

# Holy Trinity Virtual Offerings & In-Person Gathering Survey

## Summary of Responses - March 2021

### DEMOGRAPHIC OVERVIEW OF RESPONDENTS

#### Summary

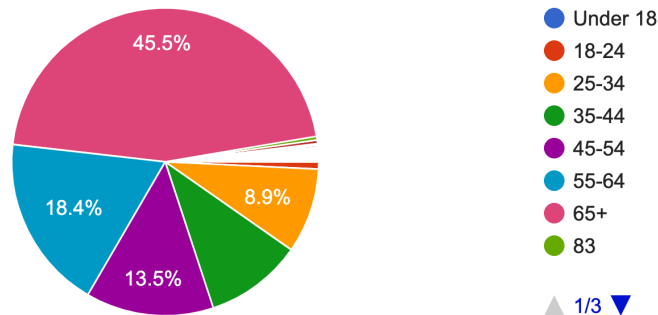
This survey was confidential and we did not collect email addresses or identifying information. No questions were required; all were optional. We had a total of 538 respondents, the majority of whom were 65+ years old, female, married, have been parishioners for 20+ years and live nearby in northern Virginia. Additional demographic information and breakdowns are included below.

#### 21. What is your age?

What is your age?	Responses
18-24	4
25-34	47
35-44	54
45-54	71
55-64	97
65+	240

#### What is your age?

527 responses

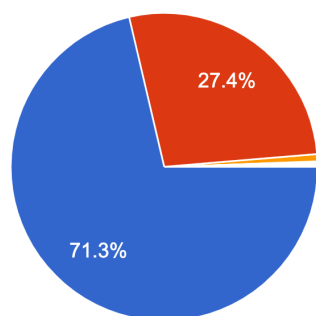


#### 22. What is your gender?

What is your gender	Responses
Female	378
Male	145

What is your gender?

530 responses



- Female
- Male
- Decline to answer
- Prefer not to day over google
- Genderqueer
- "We" are a married couple.

**23. Household (please select all that apply):**

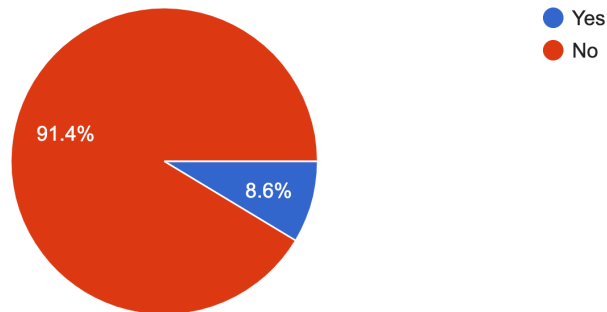
Household	Responses
Single	183
Married	300
Living with children < 13	58
Living with children 13+	56
Widowed	9
Divorced	3

**24. I have children currently enrolled in Sunday Morning Religious Education:**

Yes - 42

No - 444

I have children currently enrolled in Sunday Morning Religious Education:  
486 responses



**25. How long have you been a parishioner at Holy Trinity?**

How long have you been a parishioner?	Responses
Less than 1 year	25
1-5 years	93
6-10 years	59
11-19 years	93
20+ years	255

**26. Where do you live?**

City	Responses
Washington, DC	164
Arlington, VA	108
Alexandria, VA	51
Falls Church, VA	31
McLean, VA	24
Chevy Chase, MD	18

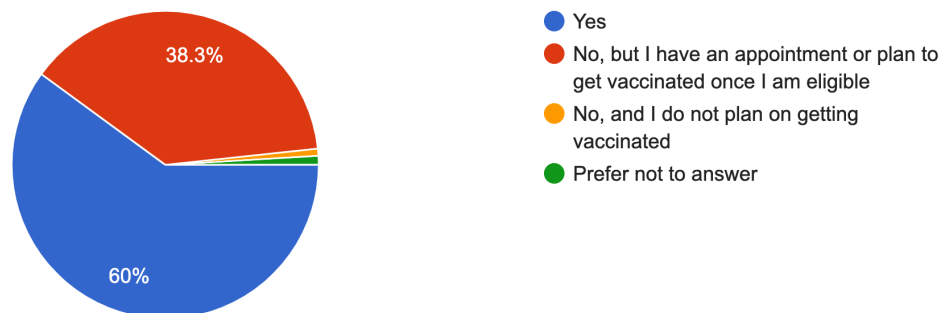
Bethesda, MD	16
Rockville, MD	10
Silver Spring, MD	10
Annandale, VA	7
Potomac, MD	7
Kensington, MD	5

27. Have you received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine?

Vaccinated? (at least 1 dose)	Responses
Yes	320
No, but I have an appointment or plan to get vaccinated once I am eligible	204
No, and I do not plan on getting vaccinated	4
Prefer not to answer	5

Have you received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine?

