



ST. THOMAS MORE
NEWMAN CENTER

The Roman Catholic Campus Ministry for The Ohio State University
A Ministry of the Paulist Fathers

June 13, 2019

Dear Newman Center Community,

Thank you to all those who participated in our community survey during the 2018-19 academic year! You are the Church, the people of God, and as always, we are here to listen to your open and honest feedback.

This survey is part of our Strategic Planning process. Our objective is to assess how we are fulfilling our Mission, Vision, and Core Values, and set a course for the future. The joy of our mission is shared by each member of our Newman Center community. To be the community we strive to be, we must know how our mission is being lived out now. Thank you for your voices.

We initiated this process in fall 2018 with a series of community-wide focus groups where you provided us with responses as to what we are doing well and where there are opportunities for growth. We then used this information to compose the questions in a community survey sent out in February.

We are grateful for the 452 respondents to the survey. We received comments about everything that is part of Newman Center ministries, and we appreciate the diversity of opinions. Something that may be praised by one individual—for example, socializing in the sanctuary before Mass begins—may be criticized by another—that it hinders reverence before Mass. Your honesty and your investment of time mean so much as we continue to work to serve our entire community in the best way possible.

A staff team analyzed the survey results looking for themes and important points. Below is a summary of the major findings. Any action items listed are just the start of our efforts to use these survey results. During the summer months we will utilize this information to start to formulate our strategic plan.

We look forward to improving our work to serve this faith community. Thank you again for being part of this process and our community!

Yours in prayer and mission,

Fr. Ed Nowak, C.S.P.
Director

Community Survey Results 2019

Who responded? (demographics)

• Residents/OSU Faculty-Staff/Graduate-Professional Students:	279	62%
• Undergraduate Students:	118	26%
• <u>Other – Parents/Alumni/Friends:</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>12%</u>
• Total	452	100%

Big Picture Themes

- Personal Invitation (person-to-person)
- Liturgy: Reverence
- Resident Community Members and Students: More integration and interaction; the conflict of the Newman Center's nature and purpose as it relates to these two groups

Core Values – Big Picture Findings

Liturgy (There were more comments about liturgy than any other core value. These comments spread across all liturgical elements and opinions from different respondents often conflicted each other.)

- 71% of respondents said we live out this core value "very well"
- Our liturgies are vibrant with room to grow; there is a desire for beautiful, reverent liturgies
- As a community, we value observance of the church's liturgical norms

Action Item: Liturgy Team will continue to assess our liturgies in light of the General Instruction of the Roman Missal (GIRM).

Welcoming Community

- 72% of respondents said we live out this core value "very well"
- The community needs invitations to deeper involvement (beyond weekly Mass attendance)
- There is a desire for more resident community member and student interaction

Service

- 60% of respondents said we live out this core value "very well"
- Students desire more options for service
- There is a desire for better communication of service opportunities to students

Action Item: We will implement more effective means of communicating student service opportunities like hospital ministry and others. There is a student-led effort to find additional times for existing and new service opportunities, like the feeding ministries.

Faith Formation

- 50% of respondents said we live out this core value "very well"
- Our community has interest in educational and faith formation opportunities
- There is interest for more integrated offerings for resident community members and students; for adult faith formation and faith sharing

Stewardship

- 56% of respondents said we live out this core value "very well"
- One of the most influential methods of encouraging stewardship (sharing of time, talent and treasure) is by personal invitation
- The other most effective way to encourage stewardship is to provide a variety of options to do so (a variety of ways to give, a variety of ways to volunteer, etc.)

Servant Leadership Development

- 44% of respondents said we live out this core value "very well"
- There is interest in more leadership formation opportunities and leadership training

Action Item: We are currently evaluating and re-envisioning our leadership formation opportunities.