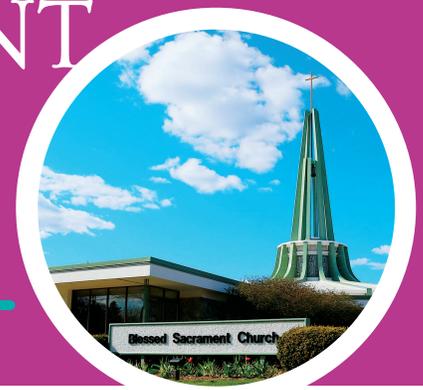


# BLESSED SACRAMENT SYNOD REPORT AT A GLANCE



## WHAT WE DO WELL

### PARISH COMMUNITY

- The community is strong and loyal
- Our parish is welcoming and hospitable
- We are open to change and engaged with the times
- We are in line with Pope Francis: we are called to evangelize

### LITURGY

- Homilies are relevant and thought-provoking, and use modern day parables to break open the Scriptures
- We have talented musicians and their presence adds to the prayerful music at our liturgies
- It is clear that our liturgical ministers care about their ministries
- CARE participants love when they can share their gifts at Mass!

### FAITH FORMATION

- The parish offers a variety of opportunities for formation and growing closer to God for all ages
- Programs like Christ Renews, Youth 2 Youth, Vacation Bible School, Reach Out, CARE, and our standard programming are wonderful
- The youth of the parish love the opportunities we have for them, and consider them part of their dream Church

### ADMINISTRATION

- We have a wonderful staff
- We embrace technology in order to communicate, especially during COVID
- Two of our parish organizations: the Ladies of Blessed Sacrament and the Knights of Columbus are doing wonderful work to impact families of our parish and community

## WHERE WE CAN IMPROVE

### PARISH COMMUNITY

- Stories and service—the high school students in particular would like to see more opportunities to serve as a parish community and share stories
- We need to work more on our outreach to the homebound and those who have not come back post-pandemic
- We can always improve being more welcoming and hospitable, especially to groups such as minorities, LGBTQ+, people with different political beliefs, and guests / visitors

### LITURGY

- Introduce more new music and keep a balance of new and traditional songs
- Get more people involved in music ministry as instrumentalists, cantors, and choir members
- The young Church says: *Mass should be the community coming together to worship God, but also build up the body of Christ that is Blessed Sacrament. We have to stop treating it like an item to check off the weekend's to-do list.*

### FAITH FORMATION

- More interaction with the churches in Midland, but especially within the Midland Area Catholic Churches
- Time for a Parish Mission with engaging speakers and music

### ADMINISTRATION

- Transparency
- More visibility from the staff
- Bring back newcomer weekends
- Increased marketing and highlighting the things we do well
- Hold listening sessions for the parish community

# GOALS MOVING FORWARD

## PARISH COMMUNITY

- Create opportunities for whole parish service—specifically, utilizing our existing Adult Outreach Program to facilitate family oriented service opportunities
  - Timeline: Fall 2022
- Yearly listening sessions for the whole parish
  - Timeline: Spring 2023
- State of the Parish address to give the parish community updates on vital parish happenings
  - Timeline: September 2022
- Recruit volunteers and bring back welcome weekends
  - Timeline:
    - Recruit volunteers by October 2022
    - Hold first welcome weekend Advent 2022

## FAITH FORMATION

- Introduce Small Faith Groups
  - Timeline: February 2023
- MACC opportunities
  - Timeline: Ongoing discussions with local parishes
- Recruit catechists
  - Timeline: September 2022

## THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone who participated in the synod process! Your stories and input help shape who we are as a parish community and where we go from here. We are so glad to be on this faith journey with you!

