



Immaculate Conception Parish Survey Summary

General Information:

We received 153 responses online and 30 hard copies (183 responses total).

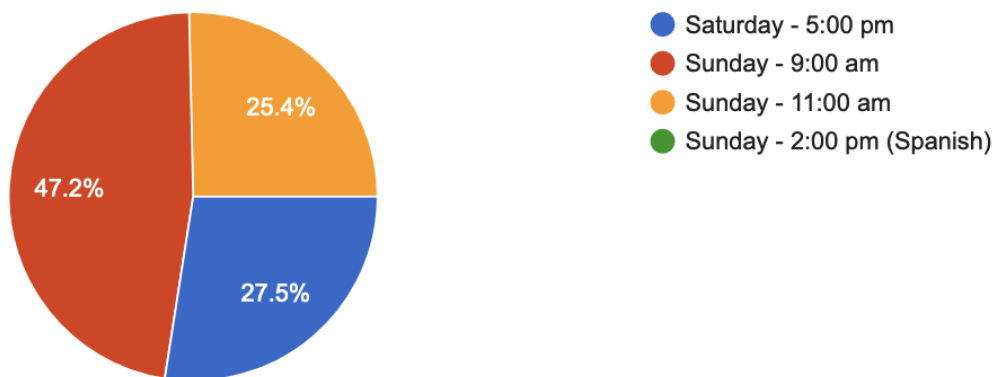
We had 15 anonymous forms.

Not everyone answered all the questions. The actual response total is in the parenthesis after the question number.

Answer Summaries:

Question #1 (172 responses):

What Mass time do you currently attend most?



Question #2 (172 responses):

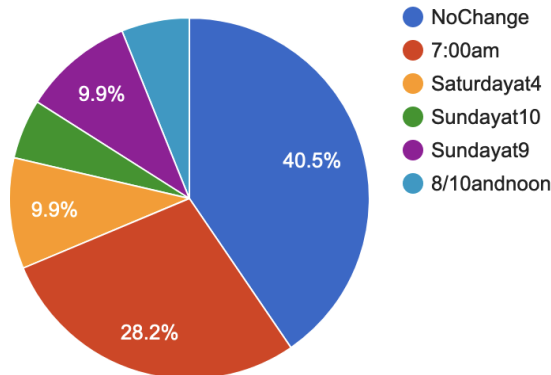
If you could change the Mass times, what new time would you choose?

The percentages are on the pie chart.

Each of the following responses was mentioned by at least two people:

- 7:00 pm on Sunday
- 9:30 am on Sunday
- 8:30 am/10:00 am and Noon
- 4:30 pm on Saturday
- 8:30 am on Sunday
- 1:00 pm on Sunday (Spanish) – these respondents DO NOT attend the Spanish Mass

Question #2



Question #3 (149 responses):

What do you consider Immaculate Conception’s strengths?

Overall the most common answer was “COMMUNITY.” Words/phrases such as “strong,” “friendly,” “committed,” “close members of the parish,” “good people,” “kind,” “huge sense of being connected,” and “great community.”

The next most common was our school and the faith formation programs. Words/phrases such as “high quality grade school,” “excellent religious education program”, “wonderful youth ministry,” “activities for young people,” “strong adult education – we learn a lot.”

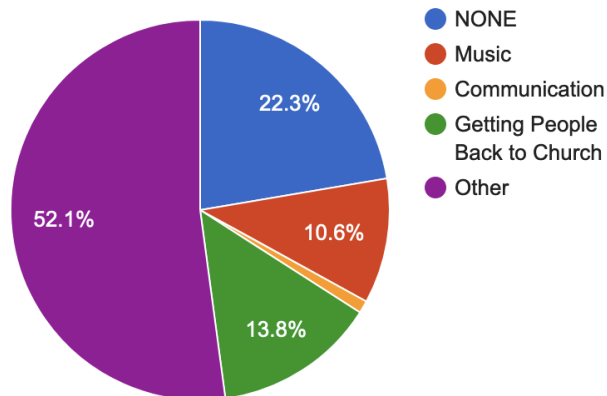
Other items mentioned more than once were leadership, volunteerism, liturgies, the music, rosary, facilities, communication, our new church and our priests (Fr. Jason’s name was mentioned ten times).

Question #4 (128 responses):

What do you consider Immaculate Conception’s weaknesses?’

