

You Spoke, We Heard You!



In the spring of 2023, as we were emerging from COVID, the Archdiocese of Chicago initiated the **Disciple Maker Index Survey**. It was designed to provide parishes with insights on how they were performing, where parishioners were on their spiritual journeys, as well as the parish's effectiveness in supporting them. Late last fall we received the Arch's data tabulations. There was a wealth of information to sift through and glean take-aways from. Nearly half (49%) of our regular mass attendees completed the survey. Thank you! Your voices provided important feedback and direction that will help shape our parish's future planning and development. A deep dive into the data revealed key learnings (listed below), which will help guide our next chapter at OLW. Stay tuned as we continue to communicate how your input will manifest itself in the works and life of our parish, as we continue our journey *together*.

Reasons to Celebrate

- ▶ OLW provides a strong Catholic foundation that encourages and fosters service of others.
- ▶ Information about OLW and parish life is easy to find and keeps our community connected.
- ▶ Our parish leadership is fiscally responsible and transparent about our finances.

Survey Highlights

- 82%** "My parish helps me connect with a local Catholic community and provides opportunities to serve those in need."
- 91%** "My parish helps me stay connected by making information easy to find."
- 79%** "My parish provides transparent information about parish finances."

Progress to Build On

- ▶ Our parish is welcoming, encourages participation in liturgy, ministry and social activities, and helps parishioners feel like they belong.
- ▶ OLW is committed to the spiritual journeys of its parishioners and provides faith formation and growth opportunities.
- ▶ Leadership evaluates and executes parish buildings and grounds enhancement and renovation projects.

Survey Highlights

- 76%** "My parish helps me connect with a local Catholic Community by making me feel welcomed and accepted."
- 59%** "My parish helps me grow spiritually by forming me as a disciple of Jesus Christ."
- 54%** "Really nice structure, but needs cosmetic and structural improvements."

Opportunities to Invest In

- ▶ Explore ways to share the parish mission and provide more engagement opportunities.
- ▶ Enhance Sunday liturgies, including preaching & music.
- ▶ Bring together our parish and school programs to become one mind & heart.

Survey Highlights

- 43%** "My parish helps me connect... by involving me in decisions that affect the parish's future."
- 51%** "My parish helps me grow spiritually by offering vibrant and engaging Sunday Masses."
- 43%** "We have space & resources but... there is a need to build a stronger bridge between school and parish families."



To see how we scored on the Four Factors of a Thriving Parish scan the QR code or visit bit.ly/olw_dmi

bit.ly/olw_dmi

Percent of all respondents who chose statement from multiple choices. All other percentages reflect aggregate of respondents who agree or strongly agree with statement.