
Pastoral Care for the Sick Individual Survey

Results & Analysis

Pontiac Area Vicariate

Winter 2008

Major Findings

- Total Response Rate: 53% (1805 of 3417)
- Need more education on Viaticum not so much anointing.
- People don't ask for the sacrament for others (why: don't know to ask or perhaps because of individualism. However, women were twice as likely to ask for someone else than men).
- Bulletin important.
- Need to "DO" the communal celebration of the sacrament more regularly.
- Tabulating questions by age shows the older one is the more one knows about the sacrament.
- Women (52.4%) find the Sacrament of Anointing more important than men (40%) if hospitalized.

GENDER

Table 1 shows almost 66% of respondents are female

Table 1: Gender

		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Male	587	34.4
	Female	1119	65.6
	Total	1706	100.0
Missing	System	99	
Total		1805	

AGE

Table 2 shows the majority of respondents (36.5%) are between the ages of 51 and 65

Table 2: Age

		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	18 - 35	153	8.7
	36 - 50	480	27.4
	51 - 65	641	36.5
	66 - 80	401	22.9
	80 +	79	4.5
	Total	1754	100.0
Missing	System	51	
Total		1805	

MARITAL STATUS

Table 3 shows most respondents are married (75.6%)

Table 3: Marital Status

		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Single	166	9.5
	Married	1325	75.6
	Widowed	159	9.1
	Divorced	103	5.9
	Total	1753	100.0
Missing	System	52	
Total		1805	

EDUCATION

Table 4: Education

		Frequency	Percent
Valid	Some High School	47	2.6
	High School Diploma	447	24.8
	Undergraduate Degree	659	36.5
	Graduate Degree	575	31.9
	Total	1728	95.7
Missing	System	77	4.3
Total		1805	100.0

Table 4 shows most respondents have a college education (68.4%)

NAME OF PARISH

Table 5 shows parishes responding to the survey and the number of responses from each parish

Table 5: Name of Parish

	Frequency
Valid	
Christ the Redeemer	62
Sacred Heart of the Hills	100
St. Andrew	600
St. Benedict	74
St. Irenaeus	131
St. John Fisher	331
St. Joseph (Lake Orion/Pontiac	136
St. Mary of the Hills	179
St. Michael	27
St. Paul Albanian	21
St. Vincent de Paul	43
Other	23

RECEIVED ANOINTING

Table 6: Have you ever received the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick?

		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Yes	498	29.4
	No	1167	68.9
	Don't Know	29	1.7
Total		1694	100.0
Missing	System	111	
Total		1805	

Table 6 shows that only 29.4% have received anointing

WHEN TO RECEIVE SACRAMENT

Table 7: What is your understanding of when a person should receive the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick?

	N	
	Valid	Missing
Death is imminent	955 53.1%	845
In danger of death	1112 61.8%	688
During serious illness	1409 78.3%	391
Weakened by old age	680 37.8%	1120

Table 7 shows the majority (78.3%) want sacrament during serious illness

UNDERSTANDING OF EFFECTS

Table 8: What is your understanding of the effects of the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick?

	N		
	Valid		Missing
Graces of healing	1326	73.7%	474
Strength to bear suffering	1285	71.4%	515
Forgiveness of sins	763	42.4%	1037
Ensures eternal life	278	15.4%	1522
Don't know	77	4.3%	1723

REQUESTED FOR YOURSELF

Table 9 shows only 12.7% have requested the sacrament for themselves

Table 9: Have you ever requested the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick for yourself?

		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Yes	224	12.7
	No	1545	87.3
	Total	1769	100.0
Missing	System	36	
Total		1805	

REQUEST FOR SOMEONE ELSE

Table 10 shows that 61.6% have not requested the sacrament for someone else

Table 10: Have you ever requested the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick for someone else?

		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Yes	680	38.4
	No	1092	61.6
	Total	1772	100.0
Missing	System	33	
Total		1805	

IMPORTANCE OF RECEIVING

Table 11 shows that 90% said it is very important or important to receive the sacrament when ill

Table 11: How important would it be to you to receive the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick if you were ill?

