or monthly adoration, 42% occasionally and 17% never
- 52% have not participated in a retreat or parish mission
- 47% have not participated in a small group or bible study.
- 78% believe the parish encourages them to share their time, talent and treasure, 18% are unsure and 4% disagree
- 49% contribute less than \$1,000/year, 31% contribute \$1,000 or more, 19% did not answer

#### Teach the Great Story of Jesus & His Church

- 97% believe Jesus died and rose from the dead for their salvation
- 95% believe Jesus is both Human Divine
- 95% believe in the Eucharist, the bread and wine become the true Body & Blood of Christ
- 95% believe scripture is the divinely revealed word of God
- 93% believe they share in the mission of Christ through their baptism
- 92% believe the Church with it's teaching authority, is essential to their relationship with God
- 90% believe the sacraments are necessary for their salvation
- 35% utilize a podcast, book or program about the Catholic faith monthly or more, 36% occasionally and 30% never.
- 78% believe the parish provides opportunities to deepen faith i e: bible study, retreats etc, 17% unsure, 4% disagree
- 95% feel the parish celebrates Mass that allows them to encounter Christ.

#### Invite People to know Christ

- 37% share the Gospel in conversation with others monthly or more, 47% occasionally and 15% never
- 26% invite people to parish events or Mass monthly or more, 50% occasionally, 24% have never made an invite
- 36% offer to pray for someone daily, 29% weekly or monthly, 30% occasionally and 5% never
- 73% feel the parish teaches and encourages evangelization, 22% are unsure and 6% disagree
- 69% feel the parish helps them understand and confidently explain Catholic beliefs and practices, 22% are unsure and 9% disagree
- 90% feel our parish priests give homilies that allow them to recognize how God works in their life; 6% are neutral and 4% disagree

**92% believe they have a personal relationship with Jesus, 6% are unsure and 2% disagree**

#### Top 3 elements of parish life that had the greatest impact on faith and spiritual growth:

- Mass
- Receiving Holy Communion
- Prayer

- What is the good news for our parish?
- What surprises you?
- What concerns you?

#### One thought from the renewal team:

We noted a link between those that felt their faith had stayed the same or declined and the number of people who had not developed a daily prayer habit. Prayer builds our relationship with God, he always calls us to deeper relationship with him, daily prayer helps us build that relationship.

Feel free to email our renewal team at: [parishrenewal@stalbertthegreat.ca](mailto:parishrenewal@stalbertthegreat.ca)

# Be a Church of Encounter & Witness



60% believe they have found friends who genuinely care for them at St. Albert the Great, 40% are unsure if they have or do not think they have.

Most of these questions have a specific focus on parish leaders, various supports provided by the parish and outreach efforts

## Listen to Others Lived Experience

- 90% feel that the parish is a welcoming and safe place to live the Catholic faith, 5% are unsure or neutral and 5% disagree
- 82% agree that our parish includes individuals of diverse ages in ministry and leadership roles, 14% are unsure and 4% disagree
- 88% agree our parish includes individuals of diverse ethnic and cultural backgrounds in ministry and leadership roles; 9% are unsure and 3% disagree
- 89% feel the parish is effective at keeping them informed through the bulletin, website, email and social media, 7% unsure and 5% disagree

