

WORSHIP EXPERIENCE SURVEY AND FOCUS GROUPS

Summary of Results



Saint Thomas More
CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

- Responses were extraordinarily positive.
- Overwhelming response to the rite of welcome; well received and strongly supported.
- Many respondents identified particular “styles” of music they preferred and would like to see used more frequently, however; it would be virtually impossible to find musical selections that thrill everyone all of the time. We will aim for the majority of the “bell curve”, making the best decisions with the greatest impact given the specific liturgy and season.
- Toward that end we will seek to provide a variety of musical styles and sources across all three Masses.
- We will attempt to increase the overall level of congregational singing and active participation of the assembly while preserving opportunities for personal prayer and meditation.
- Involvement – lay involvement in liturgy and involving the assembly in spoken and sung prayer – is priority.
- Keep the link to people at home – continue sending things home periodically like the Advent/Worship guide by mail to reach all households, in part as an enticement for non-participants who can attend to do so
- Continue livestreaming to reach those who are unable to attend. While the preference would always be for in person attendance, COVID and other circumstances will continue to cause disruptions. And there are life circumstances – ongoing illness or other reasons that keep people homebound – where in person attendance will be difficult.
- Continue to have the reflections offered by highly qualified women. Very well received. Consider increasing frequency.
- Continue to work on diversity; to support and encourage a more diverse membership, give personal invitations for involvement.
- Eliminate roadblocks (e.g. keeping training realistic for young people; not waiting for perfection before able to participate.)
- Include link in homilies/Masses to real life: what could we be doing, how can we collaborate with justice and services organizations, work in community.