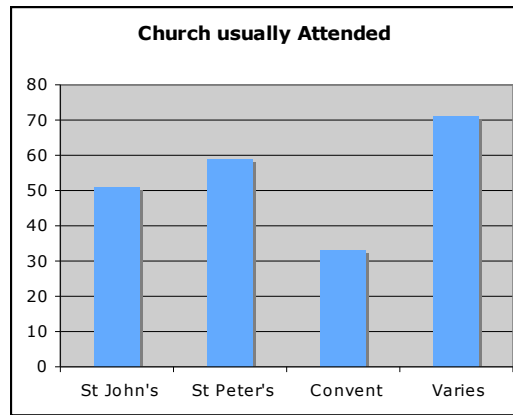
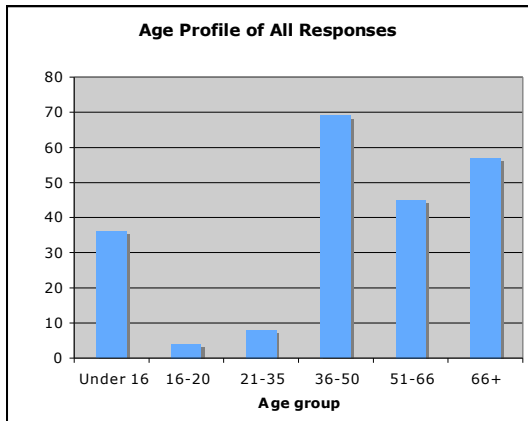


**Parish Survey for the Parish of St. John the Baptist and St Peter, Melton Mowbray.
July 2009**

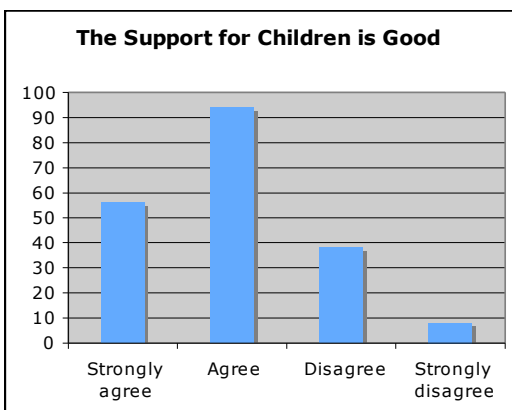
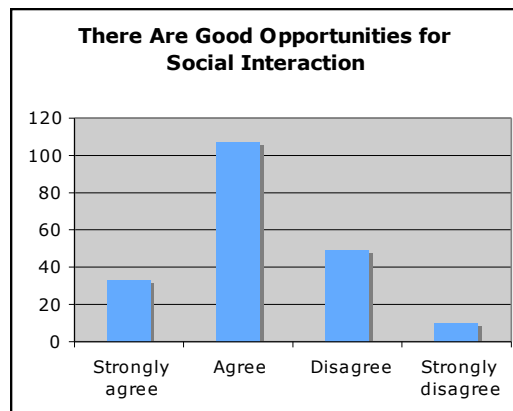
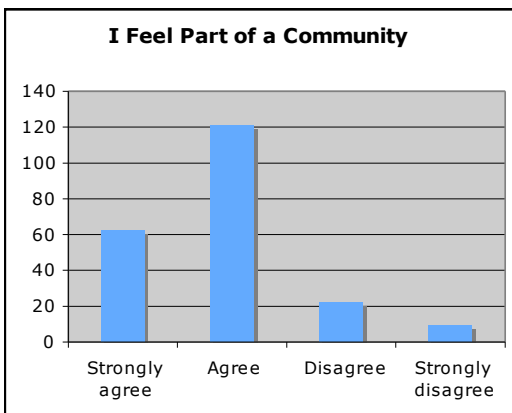
There were 219 completed surveys in total.

Section 1 – Personal Profile



From the returns received the indication is that we do not seem to be holding onto our young people. This follows a national trend. The 'Church usually Attended' would indicate that most of the parish have a loyalty to a particular venue leading to organisational difficulties within the parish.

