

## 2014 Older Adult Survey results

If you could suggest something that the parish should do for its seniors, what would that be?

- Provide a drop-off area, serviced by the scouts who would assist seniors getting out of their cars.
- Reach out with kindness and patience.
- Mix with younger folks.
- Dedicated Eucharistic Ministers to bring Communion to the homebound or in assisted living facilities.
- A daily check on those that live alone—oldest to the youngest just to see that they are alive.
- Pray and bless the houses or residences with holy water.
- Why not organize senior hostel trips or even a tour of somewhere in Europe.
- Do everything possible to bring seniors into the parish activities.
- To sit or kneel during the Consecration of the Mass.
- A course on what has happened to the reforms of Vatican II.
- Promote and encourage participation in existing opportunities, e.g. Morning Prayer or Mass; Sunday Eucharist visits to homebound individuals.
- Daily Mass at St. Seb's.
- Maybe help with practical needs—access to medical help; shoveling snow; lawn care; getting groceries carried into the house.
- Daily phone contact to touch base (not to visit) or those alone/to confirm their welfare; resource-contact person.
- More adult religious education program during daytime hours on weekdays.
- I am even more concerned about the Catholic Church and young people—late teens and up. To my way of thinking, since they are the church of the future, parishes need to make a concerted effort to involve the younger members heavily in church activities—urge them to be on the council, to be lecturers, ushers, SVDP members. An invite from clergy would mean even more than from parishioners.
- More adult education opportunities.
- More social activities that involve cross generational activities.
- Discuss transition from work life and parenting role to retirement role and grandparent role. How to transfer our social engagement from co-workers and kids on a daily basis to possibly multigenerational groups. Perhaps encourage adoptive grandparent roles for families that live far away from these important influences for their children.
- Address spiritual role in aging and perhaps in major illness connected with aging, e.g. Alzheimers, loss of mobility and independence.
- Mass on Holy Days at a time when a working person can attend—5:30 or 6:00 PM on the Holy Day or day before. (2)
- Visit the homebound.
- Acknowledge and include in parish activities.
- I love card parties—sheepshead, bridge. Even a casino night!
- Call it other than “senior”—offer mixed age events
- Recognize that many “seniors” work during the day

- Ask seniors to suggest what they think would be fun gatherings
- Let us know how we are needed—invite us all to help in the school and church, etc.
- I was in the hospital in August for surgery and re-hab. No word from St. Seb's.
- Help seniors stay in their homes by helping with lawn mowing, snow removal, etc.
- Family history that was focused on St. Seb's for years—"I am happy, still driving and living on my own for the last 18 years. I fell happy to be where I am in my life. I will let you know when I am hospitalized or incapacitated. Thank you for your concerns".
- Since I am in Clement Manor, I have access and access to daily communion. A phone call would be nice to keep in contact.
- The changes we have lived through with the Catholic faith.
- We should set-up a fitness program—"30 days to a younger heart" as seen on Public TV.
- Set-up monthly blood pressure checks; develop a monthly senior newsletter with a resource person; hire a parish nurse or collaborate with another parish which has a nurse. Irene Held—see her list. (2)
- Sidewalks should be cleared of ice and snow to keep safe all those who have difficulty walking toward the buildings.
- I'd enjoy occasional sheephead, book discussions, or bus trips to place outside of our county.
- What can seniors do for the parish—an example—start a prayer chain.
- Thank you to those involved for this initiative. Since I don't live in the neighborhood of St. Catherine's/St. Sebastian's, it is difficult to me to come up with suggestions for services. I feel that just having this Senior Adult Ministry is a great beginning and a place for people to go for help.
- Schedule Masses for Holy Days of Obligation so that a working adult can attend—Mass for school children is not a time where a working person can attend. How about Mass the day before? If you have a Mass on the evening before or on the day itself, you would have income from the collection.
- Communion when in the hospital or rehab; night events hard as many don't drive after dark.
- As I am still active as Managing Partner of three elderly housing projects, I have little time for daytime social activities. I love the closeness of parish members, the music and liturgy. In the winter, the sidewalk are cleared and slated, a real plus for seniors. Michael drew us here and we love it!
- Place current information on answering machine regarding cancellation of 8:00 AM Mass.
- Teach computer skills—provide tablets to entertain themselves. Wi-fi is it! At any rate—church providing wonderful way for seniors to communicate. Maybe community speakers—see list. (Marge Nixon)
- Trips to the zoo, Mitchell Domes, the art museum, trip to see a play. (2)
- Provide transportation to Church and back home (bus or other). Card parties and luncheon once a month. And provide accessible church for older adults.
- Hopefully the facility would have a communion; a monthly breakfast after Sunday liturgy for older adults and families.
- Daily meals are a struggle. Connect with other seniors near who can cook for others. Organize seniors to share a meal so we can cook together and share a meal together.
- Homebound ministry.
- Provide rides for seniors to special events and services.