Overall the most common answer was NONE or “can’t think of anything.” Other items mentioned were music, communication and getting people back to church (see pie chart below for percentages).

Question #4



For music, words and phrases that were used were “choir,” “handbells,” “love to see an actual choir formed,” “the music is good but it could be better,” “too much singing at Mass,” and “songs are hard to sing along with.”

For Communication, words and phrases such as, “lack of communication,” “poor communication,” “lack of communication between organizations,” “need periodic meetings for volunteers,” “none of us can name anyone on the parish council or committees and we don’t know what they do. Can their minutes be posted or put in the News and Notes?”

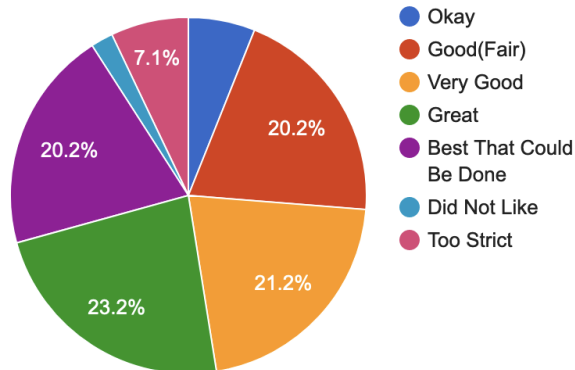
For Getting People Back to Church words and phrases such as, “getting more people back in church,” “the youth are not attending Mass,” “large numbers of parishioners but few attend Mass/functions or volunteer,” “more people should be participating,” “lost a lot of parishioners and students and would be good to build back,” “inviting fallen away Catholics or new members,” “something to draw in young adults,” and “show welcome to new members.”

Under “OTHER” there are many items mentioned but most are only mentioned once or twice. Those that are mentioned twice or more:

“cannot understand the Deacons” “Adoration more often” “Too much money is spent on the school” “hard to understand the readers/sound system” “bring back traditions like Communion rail” and “groups of parishioners who seem to exclude other parishioners because they don’t *fit* into their group”

Question #5 (140 responses):

How do you feel about Immaculate Conception’s response to the pandemic crisis?



Some of the positive comments were – “well organized,” “great volunteers,” “amazingly proud.” Some of the negative comments were – “lasted too long,” “couldn’t get a spot when registering,” “went to a different parish,” “at the beginning needed a way to give out Communion.”

Question #6 (96 responses):

If you have yet to return, what needs to change so that you can return?

Out of 96 responses 60 told us “we’re back,” “we have returned,” or “NA.”

Other answers included

“Improve speaker system. Cannot follow sermons etc. Need psalm books back in pews,” “No handshaking,” “Please take away the greeters with clip boards—does not support welcoming spirit,” “Altar servers, and Eucharist ministers should be reinstated,” “No masks, no asking about vaccine status, communion on the tongue, communion rail for kneeling , books, Holy water access, no registration or needing to give your name or contact information at the door,” “Comfort with pandemic being “over”, and high community vaccination percentage,” “Make sure that people still stay apart. And unvaccinated people still wear a mask,” “When the restrictions are fully lifted,” and “The 7am Mass” (this was mentioned 3 times)

Question #7 (110 responses):

If you are not already volunteering or involved in a ministry or program, what obstacles keep you from getting more involved at Immaculate Conception?

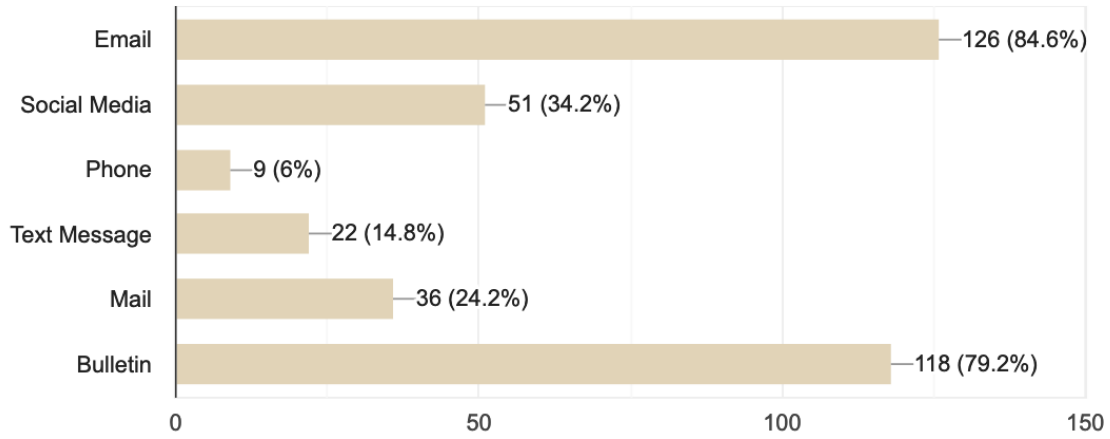
The top response was “I am already volunteering,” followed by “NA.” (27 responses)

