

ST. DAVID PARISH

SPRING 2021



"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, even until the end of the age."

- Matthew 28:19-20

ST. DAVID PARISH TO PARTICIPATE IN NATIONAL SURVEY TRACKING CHURCH TRENDS

Dear Parish Family,

It is with great anticipation that I share with you the exciting news that St. David Parish will be participating in the Disciple Maker Index (DMI) Survey! This nationally-recognized survey has been administered in more than 1000 parishes around the US with more than 150,000 respondents. St. David Parish, as part of the Next Generation Parish, has been selected to participate this coming spring. The results from our parish survey will not only be used for information and planning for our

own parish, but will also be included in the national results which track trends, growth and Church-related opportunities nationwide. This is an exciting opportunity for our parish and I hope you will participate!

The DMI survey was developed by the Catholic Leadership Institute in conjunction with advising US bishops and Catholic lay leaders in 2013. The DMI Survey was created as a tool to help more Catholics grow along their faith journey with Christ and to become more engaged in the

community life of the parish. The DMI Survey seeks to provide parishioners an opportunity to reflect on their spiritual growth as well as provide parish leadership with invaluable insights regarding a parish's strengths and opportunities.

By St. David Parish participating in this survey, the results will provide meaningful input about our parish as we begin our planning process this coming spring. The information from the DMI Survey will give insight into our priorities and into the allocation and realignment of resources over the next few years as our parish strives to more effectively help parishioners along their personal journey of faith.

The DMI Survey will be available to parishioners from St. David in a variety of manners to ensure as many as possible have the opportunity to participate:

- Paper copy available after every Mass and from the parish office
- Online via stdavidparish.org
- An email link sent to parishioner's email addresses, if an address is on file.

The Disciple Maker Index (DMI) is a 75-question survey designed to provide parishioners an opportunity to reflect on their individual spiritual growth and overall parish effectiveness. The DMI examines four main areas:

1. **Attitude and Belief Questions** - Stage and pace of spiritual growth, personal beliefs, parish effectiveness in connecting people with a Catholic community and helping them to evangelize
2. **Participation Questions** - How frequently do parishioners participate in various parish activities
3. **Relationship/Satisfaction Questions** - Parishioners' satisfaction with their parish, pastor, and parish activities
4. **Demographic Questions** - Gender, age, ethnicity, etc. to understand who is responding

Survey results are processed by the Catholic Leadership Institute and shared with the diocese and parish leadership. Once the findings have been reviewed, parishes have an opportunity to share this information in a meaningful and helpful manner that enables the results to be discerned and incorporated into the parish planning process.

The more parishioners who participate in the DMI Survey, the more representative the results will be in reflecting the strengths, weaknesses and opportunities of the parish. This information is a valuable tool in the planning process.



WHY IS YOUR PARTICIPATION SO IMPORTANT?

It is my desire as pastor of St. David Parish that every person know and understand God's personal love for them and that our parish fosters the spiritual faith journey of every person, regardless of what stage they are on their journey. At St. David Parish, every person and every family make up a unique and invaluable part of our parish community. By receiving the gift of input from every adult in our community as we begin our planning process in the spring, the DMI Survey will give us insight into areas of effectiveness, areas in need of improvement and areas that offer opportunities for growth, new ideas and more effective ways to live the love of Christ in our parish life.

Your participation in the DMI Survey allows us to hear from you, to listen to

what's important to you, and to gain better insight into what may or may not be an aid to your personal spiritual growth.

To ensure we get as much participation as possible, we are making the DMI Survey available from April 16 to May 17, 2021 in three convenient manners - paper survey at the parish, online survey on our parish website and an email link sent to all parishioners whose email is on file.

We look forward to your active participation in this exciting opportunity for St. David Parish. Please feel free to contact me or the parish office with any questions.

In God's Love,

Father Windle