		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Very Important	1236	69.0
	Important	342	19.1
	Somewhat Important	142	7.9
	Not Important	24	1.3
	Don't Know	48	2.7
	Total	1792	100.0
Missing	System	13	
Total		1805	

PRIEST WHEN DEATH IMMINENT

Table 12 shows nearly 80% said it is very important or important to have a priest when death is imminent

Table 12: If you had already been anointed, how important is it to you that a priest be called when your death is imminent?

		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Very Important	1033	61.3
	Important	289	17.1
	Somewhat Important	181	10.7
	Not Important	105	6.2
	Don't Know	78	4.6
	Total	1686	100.0
Missing	System	119	
Total		1805	

IMPORTANCE WHEN BEING HOSPITALIZED

Table 13 shows just over half (52%) believe it is very important or important to receive the sacrament when being hospitalized

Table 13: How important would it be to you to receive the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick if you were about to be hospitalized?

		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Very Important	474	26.9
	Important	379	21.5
	Somewhat Important	445	25.3
	Not Important	295	16.8
	Don't Know	167	9.5
	Total	1760	100.0
Missing	System	45	
Total		1805	

IMPORTANT OF EUCHARIST WHEN DEATH IS NEAR

Table 14 shows once again the importance of the Eucharist and its central importance in terms of Catholic identity

Table 14: If you had already been anointed, how important would it be to you that someone bring the Eucharist to you when death is near?

		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Very Important	1223	71.0
	Important	280	16.3
	Somewhat Important	125	7.3
	Not Important	37	2.1
	Don't Know	57	3.3
	Total	1722	100.0
Missing	System	83	
Total		1805	

ATTEND ANOTHER PARISH

Table 15: If parishes took turns celebrating special Masses of Anointing of the Sick, would you participate even if the sacrament were celebrated at another parish?

		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Yes	681	38.9
	No	368	21.0
	Don't Know	701	40.1
	Total	1750	100.0
Missing	System	55	
Total		1805	

Table 15 shows 61% would not go to another parish or don't know if they would go

PREFER PRIVATE OR COMMUNAL EXPERIENCE OF SACRAMENT

Table 16 shows that only 15.2% prefer to experience the sacrament communally, with most (33%) preferring private with priest and family

Table 16: Would you prefer to receive the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick as a private experience or as a communal experience with other parishioners and their families?

		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Private with Priest	237	13.6
	Private with Priest and Family	577	33.0
	Communal	265	15.2
	No preference	669	38.3
	Total	1748	100.0
Missing	System	57	
Total		1805	

WHO CAN LEAD PRAYERS FOR DEAD

Table 17 reflects the hierarchy
of the Church

Table 17: What is your understanding of who can lead prayers for a person who has just died?

	N	
	Valid	Missing
Priest	1245 69.2%	555
Deacon	1034 57.4%	766
Religious Brother/Sister	898 49.9%	902
Hospital Lay Chaplain	852 47.3%	948
Other Layperson	622 34.6%	1178
Any baptized Catholic	819 45.5%	981
Any other person	525 29.2%	1275
Don't know	212 11.8%	1588

UNDERSTANDING OF VIATICUM

Table 18: What is your understanding of Viaticum? It is:

		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Anointing of the sick	120	6.9
	Communion for the dying	368	21.0
	Communion for the sick	115	6.6
	Don't Know	1147	65.5
	Total	1750	100.0
Missing	System	55	
Total		1805	

Table 18 shows that most do not know (65.5%)

WHO CAN ADMINISTER VIATICUM

Table 19: What is your understanding of who can administer Viaticum?

	N		
	Valid		Missing
Priest	580	32.2%	1220
Deacon	375	20.8%	1425
Religious brother/sister	278	15.4%	1522
Hospital Lay Chaplain	223	12.4%	1577
Lay Eucharistic minister	256	14.2%	1544
Any baptized Catholic	167	9.3%	1633
Don't know	1086	60.3%	714

Table 19 shows again that most do not know (60.3%)

KNOW DIFFERENCE BETWEEN ANOINTING AND VIATICUM

Table 20 shows again that most do not know or do not understand Viaticum (80.4%)

Table 20: Do you think you clearly understand the difference between the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick and Viaticum?

