



Dear Christ Our Light Parishioner,

Our Disciple Maker Index survey results were made available in April and a summary of results is on the opposite side. A team of staff and parishioners have been reviewing the data and will be creating a strategic plan based on the Vision and Impact Statements developed last Fall and guided by the DMI results.

We have a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the gift of the Eucharist in our family of parishes this coming July. It will be a local Eucharistic Pilgrimage that begins Monday, July 8th with Mass at 5:30 PM at Precious Blood Church, includes a four day walking pilgrimage to all eight churches in our family, and ends Thursday, July 11th with 5:30 PM Mass at Holy Redeemer. Adoration and/or Mass will be held at all eight churches. The procession will cover 36 miles and has opportunities for many volunteers with 750 time slots to fill for procession and adoration. Sign up at bit.ly/eucharisticjourney. The weekday Mass schedule for that week will be changed to accommodate the pilgrimage. We will have three overnights with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, 37 total hours of Exposition. Everyone is encouraged to be part of this sacred and historic opportunity in our family of parishes. Learn more about our pilgrimage at bit.ly/eucharisticrevival.

Our local Christ Our Light pilgrimage is a small part of the much larger Eucharistic revival that has been underway in our American church since 2022. Earlier in May, four national Eucharistic pilgrimage routes were begun from the East and West coasts, the headwaters of the Mississippi and the Gulf of Mexico, all converging in Indianapolis for the July 17-21 National Eucharistic Congress. The four routes will be an unprecedented outpouring of grace over 60 days, covering 6,500 miles and including over 100,000 participants. The St. Elizabeth Ann Seton route will pass through the Archdiocese of Cincinnati July 1st to the 8th. Everyone is encouraged to participate in this once in a lifetime opportunity celebrating the amazing gift of the Eucharist. Learn more about the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage at www.eucharisticpilgrimage.org and the National Eucharistic Congress at www.eucharisticcongress.org.

As previously announced, we welcome several new staff members over the summer. Anthony Moeder, Music Director for St. Johns and Precious Blood, began June 1st. His hire follows Marian Heitbrink's retirement last December. Bob Parker will begin in June as Holy Redeemer Business Manager following Mary Eyink who is retiring June 30th. Kim Wiford, who has been interim CRE for St. Augustine since January 2024, has officially accepted the position. Jacob Kleinhenz resigned as CRE last December. Jodie Blindauer, Director of Evangelization, will begin July 15th. Jodie's office will be at the St. Rose office in Marion, but her responsibilities will take her to each of the Christ Our Light parishes on a regular basis.

In the midst of summer fun and activities, the Holy Spirit is inviting us to join in the Eucharistic Revival underway in our American Church walking more closely with Jesus not only in the Eucharistic Pilgrimage this summer, but every day of our lives on our journey to heaven. May this outpouring of grace help us know, love and serve the Lord.

Blessings and prayers, Fr. Ken Schnipke, C.P.P.S., Pastor, Christ Our Light Family of Parishes

Disciple Maker Index (DMI) Summary Results

This past February, the Christ Our Light family was asked to complete the Disciple Maker Index survey. The DMI 75-question survey tool invites parishioners to reflect on where they are on their journey of discipleship and enables Family leadership to make data-driven decisions to help parishioners grow in their faith. The tool is being widely used across the Archdiocese of Cincinnati and is helpful in understanding the growth opportunities of a family of parishes.

We were very happy to receive 2,224 completed surveys which is very close to half of the average weekly Mass goers in the Family **so thank you!** All of the results are helpful, but the following are at the heart of guiding us in our journey towards our vision. The results are encouraging, but also indicate we have lots of room for growth.

Summary of responses on critical issues in gauging spiritual health:

No.	Question	% of Responses		
		COL	Archdiocese	
1	“The Eucharist is really the body and blood of Jesus Christ.”			
		Strongly Agree	74	72
		Agree	20	17
2	“My parish helps me grow spiritually by offering vibrant and engaging Sunday masses.”			
		Strongly Agree	38	36
		Agree	40	40
3	“I would recommend my parish to a friend.”			
		Strongly Agree	52	53
		Agree	40	33
4	“My parish makes me feel welcomed and accepted”			
		Strongly Agree	39	43
		Agree	49	39
5	“My parish helps me grow spiritually by forming me as a disciple of Jesus”			
		Strongly Agree	14	25
		Agree	59	45
6	“Which of the following best describes where you are on your catholic journey?”			
		My relationship with Jesus is the most important in my life	26	37
		I have personally encountered Jesus and am growing as a disciple	35	35
		I practice my Catholic Faith but do not know Jesus as a friend	36	24

Our next steps involve creating a COL Strategic Plan based on the Vision and Impact Statements developed earlier and guided by the DMI survey results. The Eucharist is the source and summit of the Christian life, so we will always be developing opportunities for improving on responses to question 1. The COL vision includes being a strong inviting community so we will certainly include actions aimed at driving stronger responses to questions like 2-4. We also are committed to cultivating faith, so part of the strategic plan will certainly include actions to drive spiritual growth for stronger responses to questions like 5-6.

Thanks again to all who participated in the survey and please watch for further communications on the development of our strategic plan!

CHRIST OUR LIGHT FAMILY VISION

Christ our Light Family of parishes, rooted in the Eucharist and Sacraments, strives to be an inviting community of believers by: cultivating faith, knowing, loving and serving God. We will joyfully radiate the Light of Christ to all through love, compassion and example on our journey towards heaven.