



**Holy Guardian Angels Parish
Reading, PA**

2019 Parish Survey

**“For to his angels he’s
given a command!”**



Holy Guardian Angels Parish Survey

Dear Parishioners:

I am very happy to forward this Parish Survey developed by our newly formed Parish Pastoral Council (PPC). This is the first big undertaking of our Council since its inception last year. The purpose of this survey is to let our Council know the strengths and weaknesses of our parish. This is a good thing to do and will ultimately allow us to be a stronger, more vibrant parish. I, and our Council, hope that every single parishioner completes the survey and takes the time to do so thoughtfully. It is important that even those who do not necessarily come to Mass every week, complete the form. In a special way this survey is for that group of people. The Council needs to hear from those who do not regularly attend Mass to ascertain why, and maybe then be able to do something constructive about it.

In the end, it's my objective, as your Pastor, to do whatever I can to keep Holy Guardian Angels Parish strong in every respect. We have wonderful things happening here, but we're not perfect and we can grow in some areas or change the way things are done in other areas. This is welcomed by me, personally, as it is I know for our Parish Pastoral Council. This survey will go a long way in meeting that objective so that for decades to come Holy Guardian Angels Parish can continue to be the great parish that it is...if not even better!

Sincerely yours in the Lord,

Reverend Robert T. Finlan
Pastor

What is the Parish Survey?

One of the tasks of the Parish Pastoral Council, as defined by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, is to conduct a Parish Survey. The survey will be used to examine what the parishioners believe the strengths and weaknesses of the parish are, to ascertain what areas of interest the parish may want to expand into, and to gather basic demographic information about the parish members. The questions reflect the wide variety of committees, groups, and activities available at Holy Guardian Angels Parish. The Council hopes that some of the questions lead you to volunteer or join one of the many groups available at Holy Guardian Angels Parish. We encourage you to comment freely and honestly on what you would like to say to the leaders of your parish.

Instructions

1. Each survey section contains two parts: a list of topics to rate and several open-ended questions. For the rating questions, please note that there are two parts to each question. On the left-hand side of the answer area, mark how important the topic is to you. On the right-hand side, mark how well you think Holy Guardian Angels Parish performs that topic.
2. You may return your survey in the mail, place it in the weekly collection basket at any of the Masses, or drop it off at the parish.
3. Additional copies of this survey may be picked up at the Parish office. An electronic printable version can be obtained at www.hgaparish.com and following the link on the homepage. We encourage each family member to participate.
4. If you have a comment that does not fit into the format of the survey, feel free to write your thoughts on any of the pages in the comments section.

All answers are anonymous. If, however, you want someone to contact you about your survey, please include your contact information somewhere on the survey.

Note to inactive parishioners: Holy Guardian Angels Parish would love to have you "come home." We encourage you to complete the entire survey. If you do not want to fill out the entire survey, please answer the questions at the bottom of page three, or simply place your comments in any section of the survey. Your honest answers will help the parish improve.

Please return all surveys by Sunday, March 10th.



Holy Guardian Angels Parish Survey

EVANGELIZATION

Tell us how important each item is to you AND how well our parish does for each item. (Check the appropriate boxes.)

	How important is this to you?				How well does our parish do?			
	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Don't Know	Not Very Important	Excellent	Ok	Don't Know	Needs Improvement
1. Outreach for bringing inactive Catholics back to regular practice	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Outreach to non-Catholics and the unchurched	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Parish provides resources and atmosphere to question and discuss areas of personal uncertainty in understanding the Catholic faith	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Parish understands the church's vision of evangelization (spreading the gospel and bringing people to faith in Jesus Christ.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Additional Questions: *These will help us learn what matters most to you!*

5. What one or two things would you like to see our parish do to enhance the area of **EVANGELIZATION**? (e.g., parish mission trips, develop environment for welcoming of non-Catholics to come to Mass, etc.)

6. How can we reach out to inactive members in our parish community?

7. If you have become inactive in your faith, why?

8. If you are an inactive member, what could the parish do to personally encourage you to come back to your church home and be active again in your faith?

9. Comments



Holy Guardian Angels Parish Survey

EDUCATION

Tell us how important each item is to you AND how well our parish does for each item. (Check the appropriate boxes.)

	How important is this to you?				How well does our parish do?			
	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Don't Know	Not Very Important	Excellent	Ok	Don't Know	Needs Improvement
1. Children's sacramental preparation:								
Baptism	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Penance & Communion	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Confirmation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Children's Liturgy of the Word (This was offered)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Religious Education Program (PREP)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Parish school	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Faith formation (e.g., educational series, conferences)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Providing resource materials to assist with faith and spiritual development (e.g., resource book rack, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Additional Questions: *These will help us learn what matters most to you!*

7. If you have a school age child or grandchild and you do not have them enrolled our school or in the PREP program, why? (e.g., date/time of PREP classes; uncertainty of program details, cost, etc.)