533 responses



## MASSES & GIVING

### 1. How do you worship?

How Do You Worship?	Responses
Mass in person at Holy Trinity	143
Mass in person at another parish	55
Mass online with Holy Trinity	348
Mass online at another parish	122
Prayer at home	234
I am not celebrating Mass during this time	70

### 2. I do not celebrate Mass in-person at Holy Trinity because...

The number one reason respondents are not attending Mass in person (280+) is due to concerns over exposure to COVID-19. Many noted that once fully vaccinated, they did plan to return. 83 people indicated they did not attend due to challenges with scheduling online. Other noted comments were distance or access to Holy Trinity (need public transportation) and that “it does not feel the same” in-person during this time.

### 3. I do not celebrate online Mass at Holy Trinity because...

The number one reasons respondents are not celebrating online is that it is not spiritually fulfilling (101+). Many noted that the Mass is not for families. Others noted that the time was not convenient (wanted earlier or later or conflicted with RE). 28 respondents indicated that they were “zoomed out.” Sound quality and music choices were also referenced.

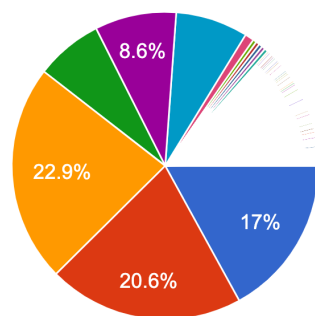
### 4. Last year, did you celebrate an outdoor Mass at Holy Rood Cemetery?

Last year, did you celebrate an outdoor Mass at Holy Rood Cemetery?	Responses
No, I am not celebrating in person Masses during this time	120

No, I did not know the parish offered such Masses	108
Yes	89
No, signups were full when I tried to register	45
No, I am not interested in outdoor Masses	37
No, Holy Rood presents accessibility and parking challenges	40

### Last year, did you celebrate an outdoor Mass at Holy Rood Cemetery?

524 responses



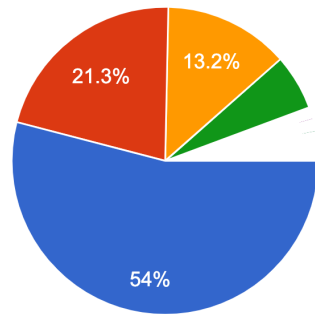
- Yes
  - No, I did not know the parish offered s...
  - No, I am not celebrating in-person Ma...
  - No, I am not interested in outdoor Mas...
  - No, signups were full when I tried to re...
  - No, Holy Rood presents accessibility...
  - No
  - No, at the time we did not view it as safe
- ▲ 1/11 ▼

### 5. Have you tried to sign up for in-person Masses?

Have you tried to sign up for in-person Masses?	Responses
No	287
Yes, I have signed up successfully	113
Once or twice, but usually all the slots are full	70
I am consistently unable to sign up because slots are full	31

### Have you tried to sign up for in-person Masses?

531 responses



- No, I have not tried to sign up for in-person Masses
  - Yes, I have signed up successfully
  - Once or twice, but I am usually unable to sign up
  - I am consistently unable to sign up because of COVID-19
  - I had my Covid-19 vaccine & I plan to sign up
  - Signed up but had to cancel
  - Only the one time for the last Holy Rosary
  - Attended about monthly in person when possible
- ▲ 1/5 ▼

### 6. If we were to offer additional in person Masses, which days/times would you prefer?

If we were to offer additional in person Masses, which days/times would you prefer?	Reponses
Monday 9:00 AM	22
Monday 5:30 PM	41
Tuesday 9:00 AM	26
Wednesday 9:00 AM	21
Wednesday 5:30 PM	48
Thursday 5:30 PM	42
Friday 5:30 PM	51
Sunday 10:30 AM	193
Sunday 2:00 PM	118
Sunday 5:30 PM	194

### 7. Would you be willing to serve as a liturgical minister?

Yes - Eucharistic Minister - 117

Yes - Usher - 70

Yes - Lector - 93

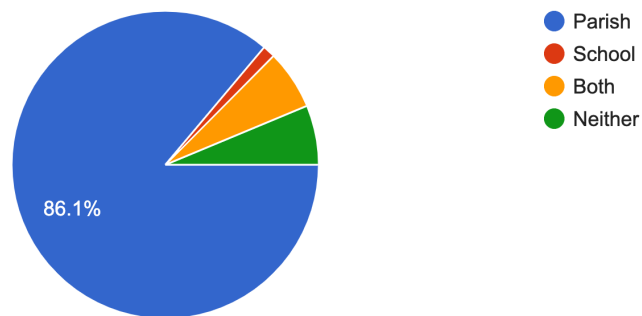
No - 241

### 8. Do you currently donate to the parish and/or school?

Do you currently donate to the parish and/or school?	Responses
Parish	454
School	7
Both	33
Neither	33

Do you currently donate to the parish and/or school?

