

# DIOCESE OF ALLENTOWN

## Parish Self-Study

Deanery

Berks

### SECTION 1

**Total Responses = 13126**

Below are statements about elements of parish life, which might be found in any parish. Next to each, please circle YES if you believe the statement is true about your parish, NO if you believe it is not true about your parish, or NOT SURE if you are not sure if the statement is true your parish.

**1. My parish is able to provide Mass on some or all weekdays.**

Responses	%	
12563	96%	Yes
76	1%	No
402	3%	Not Sure
85	1%	No Response

**2. My parish provides the Sacrament of Confession/Reconciliation weekly at regularly scheduled times.**

Responses	%	
12474	95%	Yes
58	0%	No
508	4%	Not Sure
86	1%	No Response

**3. My parish provides for the spiritual and sacramental needs of the sick and shut-ins.**

Responses	%	
12018	92%	Yes
62	0%	No
957	7%	Not Sure
88	1%	No Response

**4. My parish encourages personal holiness and religious growth by providing days of recollection and spiritual opportunities, such as 40 Hours, Stations of the Cross, Eucharistic Adoration, and other worship services (e.g. penance services, novenas, etc.)**

Responses	%	
12527	95%	Yes
53	0%	No
432	3%	Not Sure
114	1%	No Response

**5. My parish has adequate facilities for worship.**

Responses	%	
12750	97%	Yes
92	1%	No
189	1%	Not Sure
95	1%	No Response

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**6. My parish has a music ministry (organist, cantor, choir, etc.).**

Responses	%	
12887	98%	Yes
52	0%	No
100	1%	Not Sure
87	1%	No Response

**7. My parish has lectors at all Sunday and Holyday Masses.**

Responses	%	
12726	97%	Yes
77	1%	No
228	2%	Not Sure
95	1%	No Response

**8. My parish has altar servers at all Sunday and Holyday Masses.**

Responses	%	
12394	94%	Yes
345	3%	No
281	2%	Not Sure
106	1%	No Response

**9. My parish has cantors at all Sunday and Holyday Masses.**

Responses	%	
10914	83%	Yes
857	7%	No
1171	9%	Not Sure
184	1%	No Response

**10. My parish has an organist and music at all Sunday and Holyday Masses.**

Responses	%	
11980	91%	Yes
474	4%	No
552	4%	Not Sure
119	1%	No Response

**11. My parish invites parishioners to serve as lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist, cantors, ushers, altar servers, etc.**

Responses	%	
12204	93%	Yes
112	1%	No
660	5%	Not Sure
149	1%	No Response

**12. My parish has a functioning Pastoral Council.**

Responses	%	
8163	62%	Yes
490	4%	No
4161	32%	Not Sure
312	2%	No Response

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**13. My parish has a functioning Financial Council.**

Responses	%	
8828	67%	Yes
216	2%	No
3767	29%	Not Sure
315	2%	No Response

**14. My parish supports its clergy by volunteering to help where help is needed so that the needs of the parish are met.**

Responses	%	
11263	86%	Yes
76	1%	No
1457	11%	Not Sure
330	3%	No Response

**15. My parish reaches out to the youth of the parish, through CYO, Youth Group, youth activities, etc.**

Responses	%	
11236	86%	Yes
423	3%	No
1205	9%	Not Sure
262	2%	No Response

**16. My parish provides continuing faith formation for high school students.**

Responses	%	
8542	65%	Yes
689	5%	No
3612	28%	Not Sure
283	2%	No Response

**17. My parish provides continuing faith formation for adults (Bible study, faith sharing, prayer groups, etc.).**

Responses	%	
10904	83%	Yes
350	3%	No
1604	12%	Not Sure
268	2%	No Response

**18. My parish reaches out to parishioners with special needs (e.g. divorced/separated, single parents, elderly, handicapped, etc.).**

Responses	%	
9072	69%	Yes
432	3%	No
3320	25%	Not Sure
302	2%	No Response

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**19. My parish prepares people to receive the Sacraments, through Baptisma preparation, First Communion, Penance, Confirmation and Marriage Preparation programs.**

Responses	%	
12765	97%	Yes
11	0%	No
146	1%	Not Sure
204	2%	No Response

**20. My parish makes available CCD/PREP for grade schoolstudents.**

Responses	%	
12086	92%	Yes
53	0%	No
749	6%	Not Sure
238	2%	No Response

**21. My parish makes available CCD/PREP for high school students.**

Responses	%	
8505	65%	Yes
921	7%	No
3405	26%	Not Sure
295	2%	No Response

**22. My parish makes available adult religious education.**

Responses	%	
10126	77%	Yes
404	3%	No
2307	18%	Not Sure
289	2%	No Response

**23. My parish has a Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) process.**

Responses	%	
10843	83%	Yes
285	2%	No
1679	13%	Not Sure
319	2%	No Response

**24. My parish supports the local Catholic grade school.**

Responses	%	
11774	90%	Yes
120	1%	No
981	7%	Not Sure
251	2%	No Response

**25. My parish supports the local Catholic high school.**

Responses	%	
10892	83%	Yes
116	1%	No
1842	14%	Not Sure
276	2%	No Response

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**26. My parish warmly welcomes new people and those from other cultures into the parish.**

