

# St. Charles Parish Renewal Project – Survey Result Summary

57 survey respondents – May 2021

## Specific data on key survey components

- 80% of survey respondents reporting having a good understanding of the project, while 70% reported a good understanding of the budget
- The rectory remodel portion was well supported with 84% strongly or slightly in favor, while only 7% slightly or strongly disagreed
- The office space and entry were supported with 64% strongly or slightly in favor, while 11% slightly or strongly disagreed
- 52% of the respondents were strongly or slightly in favor of the family/friendship room, while 29% did not favor this portion of the project
- The overall reaction to this entire project was mixed, with 45% excited, 20% neutral, and 35% concerned
- The project has some intended financial support with 49% of respondents planning to donate, 28% undecided, and 23% do not plan to contribute
- Ages 55 to 75+ made up a large portion of the respondents (67%) and females completed 60% of the surveys
- Over 80% of the survey respondents reported attending weekly mass and 63% stated they are a 31+ year members, followed by 11-20 years at 16%

## Questions or concerns that were addressed in the comments

- How is it going to get paid for?
- What is it all being spent on?
- Improvements can be made that aren't so costly
- It is too elaborate and too large
- Could it be downsized somewhat or is it all or nothing?
- The family room is too small
- What happens if the goal isn't met?
- With our active members getting older, will the younger members assist in the cost?

## What respondents like most about the proposed project

- Much needed renovation, long overdue, and a fresh look!
- Larger entryway, updated restrooms, new family room
- Bathroom updates and relocated highly needed
- Easy to find offices, more intimate space for gatherings, a more cohesive and inviting space for priest's living quarters
- I like the larger rectory dining room that can accommodate larger group gatherings
- A new entry to the southwest, new gathering space with the entry, and the smaller fellowship room

A brief response to some of the concerns – full survey results will be available on the Parish Renewal Project table, as well as on our website ([stcharlesoakes.org](http://stcharlesoakes.org))

### Rejuvenating the Parish

It cannot be overstated the importance of getting parishioners back in church and more people engaged in the life of the parish. Martha Iverson will assume a new role – outreach ministries. A new Director of Religious Education will be hired soon. Look for additional surveys about parish outreach and the need for other activities to come by this fall. It is important that we all take an active role in enhancing parish and family life.

### Size of the Rectory Living Space

The overall size of the rectory will actually be similar to what it is today, especially given the new restrooms and conference room will extend into a portion of the current rectory footprint. The renovation plan has this space being used far more efficiently. An open floor plan in the hospitality space will allow the priest to entertain guests.

### Is There a Plan B or C?

The current plan has been approved by the Diocesan building committee. Any other plan would require another Diocesan approval.

### Project Costs

The stated rectory project figure does include several associated costs, such as; asbestos removal, handicap accessible restrooms, HVAC, electrical, and other critical needs. The rectory portion, which is the greatest need, does account for roughly 60-70% of the overall project. The committee did consider the acquisition of another residence or building new, but the upkeep and maintenance made these options less practical.