		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Yes	340	19.7
	No	880	51.0
	Don't Know	507	29.4
Total		1727	100.0
Missing	System	78	
Total		1805	

LIFE-THREATENING EMERGENCY AND PASTORAL CARE RECEPTION

Table 21: In a life-threatening emergency, what types of pastoral care would you like to receive?

	N		
	Valid		Missing
Sacrament of Anointing of Sick	925	51.4%	875
Penance/Reconciliation	719	39.9%	1081
Communion for the Sick	635	35.3%	1165
Viaticum	88	4.9%	1712
All	623	34.6%	1177
Other	22	1.2%	1778

Table 21 shows only 4.9% checking viaticum in a life-threatening emergency

NOT CRITICALLY ILL, TYPE OF PASTORAL CARE NEED

Table 22: If you were hospitalized, but not critically ill, what types of pastoral care would you like to receive?

	N		
	Valid		Missing
Sacrament of Anointing of Sick	602	33.4%	1198
Penance/Reconciliation	500	27.8%	1300
Pastoral Visit from priest or pastoral minister	859	47.7%	941
Holy Communion	1413	78.5%	387
Pastoral Counseling	195	10.8%	1605
Other	19	1.1%	1781

Table 22 shows that Catholic identity rests on Eucharist

LAYPEOPLE NEED FOR MORE EDUCATION ON ANOINTING

Table 23 shows that the laity themselves believe there is a need for more education (80.7%)

Table 23: Do you feel that laypeople need more education about the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick?

		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Yes	1405	80.7
	No	60	3.4
	Don't Know	276	15.9
	Total	1741	100.0
Missing	System	64	
Total		1805	

MORE EDUCATION ON VIATICUM

Table 24 shows laypeople believe more education on viaticum is needed (89.4%) even more so than with anointing (80%)

Table 24: Do you think there should be more education about Viaticum?

		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Yes	1553	89.4
	No	11	.6
	Don't Know	173	10.0
	Total	1737	100.0
Missing	System	68	
Total		1805	

WOULD ATTEND EDUCATIONAL SESSION ON SACRAMENT

Table 25 shows that 63.6% would attend an educational event on the sacrament

Table 25: If your parish offered an educational session about the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick and Viaticum would you attend?

		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Yes	1106	63.6
	No	111	6.4
	Don't Know	522	30.0
	Total	1739	100.0
Missing	System	66	
Total		1805	

HOW TO RECEIVE INFORMATION ABOUT SACRAMENT

Table 26: Which of the following ways to receive information about communal anointing services would be helpful?

	N		
	Valid		Missing
Parish bulletin	1602	89.0%	198
Michigan Catholic newspaper	380	21.1%	1420
Parish website	595	33.1%	1205
Vicariate newsletter	338	18.8%	1462
Other	184	10.2%	1616

Table 26 shows the importance of the bulletin (89%)

EVER ATTENDED ADULT EDUCATION SESSION

Table 27 shows that 57.1% have attended an educational event

Table 27: In the past 5 years, have you attended any adult educational programs in your parish or other parish?

		Frequency	Valid Percent
Valid	Yes	970	57.1
	No	730	42.9
	Total	1700	100.0
Missing	System	105	
Total		1805	

Request Sacrament for Someone Else by Gender

Table 28: Have you ever requested SOA for someone else by gender?

			Gender		Total
			Male	Female	
Have you ever requested SOA for someone else?	Yes	Count	159	485	644
		% within Gender	27.5%	44.3%	38.4%
	No	Count	420	611	1031
		% within Gender	72.5%	55.7%	61.6%
Total	Count		579	1096	1675
	% within Gender		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Importance When Being Hospitalized by Gender

Table 29: If about to be hospitalized, how important is the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick by gender?

			Gender		Total
			Male	Female	
If about to be hospitalized, how important is SOA?	Very Important	Count	111	339	450
		% within Gender	19.3%	31.2%	27.1%
	Important	Count	120	230	350
		% within Gender	20.8%	21.2%	21.0%
	Somewhat Important	Count	159	265	424
		% within Gender	27.6%	24.4%	25.5%
	Not Important	Count	130	148	278
		% within Gender	22.6%	13.6%	16.7%
	Don't Know	Count	56	105	161
		% within Gender	9.7%	9.7%	9.7%
Total	Count	576	1087	1663	
	% within Gender	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	