

St. Raymond de Penafort

Parish Transformation Survey
Qualitative (Open Ended Questions)
Topline Report

October 2015

[illegible]

Life (prayer, CHRP, God's Presence, Challenges "Difficult Patches", Family)

**Growing older and seeing life from an adult perspective
Guidance of priests and religious on issues that weighed heavy
on my life.**

Raising a special needs child has helped me to see God's hand in my life.

I really do believe that we are all in this together and God will lead us where He wants us to go if we stay together and **share both our ups and downs of life.**

Throughout my "**life experiences**" I have grown closer to our Lord.

Parish

The love, welcoming and acceptance we have received from the parish.

St Raymond's has always been a vibrant and progressive parish and continued to offer a very strong sense of faith community!

We have been active in almost every parish sponsored activity from CCD teachers to hospital and parish communion ministers, leaders of Renew, etc..

Serving the parish school and seeing how much effort is made to provide a faith-based education.

The parish priests homilies.

Participating in parish activities.

Spiritual tone set by parish.

Family/Children

Trying to live with an attitude of gratitude for my family, health, and other things that are easily taken for granted.

Having children. Raising children.

Children & spouse.

Helping raise young children in the faith.

What could the parish offer to help you

OPPORTUNITIES

➤ I have found over the past some forty years that St. Raymond is unique in the variety of opportunities that have been offered to my generation to grow closer to God. **Perhaps the current generation of families have different needs, given the time constraints they seem to face.**

➤ **Learning/growing/sharing opportunities including child care** - I feel like the **vocation of parenthood** is too often overlooked in our current church. There is no spiritual formation available for parents of young children! I am not speaking of fellowship with other parents - that is valuable but already widely available - but rather meaningful groups and classes that I, as a primary parent with a spouse who often travels for work, can attend.

➤ These are difficult times for our church, not just St. Raymond. I pray every day for our church, its leaders and young people that they find their way back to their faith.

➤ **More service/mission opportunities.**

➤ Different people speaking and offering prayer. We have the same people running adult formation and ideas--sometimes the styles are all "one style" and agenda. We need to **open it up to different speakers and different people.**

➤ Opportunities for group and social activities for adults in 20s and 30s outside of work hours.

➤ Less social events and more true core-value, spiritual events.

➤ We don't need homilies that merely repeat or paraphrase the

readings we just heard, but rather, how are **those** reading relevant to me today. How are the readings, mass, church, going to make me a better person this week?

➤ **A mass that ignites energy and joy!**

We understand that we play a role in the mass celebration as participants and that receiving the Eucharist is important. But honestly, we also expect **to be filled up by the message of the Homily**. We often do not walk away from mass feeling that we gained much insight or strength from the message. We have so much on our plates as young parents and citizens of the world today.



Additional Comments

NEEDS

- Parish needs little changed
- Religion in our lives
- Accessibility – physical, mass, RE, formation
- Extend welcome – integrate those in the balcony, and to single people
- See need in our community
- “Whole family”
- Take advantage of what St. Raymond’s offers
- Fully participate in mass
- Evangelization and stewardship cultivated
- Revitalize lay leadership
- Young people in leadership positions
- Senior activities, outside of playing cards
- “Pair up” members with family that needs help and friendship
- Pastor, Associate Pastor
- RCIA refresher course