Other answers include “sickness,” “family commitments,” “work,” “age and physicality,” “desire,” “highly involved in community groups,” “travel,” “it’s okay,” “personal shyness,” “I think people just need to be asked,” “I’m busy,” “nothing,” “frequent travel,” and “I often feel that I am an outsider.”

Question #8 (149 responses):

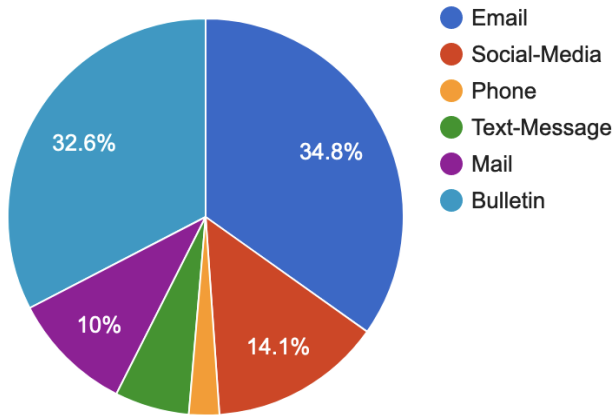
How do you receive information about news and events at Immaculate Conception? Check all that apply.

BAR GRAPH:



PIE CHART:

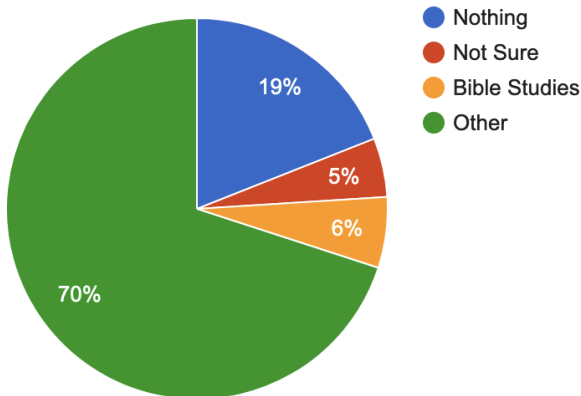
Question #8



Question #9 (103 responses):

What can Immaculate Conception offer to help you grow in your faith?

Question #9



Responses that are included in the "Nothing" category of the pie chart were "nothing," "everything is good," "I'm good," "none," and "I am happy with the status quo."

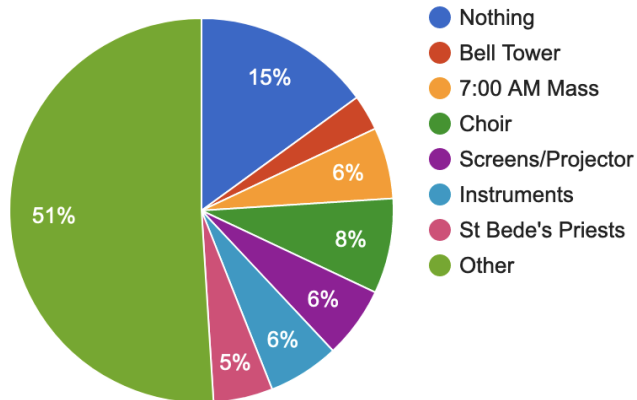
The "Other" includes various responses, most just mentioned once. These include the following: class on the history of faith traditions, adult small groups, Matthew Kelly small groups, class on the moral teachings of the church, enthusiasm, meet the pastor event, more adoration time (mentioned twice), continue adult faith formation offerings, words on projector/screen during Mass, St. Bede's priests, retreats for women, prayer traditions, concerts, a better Mass experience, more Mass times, feeling inspired by Mass or homilies, speakers, Q & A night with Fr. Jason each month, a place to kneel to receive Communion, adult faith formation on week nights, marriage encounter, and VLCFF (University of Dayton Online Courses) promoted to parish.