527 responses



### 9. If "neither," please share a reason why:

Only 34 comments provided:

- Budget restraints (12)
- Donate to other churches (8)
- Donate when in-person (6)
- Concerns about Holy Trinity's spending/decision making (3)
- Politics (2)
- Child Abuse Scandal (2)
- Technology challenges (1)



## **FUTURE VIRTUAL GATHERINGS**

**10. If you have participated in a Zoom gathering or other virtual gathering, how long would you like the program to continue being offered virtually:**

<b>If you have participated in a Zoom gathering or other virtual gathering, how long would you like the program to continue being offered virtually:</b>	<b>Responses</b>
Until Holy Trinity can guarantee that gatherings will not exceed 50 people	18
Until the campus is safely hosting groups on site (more than 50 people)	89
Until government officials say that large group gatherings are safe again.	199
Until the community is vaccinated or herd immunity achieved	196
Indefinitely - I like having the option of joining on Zoom even after Holy Trinity opens.	231

**11. If you are a parent with children (under age 18), when do you anticipate bringing children to Mass?**

<b>If you are a parent with children (under age 18), when do you anticipate bringing children to Mass?</b>	<b>Responses</b>
I already bring my children to in person Mass	15
Once the adults in my immediate family are vaccinated	26
When the community is vaccinated or herd immunity achieved	47
Not until there is a vaccine for children	31

**12. After Holy Trinity is able to open more fully, I would like Holy Trinity to continue to offer the following virtual gatherings:**

<b>After Holy Trinity is able to open more fully, I would like Holy Trinity to continue to offer the following virtual gatherings:</b>	<b>Responses</b>
Morning or Evening Prayer	167

Praying in Sacred Space	90
Praying the Rosary	75
Prayer Gathering	91
Ignatian Retreat in Daily Life	124
Book Discussion Group	98
Full Spiritual Exercises	66
Monthly Spiritual Direction	80
Ignatian Training Programs	70
Faith Formation	125
Women Who Stay	104
Social Justice Communities	111
Sunday Morning RE Class	40
YAC Ministry Event	40
Youth Ministry	23
Sacramental Preparation	41
Sunday Coffee & Donuts	51

**13. Please share any comments or suggestions on virtual gatherings:**

Overall the sentiments are positive with virtual gatherings described as cherished, “a lifeline,” and “surprisingly intimate.” This quote sums up many of the comments: “The Holy Trinity clergy and lay pastoral staff are to be highly commended for their extraordinary individual and collective effort, imagination and commitment resulting in the diversity and number of these virtual gatherings. If the pandemic has upsides, one is how it has showcased how committed and caring and professional (in the best sense of the word) -- and a blessing-- the Holy Trinity pastoral staff are;” “they have saved my sanity as my local church does not offer any options.”

Many respondents would some like some version of virtual gatherings to continue to avoid distance, traffic, and parking. One noted that educational options could be zoomed and fellowship in person.

Specific programs highlighted to continue: daily homilies, prayer services, RCIA, Women Who Stay, Stations of the Cross, Tuesday Rosary, David’s program on the Mass, PPC meetings, Ignatian retreats and spiritual direction.

Parents noted an absence of programs for children and families.

**14. I would like Holy Trinity to consider offering:**

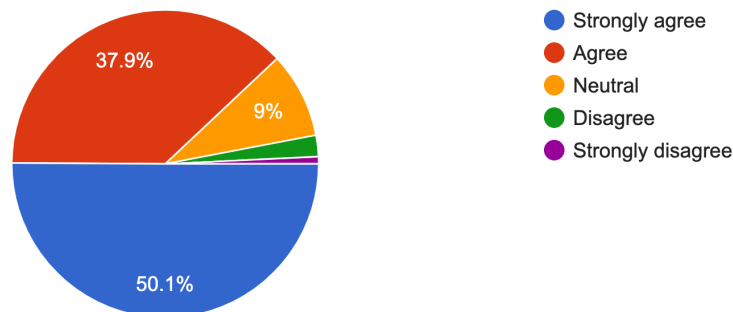
I would like Holy Trinity to consider offering:	Responses
In-person Masses with a higher attendance limit (more than 50 people)	210
In-person group meetings on campus	54
Regularly scheduled virtual Zoom liturgies for children	42
Regular video parish updates from the Pastor	138

**15. Holy Trinity has met your spiritual needs during the pandemic:**

Holy Trinity has met your spiritual needs during the pandemic.	Responses
Strongly Agree	267
Agree	202
Neutral	48
Disagree	12
Strongly Disagree	4

Holy Trinity has met your spiritual needs during the pandemic.

