

GET GROWING @ ST. MICHAEL PARISH

Imagine St. Michael Church, filled every Sunday like it is on Christmas - the pews overflowing with people. But in this case, everyone is filled with God's Spirit and worshipping with their entire heart and soul, singing, "Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God Almighty" (Rev. 4:8). Such is the vision from John's revelation. It is the image of the people of God offering the sacrifice of the altar, the Eucharist. This is the image that we, as a Church Community, are called to bring to fulfillment.

It is a great joy and privilege to introduce the **GET GROWING @ ST. MICHAEL PARISH Census and Survey 2010**. Our hope is that it will bring us one step closer to John's vision. Through your participation, we can move our parish into being even more spiritual, vibrant, and welcoming. In learning more about you and all our parishioners, we hope to discover where we are strong and where there are unmet needs.

The **GET GROWING @ ST. MICHAEL PARISH Census and Survey 2010** has many goals. The first is to encourage everyone to grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ, wherever they are along their journey of faith. The second goal is to help us at St. Michael's to understand, specifically, what we can do to reach out to those who belong to our family but who may not feel connected to our community for whatever reason. Are there unmet needs that prevent parishioners from coming to worship? Are there unresolved personal issues that need some clarity or healing?

The third goal is to update our census. In 1994, we completed a census which identified 3,100 households served by St. Michael Parish. It was successful in creating additional ministries and outreach services, which now number 60 and serve over 5,000 households. Now, 16 years later, it's time to discover and develop new opportunities for growth.

To achieve this, we need 300 ambassadors who will call upon approximately 20 neighbors within a short distance of their home. The ambassadors will schedule a short visit and deliver the Census and Survey to their neighbors. The Census portion will be completed at the time of the visit, while the confidential Survey will be completed in private and returned by the parishioner. Ambassadors will be asked to attend one training session scheduled either on March 13th or March 18th.

We invite you to prayerfully consider becoming an ambassador. Volunteer cards will be in the pews January 30th and 31st. Kindly fill them out and drop them in the collection basket. If you have additional questions, please call Donna O'Brien at 978-686-4050 or contact her at donna_obrien@saintmichael.com. We look forward to hearing from you.

Please join our team!

Yours in Christ,

The GET GROWING @ ST. MICHAEL PARISH TEAM:

Dave Boudreau Fr. John Delaney
Pat McCarron Marge Murphy
Mary Alice Rock Joan Thompson

Fr. Jerry Hogan Fr. Paul Keyes
Brian Norris Donna O'Brien
Dan Wilson