



# ST. BRIDGET CATHOLIC CHURCH

## PARISH SURVEY WORK: RESULTS AND RESPONSE

### Our Vision- From Rev. Ken Shuping, Pastor

Dear parishioners,

We are eager to support our community in delving deeper into the faith together, as well as fostering your personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Thank you for your patience as we have planned our response to the survey that we took in the fall of 2024. The survey has been a great reminder of our need for one another and the gift and duty of parishes.

Many of you will recall that we produced our own survey in 2022. We completed some response action items that enriched the life of our parish, such as restarting Children's Liturgy of the Word, regularly promoting Sunday adoration to young adults, instituting a Mystagogy session for teens finishing Confirmation prep, and designating liaisons within Parish Council. But we did not craft a follow-up structure for our 40+ goals. This time around, we wanted professional guidance in assessment of the parish and the response plan. The **Catholic Leadership Institute (CLI)** has provided critical support. But we could not have made these strides without you, our parishioners—our response total of 449 families was more than satisfactory!

See below key findings from the Disciple Maker Index. On the next page, you will learn about our priorities and goals, our Implementation Teams, and more. Please watch our website [saintbridgetchurch.org](http://saintbridgetchurch.org) for regular updates on this work. Thank you for participating in this important project of our 75th year as a community. We are grateful to have this data as a touchstone for many years to come.

God bless you!

## From the Disciple Maker Index

### KEY DRIVERS

#### What drives parishioners to share their parish and their faith?

Below are questions that CLI marks as strong indicators of parish health. See how the people of Saint Bridget responded.

#### Leadership Indicators:

**39%** of respondents strongly agree and **44%** agree that they recommend the parish.

#### Sunday Experience:

**29%** of respondents strongly agree and **48%** agree that St. Bridget makes them feel welcomed and accepted

#### Spiritual Practices:

**11%** of respondents attend Mass daily and **73%** weekly.

#### Missionary Impulse:

**11%** of respondents invited someone to a parish event monthly or weekly.

### Strengths of our parish

#### Top Questions by Percentage of Strongly Agree Responses

The Eucharist is the body and blood of Jesus Christ.

**77%** **15%**  
strongly agree agree

Scripture is the Word of God.

**75%** **19%**

The Catholic Church is critical in relationship with God.

**58%** **26%**

### Areas of Opportunity

#### Top Opportunities by Percentage of Strongly Agree Responses

My parish equips me to talk about the faith by growing my confidence in Church teachings so I can answer others' questions.

**12%** **46%**  
strongly agree agree

My parish helps me grow spiritually by forming me as a disciple of Jesus Christ.

**17%** **51%**

My parish helps me grow spiritually through preaching and homilies that connect my faith with everyday life.

**22%** **46%**

# Our Priorities and SMART Goals

The Catholic Leadership Institute defines priorities as areas of focus born of the patterns in survey results. SMART goals are Specific/Measurable, Motivating, Attainable, Relevant, and Timebound/Trackable. They are not action items or statements of attitude.

## PRIORITY 1: ENGAGEMENT

**Goal 1:** Increase the percentage of respondents who strongly agree with the question on the Disciple Maker Index Survey, "My parish helps me connect with a local Catholic community by making me feel welcomed and accepted" from 29% to 45% in a 2027 parish survey by January 31, 2027.

**Goal 2:** Increase Sunday Mass attendance by 25% from 950 to 1200, by November 2026.

## PRIORITY 2: FORMATION

**Goal 1:** Create opportunities for retreats and workshops (speaker with breakout discussion groups) at least monthly, with 100 people attending on average by January 31, 2027.

**Goal 2:** Increase the percent of respondents who strongly agree with the question on the Disciple Maker Index Survey, "My parish equips me to have conversations about my faith with family and friends by growing my confidence in the Church's teachings so I can answer others' questions" from 12% strongly agree to at least 22% strongly agree, by January 31, 2027.

## PRIORITY 3: DISCIPLESHIP

**Goal 1:** By January 2027, attain 25% of survey responses reporting that at least weekly, "I have spiritually accompanied someone outside of my family by entering into deep discussion about faith."

**Goal 2:** Create a mentoring program with at least 24 mentors by January 31, 2027.

## IMPLEMENTATION TEAMS

### Engagement

Jo Ellen Schneider

[jschneider@saintbridgetchurch.org](mailto:jschneider@saintbridgetchurch.org)

### Workshops

Marisa Cupps

[mcupps@saintbridgetchurch.org](mailto:mcupps@saintbridgetchurch.org)

### Mentorship

Rev. Seth Seaman

[sseaman@richmonddiocese.org](mailto:sseaman@richmonddiocese.org)

### Survey & Statistics

Elizabeth Self

[eself@saintbridgetchurch.org](mailto:eself@saintbridgetchurch.org)

*Interested in getting involved? Contact one of these implementation team leaders!*

## IN THE WORKS



Workshop and Engagement Forms **due Monday May 19th**

Regular event surveys: Tell us what is and isn't working  
January 2027 Survey: Repeat key questions from Fall 2024  
Disciple Maker Index



**MINISTRY FAIR** SUNDAY SEPT. 7, 2025



Workshop Series: Monthly events with speakers and small group discussion



Mentorship Program



**Please fill out these short, anonymous Google Forms to guide our teams' efforts.**

**Engagement:**  
How Can Saint  
Bridget Be  
More Welcoming?

**Workshops:**  
What Topics Do  
You Want to See  
Covered This Year?



*Can't use the QRs? Please see paper copies of the survey in the parish office or find the link on the parish website.*