533 responses



**16. Please share any suggestions for keeping the Holy Trinity family engaged and resilient.**

Comments were complementary to the staff for shifting quickly to virtual opportunities for engagement. Respondents were especially positive about daily homilies, morning prayers, and social justice speakers. Suggestions include:

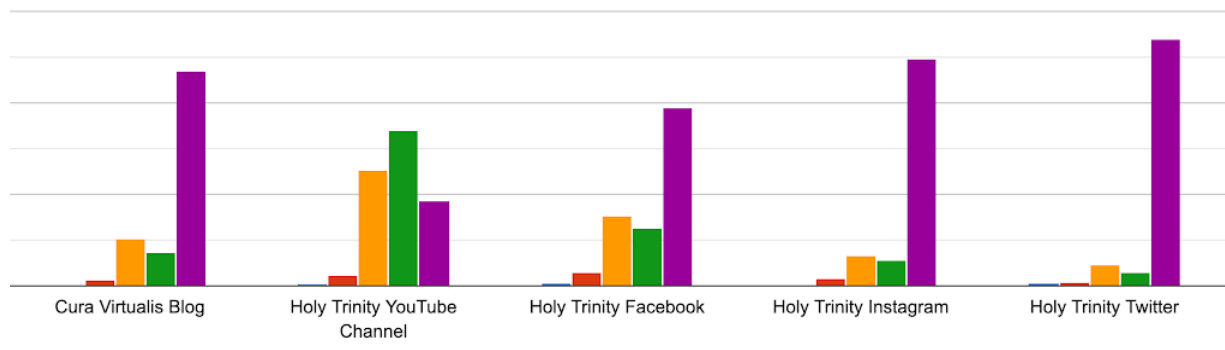
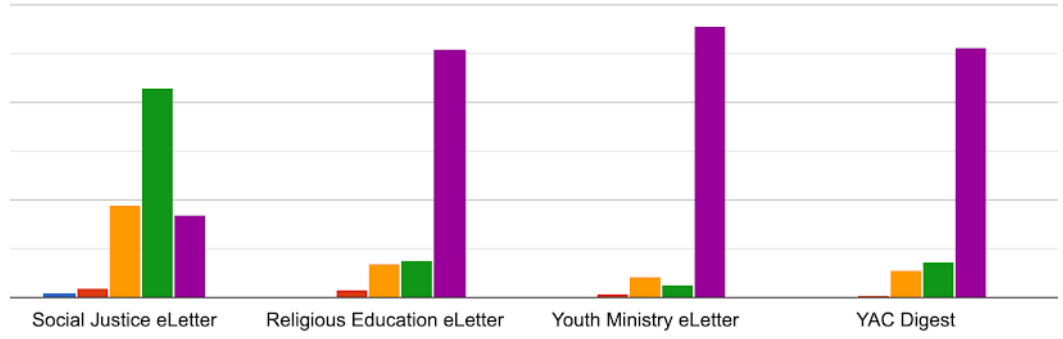
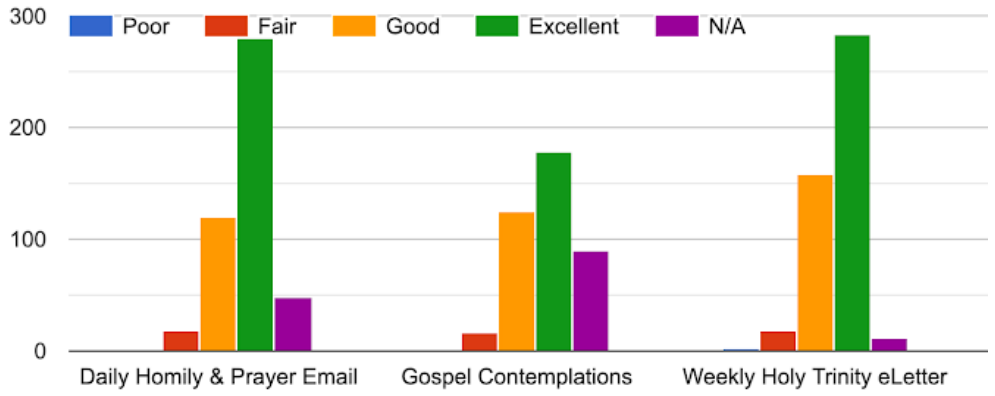
- Increased outdoor gatherings (note: in future communications it may serve to share why we can not use neighboring outdoor spaces at GU and Visitation. Both of these are referenced as large areas we should utilize).
- Acknowledge the virtual community during online Mass. Look at the camera, speak to those at home, etc.
- 1:1 Spiritual outreach calls to parishioners.
- Add Mass times (specifically Sunday 5:30pm)
- Programming for families (including parenting support)
- Form/facilitate neighborhood or small prayer groups

