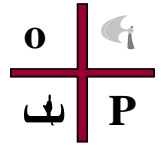


## St. Olaf Catholic Parish

18943 Caldart Avenue N.E.  
Poulsbo, Washington 98370  
(360) 779-4291 Fax (360) 779-1240  
www.stolafschurch.org

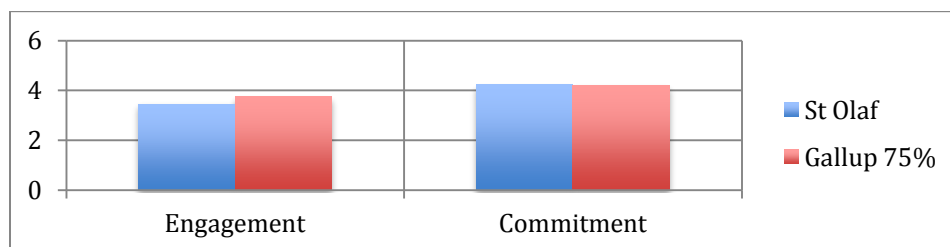


Dear Parishioner,

In April 2011, we conducted a survey produced by the Gallup Organization to get a measure of the spiritual health of St Olaf Parish. Traditional measures used to assess the status of a Parish have focused on the number of members, attendance at Sunday Masses, and the level of financial giving by the members. While these factors are important, they are outcomes, not causes of the spiritual health of the Parish. The Gallup survey focused on three areas they have identified from comprehensive research into the spiritual health of church groups. These areas are member engagement in the life of the parish, the spiritual commitment of the individual members, and the life outcomes of the members.

The survey had a total of 25 questions requesting answers on a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 indicated you “strongly agreed”, and 1 indicated you “strongly disagreed” with the statement. We had a total of 404 responses, which was a high response rate based on Gallup experience. We thank you for your participation, since a high response rate increases the validity of the survey results and makes it a more viable tool to guide our actions to improve our member engagement and spiritual commitment of parishioners.

The St. Olaf result for member engagement and spiritual commitment are shown below. Our results are compared those from all Catholic Parishes surveyed by Gallup. As you can see, St. Olaf scored below the Catholic total on member engagement, and above on spiritual commitment of our members.



So, what do we do with the results of the survey? We have formed an impact group to assess the results and come up with a plan to focus on specific areas where the survey indicates we can make improvements. The first step in our approach is to communicate the results broadly and encourage questions and feedback on the results. Through this effort we hope you will gain a clear understanding of exactly what we mean by “member engagement”, and “spiritual commitment”. We are starting the process this weekend with an insert in the bulletin that provides detail on the first two questions in the survey. We will continue with inserts covering two

questions each week until all 25 have been covered. There is an area at the bottom of the insert where we encourage specific feedback on each topic.

The impact group is also working on a plan to improve on one of the member engagement topics in the next year. They will be testing their ideas with members of the parish in a number of different forums before they begin implementation and we ask all of you to share your opinions on what they propose.

Thank you again for your participation in the survey, and we ask you to make yourself heard on the topic in the coming weeks.

Sincerely Yours In Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. David". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "J".

*Pastor*

Survey Impact Team Members:

Tim Propeck, Michelle Stone, Todd Stone,  
John Rebar, Tom Musha, Curt Brown,  
Mary Brown & Gail Donnelly