It was also mentioned twice that Fr. Jason added Mass on Mondays, Tuesdays and Saturdays plus the Rosary on Mondays and Thursdays and Adoration on Wednesdays.

Question #10 (110 responses):

What would you like to see added at Immaculate Conception?

Question #10



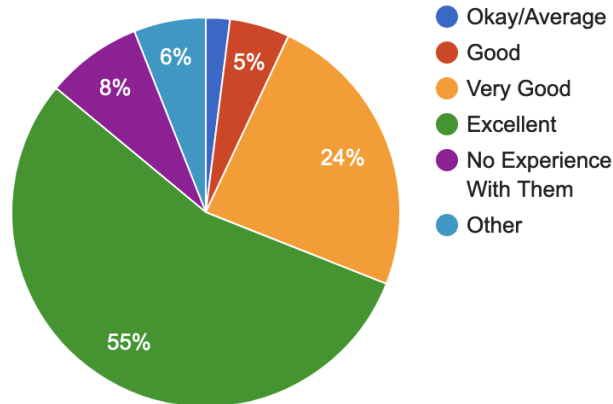
The "Other" includes a wide variety of items mostly just mentioned by only one person. These include:

added confession times, daycare programs, kneelers/communion rails (mentioned 4 times), evening daily masses (7:00 AM is too early), the Prayer to St. Michael after Mass, upgrade the parish offices, small faith groups, youth programs, social events (this was mentioned 5 times), more active group for women, youth participating in Mass, students sharing what they learned before Masses, young adult group (mentioned 3 times), decent dress code, pilgrimages, singles group, Greek/Latin at Mass, church open all day (mentioned twice), homeschool families events/get togethers, grandparents club or gardeners club, benches in the prayer garden, full length mirror in the women's restroom, and bring back funeral dinners.

Question #11 (144 responses):

How would you rate the parish's School, Religious Education, Youth Ministry, Adult Formation?

Question #11



In rating the faith formation/youth programs of the parish, most respondents used only one word to describe all of the programs mentioned (school, religious education, youth ministry and adult faith formation). When using words such as above par, strong, very high, a high 10, A+, pretty darn good, highest marks, held in high regards I listed them under excellent.

Some that responded gave more detailed explanations. These include the following:

“It’s the strongest glue that holds our parish together.”

“All are excellent. They need our support to keep growing and thriving”.

“My children are now young adults, but when they were in Religious Education classes, we were very pleased with the programs. Youth ministry seems to be thriving.”

“My kids went to ICS from preschool to 8th grade and overall, I thought it was excellent. New teachers and principal have really given it new, wonderful life going into the future. My son just graduated from 8th grade and I couldn't have been happier about how he felt during his last year at ICS. Loved, supported, challenged and ready to move forward.”

“Very good religious education, youth ministry and adult formation. School is too costly!”

“School - I need more info but I believe things are going well.

Religious Ed - need more info but I believe more emphasis should be placed on it.

Youth Ministry - need more info but I believe more emphasis should be placed on it to help retain our young people as lifelong Catholics.

Adult Formation - when I was able participate it was great! Looking forward to participating in the future”.

“I felt like ICS provided a great foundation for our children - so I would rate that as excellent.”

“I think the school does a marvelous job and is blessed with dedicated teachers.”

“1-10. 10 being the best. RE-9 YM-2 AF- 7”

“I always hear wonderful things about the school and teachers although my kids do not attend there. We have always loved the Religious Education program.”

Question #12 (78 responses):

Other comments are welcome:

This section had the most varied responses.

Those mentioned more than once were:

“Thank you for asking.”

“Fr. Jason is doing a great job.” Other responses that mentioned Fr. Jason were – “Hope he will be around for a long time.” “Welcome Fr. Jason!” “We should have a get to know you evening with Fr. Jason.” “Glad he is here.” “Appreciate all the work to the parish grounds.” “Appreciate Fr. Jason and Deacon Paul’s involvement in the Knights of Columbus events and activities.”

“The parish staff is a blessing.”

“Thank you for the return of daily Mass.”

“Please bring back the St. Michael prayer after Mass.”

“Bring St. Bede’s priests back.”

“We love IC and ICS! Blessed to be a part of this wonderful community.”

“Guitars and drums brought back to the 9:00 am Mass.”

“Remove pictures from the brick wall behind the altar (called Hobby Lobby art)”