## Witness to Christ In Word & Deed

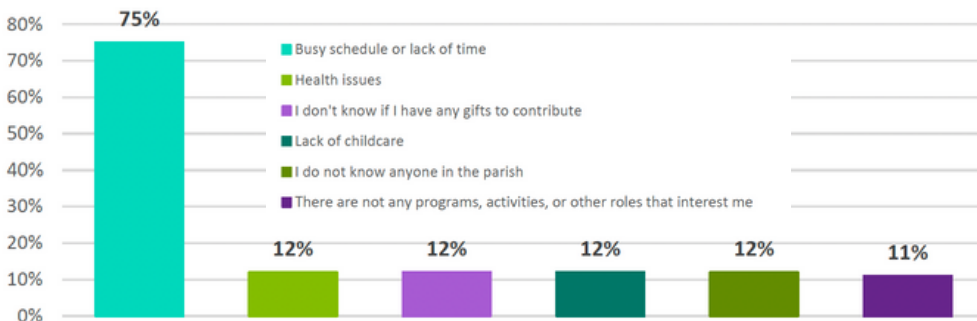
- 50% demonstrate faith through actions daily, 21% weekly, 5% monthly, 21% occasionally; 2% never
- 67% believe our parish offers events and opportunities where they can invite family members or non-practicing Catholics too, 24% are unsure and 8% disagree
- 39% believe our parish reaches out to non-practicing Catholics; 50% are unsure and 11% disagree
- 72% agree that our parish has an active presence in the wider community; 23% are unsure and 4% disagree
- 44% regularly take part in parish activities that reach out to wider community, 30% are unsure and 26% do not

## Lead with Christian Mercy & Compassion

- 77% agree our parish provides physical, spiritual and relational support to those experiencing poverty, 21% are unsure and 2% disagree
- 74% agree the parish is actively involved in supporting charitable and missionary works in other countries, 22% are unsure and 4% disagree
- The three most prominent traits of clergy and staff at SATG were: joyful, spiritual and servant orientated

*Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in Heaven  
Matthew 5:16*

## What factors, if any, prevent you from being more involved at your parish?



64% agree our parish promotes vocation to the priesthood and consecrated life; 30% are unsure and 5% disagree

- What is the good news for our parish?
  - What surprises you?
  - What concerns you?
- Feel free to email our renewal team at: parishrenewal@stalbertthegreat.ca

### One thought from the renewal team:

Time is a precious resource, especially in our modern world that promises efficiency but often makes us feel more scattered and disconnected. As disciples we are called to seek first His Kingdom, doing so acts against this disconnection and helps us prioritize the precious resource of time to what will truly bear lasting fruit in our family and community. We also note 40% of respondents said they were unsure or have not met friends who genuinely cared for them at St. Albert the Great. At a large parish like ours a great way to find those deeper connections is to serve together in ministry and participate in parish events and activities.



89% would support their children if they considered a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life; 10% are unsure and 2% disagree

Welcome Families to Sacramental Life

- 93% agree that our parish welcomes families to the sacramental life; 4% are unsure and 3% disagree

Engage Family & Youth Meaningfully

- 60% agree that our parish offers ways for families to celebrate faith at home; 33% are unsure and 7% disagree
77% agree that our parish engages families and youth meaningfully through liturgical celebrations or ministry, 17% are unsure and 6% disagree

Accompany People at all Stages of Life

- 78% agree that our parish accompanies people at all stages of life; 19% are unsure and 6% disagree
76% agree that our parish provides pastoral care to the homebound, sick and dying; 22% unsure and 2% disagree
61% feel the parish provides accommodation and pastoral care for those with disabilities; 36% unsure and 4% disagree

59% of respondents had children under 18. They were asked how they agree with the statements below:

I teach my children about essential Catholic beliefs and practices

- 94% agree
4% unsure
2% disagree

I strive to lead by example and assist my children in building a relationship with Jesus

- 95% agree
3% unsure
1% disagree

I let my children make their own religious choices freely without influence from me:

- 42% agree
15% unsure
42% disagree

I feel supported by my parish in helping form the faith of my children.

- 80% agree
16% unsure
3% disagree

I feel supported by my Catholic school in helping form the faith of my children.

- 78% agree
14% unsure
7% disagree

I feel supported by my parents and/or extended family in helping form the faith of my children:

- 83% agree
7% unsure
10% disagree

But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord. Joshua 24:15

- What is the good news for our parish?
What surprises you?
What concerns you?

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One thought from the renewal team:

How exciting that 89% would support their children if they considered a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life! We noted, from a previous question, that 30% were unsure if the parish promoted vocations to the priesthood or consecrated life. What are some ways we can help people hear the call?