Responses	%	
11936	91%	Yes
255	2%	No
689	5%	Not Sure
246	2%	No Response

**27. My parish invites fallen-away Catholics back to the Church.**

Responses	%	
10341	79%	Yes
241	2%	No
2225	17%	Not Sure
319	2%	No Response

**28. My parish reaches out to people not participating in any church.**

Responses	%	
7562	58%	Yes
462	4%	No
4696	36%	Not Sure
406	3%	No Response

**29. My parish participates in local ecumenical activities.**

Responses	%	
8809	67%	Yes
387	3%	No
3483	27%	Not Sure
447	3%	No Response

**30. My parish supports community efforts such as food banks, blood drives, Alcoholics Anonymous, etc.**

Responses	%	
10992	84%	Yes
144	1%	No
1633	12%	Not Sure
357	3%	No Response

**31. My parish provides help for those in need, when it can.**

Responses	%	
11383	87%	Yes
81	1%	No
1339	10%	Not Sure
323	2%	No Response

**32. My parish assists in obtaining help for those in need when the parish itself cannot provide the help.**

Responses	%	
8292	63%	Yes
132	1%	No
4253	32%	Not Sure
448	3%	No Response

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**33. My parish maintains its property and buildings.**

Responses	%	
12531	95%	Yes
44	0%	No
257	2%	Not Sure
294	2%	No Response

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**34. My parish provides periodic financial reports for the parish to parishioners.**

Responses	%	
10178	78%	Yes
676	5%	No
1911	15%	Not Sure
361	3%	No Response

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**35. My parish is financially supported primarily by the Sunday collection.**

Responses	%	
9172	70%	Yes
268	2%	No
3311	25%	Not Sure
375	3%	No Response

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**36. My parish uses additional fundraisers for normal operating expenses.**

Responses	%	
8591	65%	Yes
774	6%	No
3349	26%	Not Sure
412	3%	No Response

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**SECTION II**

Please answer the following questions about yourself:

**1. I am a:**

Responses	%	
5167	39%	Male
7694	59%	Female
265	2%	No Response

**2. I am a:**

Responses	%	
10938	83%	layperson
49	0%	diocesan priest or deacon
12	0%	religious priest or deacon
412	3%	religious sister or brother
1715	13%	No Response

**3. I am a:**

Responses	%	
35	0%	pastor
32	0%	parochial vicar
38	0%	permanent deacon
244	2%	member of a parish staff
100	1%	member of parish council
11212	85%	parishioner
1465	11%	No Response

**4. I am:**

Responses	%	
1765	13%	single
9133	70%	married
1171	9%	widowed
138	1%	separated
582	4%	divorced
337	3%	No Response

**5. I am:**

Responses	%	
832	6%	16-25 years old
1969	15%	26-40 years old
3944	30%	41-55 years old
3180	24%	56-70 years old
2752	21%	71+ years old
449	3%	No Response

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**6. I am:**

Responses	%	
10740	82%	Caucasian
1190	9%	Hispanic
63	0%	African-American
294	2%	Asian
200	2%	Other
639	5%	No Response

**7. I am involved in the following elements of parish life: (Please check all that apply.)**

Responses	%	
625	5%	Lector
743	6%	Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion
668	5%	Music Ministry (musician, cantor, choir)
170	1%	Financial Council member
126	1%	Pastoral Council member
121	1%	Liturgy Committee member
455	3%	Catechist
148	1%	Youth group moderator
189	1%	RCIA team member
61	0%	Adult education teacher
50	0%	Faith Formation moderator
675	5%	Bible study or prayer group participant
961	7%	Church organization member (i.e., Rosary Altar Society, Holy Name Society, St. Vincent de Paul Society, Legion of Mary, etc.)
6840	52%	Financial support through weekly offering
3463	26%	Send children to the local Catholic school (past or present)
3010	23%	Send children to my parish religious education program (CCD/PREP) (past or present).
2081	16%	Other
3283	25%	No Response

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**8. I have been a member of my parish for:**

Responses	%	
2502	19%	1-5 years
3054	23%	6-15 years
2587	20%	16-30 years
2250	17%	30+ years
1917	15%	my lifetime
816	6%	No Response

**9. I am:**

Responses	%	
8045	61%	very attached to my parish
3707	28%	somewhat attached to my parish
257	2%	not at all attached to my parish
456	3%	not sure how I feel about my parish
661	5%	No Response