



## SAINT JOHN FISHER PARISH

July 15, 2019

Dear Parishioners:

When I first came to the parish 20 years ago this month, the Pastoral Council presented me with a 5-year pastoral plan which had been the fruit of a long consultation process with the parishioners. Even though I was brand new to the parish, I respected the process and was happy to approve this plan. Since that time the pastoral council has periodically updated the plan. A few months ago we asked your opinion on various aspects of parish life here at St. John Fisher. It involved an in-pew survey that took place just after the homily. The purpose of the survey was to guide a committee of the Pastoral Council who is working on a 5-year pastoral plan. This time they chose a professional, Catholic polling organization known as CARA (Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate). The advantage of using this instrument is that we could compare ourselves with parishes throughout the United States.

A total of 1260 of you responded to the survey. CARA informed us that this is a significant sampling of the population. All of those surveys were sent to CARA for processing and analysis. In early June the results of the parish life survey were sent to us. I shared it with the Pastoral Council, and the committee responsible for preparing the pastoral plan has been meeting biweekly to study the survey and guide them in developing the pastoral plan. I am hoping to have the Pastoral Council approve the plan and publish it in the Fall. This will guide our parish for the next 5 years.

There is much good news in the report regarding the parish's strengths as well as some areas for improvement. So that you will have the opportunity to see the results, I will be inserting a 4-page executive summary of the survey in the bulletin on the weekend of July 27-28. For those of you who may be interested, the entire 90-page survey is available on the parish web site, [www.sjf.org](http://www.sjf.org).

I want to thank all of you who filled out that survey for your part in guiding us in our pastoral plan.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Msgr. David A. Sork  
Pastor