8. What one or two things would you like to see our parish do to support you in the area of learning about your faith and deepening your relationship with God? (e.g., vacation bible school, bible study, small group faith sharing, retreats, parish missions, etc.)

9. Comments



Holy Guardian Angels Parish Survey

LITURGY

Tell us how important each item is to you AND how well our parish does for each item. (Check the appropriate boxes.)

	How important is this to you?				How well does our parish do?			
	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Don't Know	Not Very Important	Excellent	Ok	Don't Know	Needs Improvement
1. Spirit of welcoming and hospitality received upon entering the church for Mass	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Quality of music (e.g., musical selections, choirs, cantors)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Homilies (e.g., meaningful, connects with my daily life, challenges me)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Church decorations and environment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Preparedness of liturgical ministers (e.g., lectors, Eucharistic ministers, altar servers)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Parish devotional services (e.g., Adoration, Stations of the Cross)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. The scheduling and times of parish events make it easy to attend (e.g., Mass, prayer services)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Additional Questions: *These will help us learn what matters most to you!*

8. If you do not attend Mass at Holy Guardian Angels Parish what one or two things could we do to "Welcome you back home?"

9. What one or two things would you like to see our parish do to enhance the quality of parish life in the area of **LITURGY** (listed above)? (e.g., spiritually moving liturgies, music at our liturgies to inspire prayer and worship of God, Sunday concerts, etc.)

10. Comments



Holy Guardian Angels Parish Survey

PASTORAL MINISTRY (Faith Community)

Tell us how important each item is to you AND how well our parish does for each item. (Check the appropriate boxes.)

	How important is this to you?				How well does our parish do?			
	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Don't Know	Not Very Important	Excellent	Ok	Don't Know	Needs Improvement
1. Spirit of welcoming and hospitality from office staff	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Opportunities to socialize and create friendships (e.g., Christmas Bazar, breakfast, movie showings)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Parish makes me feel like my participation is important	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Communication about parish needs, events, and activities (e.g., pulpit announcements, bulletin, web site)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Parish website is well-developed, inviting, and user-friendly. Information is kept fresh; updated and content is reviewed weekly	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Parish effectively utilizes electronic means (website, email, text, social media) to communicate	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Leadership provided by the Pastor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Youth ministry (e.g., youth group, Christmas tableau, Living Stations, Scouts, CYO, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Adult activities (e.g., sporting events, concerts, bus trips, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Additional Questions: *These will help us learn what matters most to you!*

10. What one or two things would you like to see our parish do to enhance the quality of parish life in the area of **PASTORAL MINISTRY** (listed above) (e.g., young adult group, etc.)

11. Comments



Holy Guardian Angels Parish Survey

SOCIAL CONCERNS AND OUTREACH (Service)

Tell us how important each item is to you AND how well our parish does for each item. (Check the appropriate boxes.)

	How important is this to you?				How well does our parish do?			
	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Don't Know	Not Very Important	Excellent	Ok	Don't Know	Needs Improvement
1. Parish works with neighbors and community groups to meet local needs (e.g., food pantry, coat drive, giving tree)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Parish supports people who have experienced a death, illness, or crisis	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Ministry to the sick and homebound	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Parish attends to the unique needs of families today (e.g., single parents, separated and divorced, inter-faith marriages, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Parish's efforts to promote social justice (e.g., pro-life activities, hunger, loneliness, care of the earth and environment)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Additional Questions: *These will help us learn what matters most to you!*

6. If you could suggest a new area of outreach, service, or works of social justice for our parish what would it be?

7. Comments



Holy Guardian Angels Parish Survey

DEMOGRAPHICS

1. Gender

- Male
- Female

2. Age Category

- 14-20
- 21-30
- 31-40
- 41-50
- 51-60
- 61 or greater

3. Marital Status

- Single
- Single; never married
- Married; inside the Church
- Married; outside the Church
- Re-Married; inside the Church
- Re-Married; outside the Church
- Widowed

4. Preferred method for your parish to reach you

- Text
- Email
- Phone
- Facebook
- Twitter
- Postal Mail

5. Social Media preference

- Facebook
- Twitter
- Instagram
- Other _____

6. How often do you usually attend Mass at this parish?

- More than once a week
- Once a week
- 2 or 3 times a month
- Once a month
- 1 or 2 times a year
- I do not attend

7. Which weekend Mass do you prefer to attend?

- Saturday 5:00PM
- Sunday 8:00AM
- Sunday 9:45AM
- Sunday 11:30AM

8. How attached do you feel to this parish?

- Very attached
- Somewhat attached
- Not at all

9. How involved are you in this parish?

- Highly active (member of ministry, committee, regular volunteer)
- Somewhat active (attend some parish events)
- Rarely active (no involvement beyond Mass)
- Not active (no involvement)

10. Do you have a good understanding of the various groups, activities, and events sponsored by and through the parish?

- Very good understanding
- Moderate understanding
- Very little understanding

11. Speaking freely, honestly, and anonymously what would you like to say to the leaders of your parish?