Section 2 – General Views



Section 3 – Parish Groups

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----|
| Do you belong to any Parish groups? | |
| Yes | 37% |
| No | 59% |
| Blank | 4% |

| | |
|--|-----|
| Do you feel that Parish groups are 'Visible enough'? | |
| Yes | 50% |
| No | 38% |
| Blank | 12% |

| | |
|---|-----|
| Would you like to be part of any Parish groups? | |
| Yes | 25% |
| No | 39% |
| Blank | 36% |

- There were 20 parishioners who responded that they would like to be involved and that was nothing preventing them from joining. This would suggest that there is potential for some recruitment

Aspects of Parish Life that need Support

15 responded with a concern about the older 'children'.

7 had concerns about the support for the very young.

Other comments :-

- The 'togetherness' of the parish can be hindered by the 3 churches
- Choir
- More social gatherings to "bond"

There was also comment in this section about the lack of support for ethnic minorities.

Section 4 – Young Parishioners/Children/Babies

Are there enough opportunities for young people to participate?

There were 58 responses to this question. 40% yes and 60% no.

Suggestions for improvement included the following :-

- Social evenings
- Mass lead by the youth/more participation in the mass
- More special days/social activities
- More publicity about youth club
- Facebook group
- Table tennis in parish centre
- Concerts in church

Section 5 – Older Parishioners

| | |
|---|-----|
| Do you feel there are enough opportunities for older Parishioners to become involved? | |
| yes | 83% |
| no | 17% |

| | |
|---|-----|
| Do you feel there is enough support for older Parishioners? | |
| yes | 67% |
| no | 33% |

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| Would you like regular visits? | |
| yes | 4% |
| no | 96% |

How could the provision for older Parishioners be improved?

- Social events of various types
- Transport to mass
- At least 1 mass at St Johns on Christmas day
- Afternoon mass in the winter, stations of the cross during lent
- More parishioners willing to do home visits
- Ideas from other parishes

Section 6 - Prayer and Spiritual life

| | |
|--|-----|
| Are you aware of opportunities to develop your 'prayer' life? | |
| Yes | 64% |
| No | 36% |

| | |
|---|-----|
| Would you like more information about programmes that are available? | |
| Yes | 50% |
| No | 50% |

| | |
|--|--------------|
| How would you like any information to be published? | |
| Bulletin | 61 responses |
| Email | 8 responses |
| Magazine | 5 responses |
| Website | 21 responses |
| Notice-board | 4 responses |
| Verbal | 3 responses |

| | |
|----------------------------------|--------------|
| Service of Reconciliation | |
| Weekends | 51 responses |
| Weekdays | 24 responses |

Section 7 – Communication

| | |
|--|-----|
| Do you feel you are kept informed of what is happening in the Parish? | |
| Yes | 87% |
| No | 13% |

Do you have any ideas about how communication could be improved?

- PPC reporting at Mass
- Better layout of notice-boards
- Use of local newspaper
- Rotas need to be posted

Website

| Have you ever accessed the Parish Website? | |
|--|-----|
| Yes | 36% |
| No | 64% |

A great many parishioners did not appear to know there was a Parish website. This suggests a need for greater publicity of the site.

Ideas for content of website.

- Information regarding events both in our own church and the Deanery.
- Games that explain the Gospel.
- Information regarding being a Catholic.
- Pages for Parish Groups.
- Celebration of Parishioners achievements.
- Photographs of Parish events.
- A welcoming introduction page.

Many responses suggested including the bulletin and rotas and other content which is already there and has been for a long time. This again highlights the need for publicity.

Section 8 – Family Section

| Do you feel there are enough opportunities for families to come together in the parish? | |
|---|-----|
| Yes | 51% |
| No | 49% |

| Suggestions for family activities | |
|------------------------------------|----|
| Barbeque/picnic | 10 |
| Events for the youth | 3 |
| Parish walks | 5 |
| Family/open air mass | 3 |
| Social events (evening) | 3 |
| Bacon sandwiches after 10.30 mass! | 1 |
| Parish day out | 2 |

Section 9 – Outstanding Issues

The top three key issues were:-

- Integration of children and young adults
- Communication – efficient use of the bulletin and development of the website
- Atmosphere within the mass

These issues will be items to on the agenda for the annual parish meeting on Tues 8th Sept at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre. We value your input and would appreciate any feedback. You have set the agenda by identifying what you would like to see happen, we now need your help to move forward. We would especially like to have contact from those who expressed an interest in joining a Parish group. If you cannot attend the meeting please contact one of the following:-

Pat Lee (PPC/SVP) 01664 567452
Colette Burns 01664 852979

Fr Jim 01664 562274
Sr Ignatius 01664 562422