

Thank you to the 195 parishioners who completed the On Mission survey regarding our proposed parish grouping. Shown below are the most popular responses to each of the survey questions. There were many more suggestions too numerous to publish here, but please note that every comment was reviewed and assessed by the OLJ On Mission Team.

On Mission for the Church Alive Our Lady of Joy Group Survey Responses

195 Total Responses received

<u>Parish Grouping East Hills</u>				
Proposed campuses: (Current 5) Proposed/End 2		Priests assigned: (current 4.5) (2018, 3; End 2)		
Saint Irenaeus	Saint Januarius	Saint John the Baptist	Saint Joseph	Our Lady of Joy

1. What are the strengths of the Parish Grouping?
 - Ample parking at Our Lady of Joy with handicapped accessibility
 - Geographic/Location
 - Demographics
 - Economically feasible
 - Our Lady of Joy's many active ministries
 - Our Lady of Joy newer church with no debt

2. Why (why not) is this Parish Grouping the best relationship of parishes?
 - Verona, Plum, and Oakmont are a good group
 - Prefer Monroeville area instead of Oakmont and Verona
 - Too far for Plum parishioners to travel to Verona or Oakmont

3. What alternative models would you propose to make the Parish Grouping better?
 - 55 Respondents: No response provided; assume okay as proposed
 - 22 Respondents: Group Our Lady of Joy/St. Januarius/St. John the Baptist as one parish campus & Group St. Joseph's and St. Irenaeus as one parish campus
 - 21 Respondents: Group Our Lady of Joy with St. Bernadette's and North American Martyrs
 - 8 Respondents: In agreement with the proposed grouping
 - 7 Respondents: Consider reducing from 5 to 3 (not from 5 to 2)
 - 5 Respondents answered:
 - *Distance (and walking distance) is a concern*
 - *Travel time*
 - *Inclement weather*

4. What are your concerns/suggestions related to implementation for this Parish Grouping?
 - If Our Lady of Joy closes, parishioners will:
 - Go to Our Mother of Sorrows, Murrysville (Greensburg Diocese)
 - Go to St. Bernadette's in Penn Hills
 - Non-Catholic churches, which are closer to home
 - Not attend church at all
 - Parking; handicapped parking/accessibility
 - Traveling
 - Losing members
 - If Our Lady of Joy closes, concerns include:
 - OLOJ many ministries

- No debt, and overall contributions will substantially decrease
- Beautiful, vibrant church would no longer exist
- Senior citizens would not be able or willing to travel, especially in inclement weather
- Losing Fr. Al Zapf
- Would be like a death in the family
- Losing Spanish Community

a) Please note top themes of feedback from parishioners related to this parish grouping:

- Keep Our Lady of Joy open to serve entire Plum community, which has ample land to grow/build with no debt
- Parishioners' fear of losing a beautiful, vibrant, friendly, welcoming, and active church that has many well-established ministries
- Parking and handicapped accessibility
- Our Lady of Joy's Senior Citizens inability to travel to a different parish
- If Our Lady of Joy closes:
 - Many parishioners will go to Our Mother of Sorrows, Greensburg Diocese (Holiday Park borders Murrysville), and that parish is closest to home
 - Not attend any church
 - Go to a Penn Hills or Monroeville parish