To read the full report that includes responses on the diocese and global Church, please visit the website: [www.blessed-midland.org/synod](http://www.blessed-midland.org/synod)

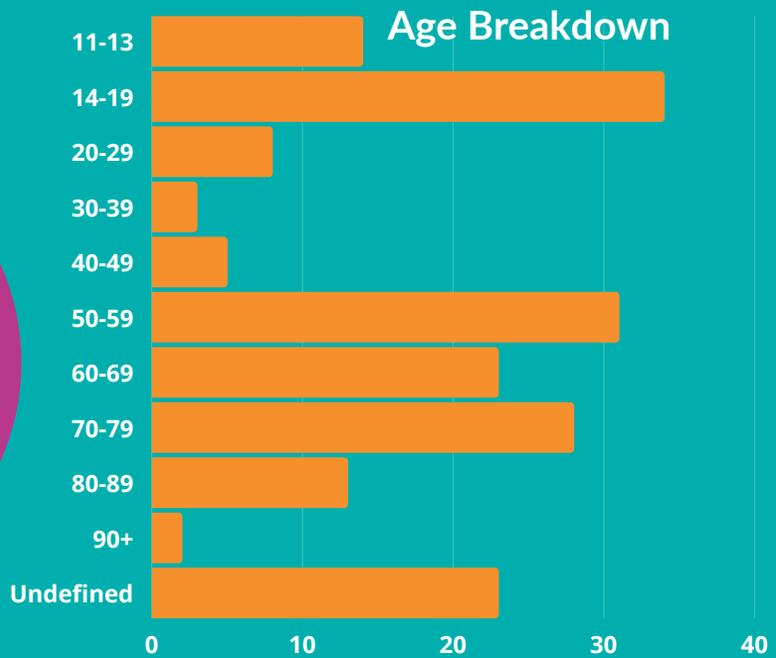
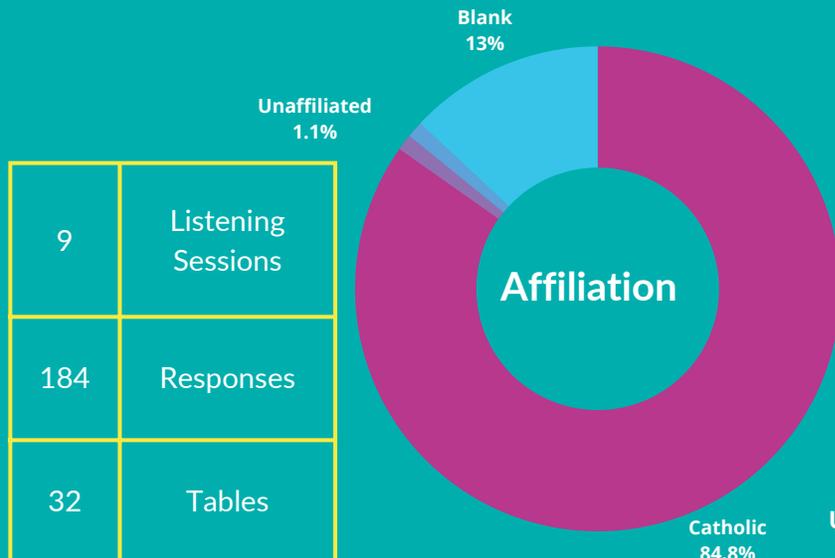
## LITURGY

- Bring back greeting one another before Mass & Kids at the font for baptisms
  - Timeline: Now
- Expand participation in liturgical ministries
  - Timeline: December 2022
    - 12 new individual Ministers of Hospitality + 4 families to serve together as Ministers of Hospitality
    - 6 new Lectors
    - 12 new Altar Servers
    - 6 new Eucharistic Ministers
- Introduce and learn new music
  - Timeline: Beginning Fall 2022
  - One song every two months
- Recruit more singers and instrumentalists for music ministry, including youth musicians
  - Timeline: December 2022
    - 3 new Cantors
    - 3 new Instrumentalists

## ADMINISTRATION

- At least twice a year, have staff available at coffee & donuts to introduce themselves, and answer any questions
  - Timeline: Fall 2022
- Transparency
  - Begin posting minutes for Pastoral and Finance Council meetings on the website
    - Timeline: Now
  - Name council chairs in bulletin
    - Timeline: Now
- Increase awareness of Christian Service Funding
  - Timeline: November 2022

## BY THE NUMBERS



9	Listening Sessions
184	Responses
32	Tables