

Parishioners' Comments during the Listening Sessions
Held after all Masses April 14 and 15, 2012
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- † More music where people can sing a long
- † More variety of songs
- † Sing same songs more frequently
- † Stop men and women parts in the music
- † "Teach" parishioners songs
- † Sing traditional St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish Songs
- † Likes the new music
- † More lively music – uplifting and inspiring
- † More young adults involved in the Mass (good involvement in older adults, good involvement with teenagers and youth, but don't see many young adults)
- † More marriage enrichment programs
- † Keep CRHP going
- † Include me ministry is great, but cannot tell what it is by the title. More people might benefit if they know what it is. Maybe a little better advertising around the parish?
- † Bring back Breakfast Bonanza – once a month maybe?
- † Charitable IMPACT – share info of why we give money to particular agencies – publish in the Modern Saint?
- † How do we make super huge parish feel connected like a small parish?
- † Prayer has caused us to blossom: work more on developing prayer life even more.
- † Put titles on the bulletin board inside church: who are the people on the board?
- † Worship aids – bring out with you, don't leave in pews
- † There is animosity towards Father Geoff: where is it coming from and how can we fix it?
- † Boy Scouts want service projects
- † Easter Egg Hunt
- † People's availability on time and talent for special project help during certain times of the year
- † Electronic time and talent
- † 10 a.m. cry room needs to be 2-3 times bigger – overflow tends to crowd gathering space
- † Do market research? (Parishioner said his company would donate an email survey)
- † Need a welcoming committee to welcome new parishioners (go to parishioners houses and sit down with them to explain St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish and talk about ministries, give tour of St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish, pass on info to ministries leaders for follow up)
- † Bereavement group should go to the funerals

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- † Start a Holy Name Society or a Rosary Society
- † When revisiting a ministry that we used to have but had gone defunct, contact the previous members to see if they would want to be involved in the new version of the ministry (example: there was a committee trying to get the parish to “sister” with a parish in Africa, the effort did not succeed, some of them would have liked to have been considered to help when the topic of “sistering” came up again).
- † Target more than college aged or recently graduated young adults
- † More small groups for catechesis – i.e. bible studies (Geoff Kavins- Timeline, Baron – Catholicism series) Need especially in the evenings so that working people can participate
- † Make Lighthouse CDs available
- † Make signing up easier for "special" events by having a Weekly Column in the bulleting noting "upcoming" events that need volunteers and whom to contact. A parishioner would have liked to help at Holy Thursday dinner but didn't know whom to contact.
- † Really commit to making Perpetual Adoration a part of the fabric at St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish.
- † Start singing songs that would get us at least into the 1800's instead of the 1300's.
- † Review with the parish how Faith Direct works, why it's good for us and any costs incurred.
- † Target seniors for help reducing the debt (Proposed by a self-described senior).
- † Tell the parish more "directly", how much each family should contribute to eliminate the debt.
- † Keep reminding parishioners which councils / commissions need volunteers
- † Fellow ministry leaders were not welcoming when I wanted to start a ministry. They viewed me as “suspicious” or a “threat”.
- † There needs to be a process for starting a new ministry.
- † The parish is very welcoming once you “break into” a group. Prior to that, it is not welcoming.
- † Put “Time and Talent” online. The online system should then send an email directly to the ministries but also allow oversight to be sure follow-up is done.
- † Get leadership on the same page, headed in the same direction. This includes the pastor, staff, councils, commissions, and ministry leaders.
- † I did not get a response to my time and talent form.
- † Conduct an email survey of parishioners--my firm can provide this service as a donation.
- † Music is dry. Chanting and Latin do not give the people an opportunity to put something into the Mass...we can't sing out with joy and praise.

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- † The Path is great idea. Continue the process so commissions and ministries are also setting annual goals and evaluating progress.
- † Father has spoken of the parish providing “everything for free”. This is not consistent with my values and beliefs. People need to contribute from their blessings including time, skills, and financial donations.
- † The Listening Session and The Path are great. Thank you for doing this.
- † The library is being used as a closet. You cannot access the books with so many items stored in there. Are we committed to having a library? If so, store items elsewhere.
- † The music is arranged so that the congregation's role is minimized. We only sing refrains and the choir sings the verse; or the choir sings the whole thing and we listen. Let us sing songs of praise that we know how to sing. Variety is a great idea until it reduces participation.

End