

## What are the gifts of your parish? (4<sup>th</sup>)

### Christ the Servant Parish

- Warmth and welcoming atmosphere; great environment
- Very welcoming spirit in this church
- Spirit of openness and friendliness
- Good weekly attendance
- We are small enough to have care and concern for each other
- Close knit family committee
- The sense of community and family this faith community provides its members is special and many members would say they have not experienced this before
- Wonderful parishioners, so kind and generous
- Parish provides support to fellow parishioners in prayer when sick
- Uniquely, we love and respect each other and all who enter our door
- Our parish is more informal so we are more open to participation
- We chose to attend this parish because it is a true community
- People from other parishes have come to Christ the Servant because it is such a welcoming faith community
- A strong caring and compassionate community who demonstrate what God asks of all of us including what He asks of the Diocese
- We welcome everyone, every race, every ethnicity, every economic background
- We don't measure our parishioners in terms of cash flow
- People come to visit our parish and then end up joining
- Visiting priests and other guests who come here always comment on what a welcoming place
- Unique camaraderie and community
- We are very inclusive and friendly
- Parish is Social Justice oriented
- There is a thriving senior community
- Small, neighborly congregation
- Our parish is smaller so we are able to know so many other parishioners'
- Young people feel welcome and want to attend Mass and participate
- The parish is very giving and volunteer so much of their time
- Parishioners grow friendships and meet outside of church
- We live our apostolic mission
- Just because we're smaller, doesn't mean we're not a strong family
- We do a lot for a smaller parish. Being small is an asset and part of what draws the community. So many from other parishes come here to Christ the Servant
- Percentage wise Christ the Servant has higher number of sacraments than the larger parishes
- Simbang Gabi fosters togetherness

- Parish Council members are dedicated and very concerned for the future of the church and members
- Always comfortable, at peace, feel welcome
- When we attended Our Lady of Peace or St. Scholastic warmth is lacking
- Never judgmental – OLP and St Scholastica are the opposite
- All participate in Mass
- We have a high number of volunteers doing all kinds of things for the parish, and the community
- People are generous to support our parish
- We are good financial stewards This church is doing it right and bring in Catholics and retaining them
- Regular and fun fundraising events with ample volunteers and donors for all these events
- High community attendance for Christmas pageant and Corpus Christi
- We videotape our Sunday Mass with views over 1,000
- Daily Mass attendance is good and still growing month by month
- Plenty of opportunity to volunteer and serve. Feel more open to volunteering than at a large parish where you feel like a number.
- We are willing to give whatever it takes to keep our parish open and alive
- Great staff, RF director, manager, great catechists, strong committed people who love this parish and serve their community
- Our administrative personnel are dedicated, talented and very qualified
- The administrative staff is smart and efficient
- Church grounds are beautifully landscaped, offers a welcoming environment
- Money/donations are managed very well and not spent on superficial statutes, windows, etc.
- Loyal parishioner's, some here since the Lakeview Jr. High days
- Parish offers Hospitality weekends, which gives us warm and friendly vibes
- We are passionate about our faith
- We are here to serve the community and each other
- The Holy Spirit is alive and with us here at Christ the Servant

### **Adult and Youth Choirs**

- We have two excellent choirs (adult & youth) and music director
- Awesome choir
- Wonderful/great choir who sing well together
- Dedicated and talented music ministry
- Best music director that engages the congregation
- Fantastic, and extremely talented music director

- Our music ministry is the best. We have many musicians and singers and are able to pick which Mass to sing at
- We have an excellent and dedicated choir director for adult and youth choirs
- Our robust music ministry
- Thriving choir
- We have contemporary music, strong participation

### **Father Bob Duda**

- Great pastor
- Father Bob is an excellent Pastor and his staff is supportive and very knowledgeable
- A gift to the parish is, Father Bob!!!
- Great, awesome, kind, patient, loving and inspiring priest in Father Bob
- Homily is always tying the Gospel to our daily life – reality
- A pastor who is full of joy and knows his parishioners, greets almost everyone
- Father Bob is a great gift from our Lord to our Christ the Servant parish. Fr. Bob fosters community, spirit, friendliness and love
- Enjoy the light heartiness from Father Bob's jokes
- Father Bob creates a different atmosphere and makes the Gospel come alive
- Father Bob is giving and brings humor to the homily that follows the Gospel
- Father Bob serves everyone in need not only his parishioners (his sheep)
- Father Bob is a wonderful priest and leader at our parish. He makes everyone smile and look forward to coming back
- Father Bob has a You Tube Mass for those who no longer can come to church
- Father Bob does funeral Masses for people who are not active members
- Father Bob is our biggest gift

### **Deacon Rod Accardi**

Our deacon is very dedicated, assists Fr. Bob and parishioners extremely well.

### **Religious Formation**

- Seriously committed Catholics carrying our mission of the Church, particularly in Religious Formation
- We have a good religious' education program
- We have an exceptional religious formation program. It is fun and educational at the same time. If this were to change, it will have devastating to our children.
- Very exciting and lively religious education program
- The Christ the Servant religious education program accommodates the needs of the families
- Well attended Vacation Bible School and Youth programs

- Our children like going to religious education, they do not want to miss class
- We have many well educated leaders of the Catholic Faith in our community who share their knowledge and love of the Catholic faith
- Strong religious formation for adults, youth and children
- Our religious education is the best!
- Trained religious education instructors
- Our religious education program offers so many innovative ideas
- Youth students are expressing interest in continuing their faith education after confirmation. Joining Knights of Columbus, becoming a deacon, and may hear the word of God and become a priest.

### **Notes from parishioner's – Small Group Feedback**

**Note:** The Diocese should look at why our parish make our budget and have happy parishioner's. Others could learn from us, and teach St. Scholastica and Our Lady of Peace. Of course, we would welcome any of their parishioner's.

**Note:** On a per capita basis, or per parishioner, our church consistently surpasses much larger congregations in both financial contributions and Mass attendance.

**Note:** What were the parameters for being chosen to be on this list of parishes? Why was Christ the Servant chosen?

**Note:** I do not feel God approves of this.

**Note:** We welcome you to come and visit our parish for a Mass and you will understand why we love our church/parish.

**Note:** One of the main concerns of the Diocese is lack of attendees for Mass. Closing our parishes will only increase this problem. I will seriously consider changing religious if my parish closes. Is this the solution you want?

**Note:** The root cause of why people are leaving the Catholic church is not being addressed. You are only addressing the symptoms. If you think I believe one word your consultant is saying I have some swamp land in AZ to see you!

**Note:** You're going to tear out the heart and soul of the community if you close the church. We are a family, people feel welcome.

**Note:** The church is not just a building. It is a community. Closing our church would be closing a community. We are a vibrant community and are offending that we are placed on a list that could close our church.

**Note:** Is Jesus even considered in this restructuring process, or does it come down to money? I chose Jesus and to come here where we are all welcome. We parishioners here are a family that do not want to be separated.

**Note:** Christ the Servant Catholic Church community deserves a chance to stay and prosper. God help us all!