**COMMUNICATIONS CHANNELS**

**17. Please rate the current communications:**

<b>Communications Channels</b>	<b>Poor</b>	<b>Fair</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Excellent</b>	<b>N/A</b>
Daily Homily & Prayer Email	0	19	120	280	48
Gospel Contemplation	0	17	125	178	90
Weekly Holy Trinity eLetter	2	19	158	283	11
Social Justice Newsletter	5	10	95	215	85
Religious Education Newsletter	0	8	35	38	255
Youth Ministry Newsletter	0	4	22	14	278
YAC Digest	0	2	29	36	258
Cura Virtualis Blog	0	6	52	37	235
HT YouTube	2	11	126	171	93
HT Facebook	3	15	76	63	196
HT Instagram	0	9	34	29	249

HT Twitter	3	4	23	15	270
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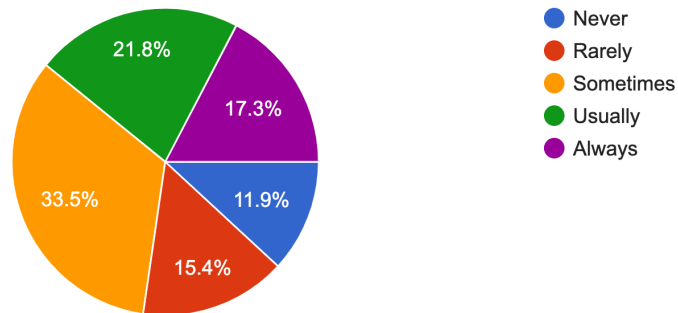


**18. How frequently do you listen to the daily homilies?**

How frequently do you listen to the daily homilies?	Responses
Never	63
Rarely	82
Sometimes	178
Usually	116
Always	92

How frequently do you listen to the daily homilies?

531 responses



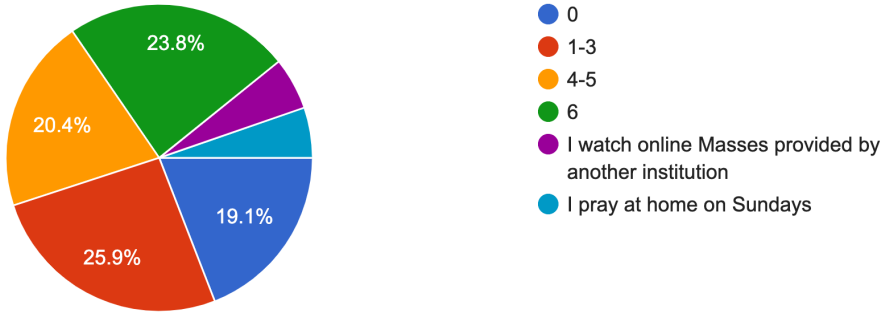
**19. In the past 6 weeks, how many times have you watched Holy Trinity's online Mass?**

In the past 6 weeks, how many times have you watched Holy Trinity's online Mass?	Responses
0	101
1-3	137
4-5	108
6	126
I watch online Masses provided by another institution	29

I pray at home on Sundays	28
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In the past 6 weeks, how many times have you watched Holy Trinity's online Mass?

529 responses



**20. Suggestions/Comments:**

Many comments praised the efforts of the Jesuits in providing the daily homilies and reflections and like how it has provided a daily habit and they can listen during any part of their day (10 comments).

Several comments (6) praised the improvement of livestream Masses, but (2) mentioned that they do not like the recent change of not showing communion and (4) commented that the online Mass experience is not as full an experience as in-person. At least (3) people mentioned missing a richer music experience with a choir and/or additional instruments.

A few (3) people mentioned that there were too many emails and an overwhelming amount of information sent out.