

Q1 How likely are you to invite a Non-Orthodox family member or friend to church services at your parish?

Answered: 731 Skipped: 10

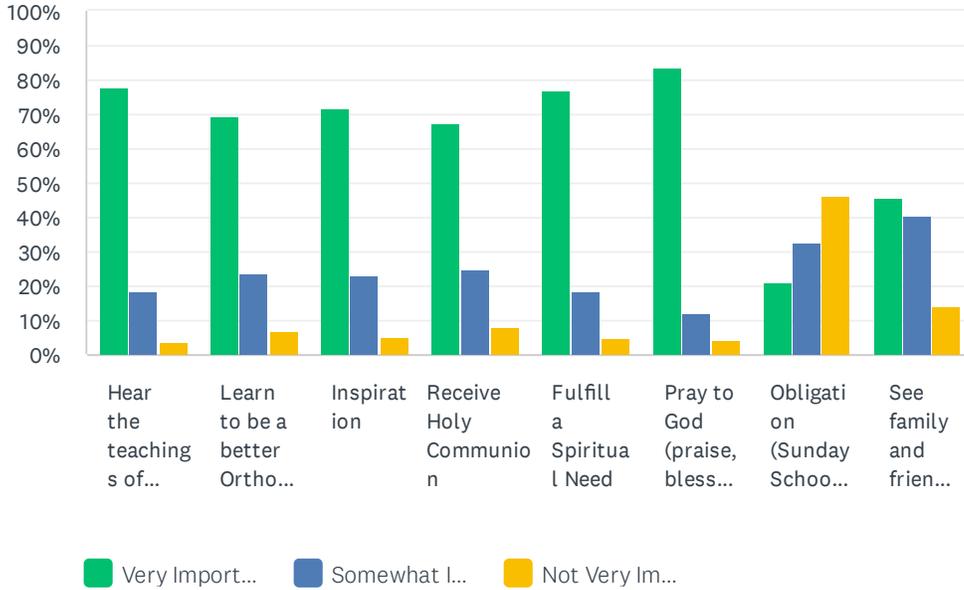


■ Highly Likely
 ■ Somewhat ...
 ■ Somewhat ...
 ■ Unlikely

	HIGHLY LIKELY	SOMEWHAT LIKELY	SOMEWHAT UNLIKELY	UNLIKELY	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
(no label)	24.90% 182	28.86% 211	24.90% 182	21.34% 156	731	52.77

Q2 My primary motivations for attending the Divine Liturgy are (rate level of importance)

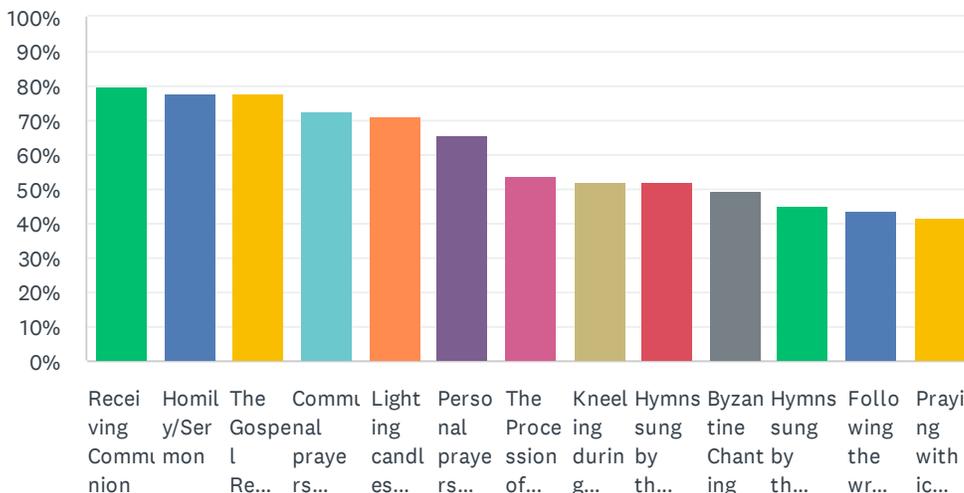
Answered: 740 Skipped: 1



	VERY IMPORTANT	SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	NOT VERY IMPORTANT	TOTAL
Hear the teachings of Christ and the Bible	77.81% 568	18.49% 135	3.70% 27	730
Learn to be a better Orthodox Christian	69.41% 506	23.87% 174	6.72% 49	729
Inspiration	71.74% 523	23.05% 168	5.21% 38	729
Receive Holy Communion	67.31% 488	24.83% 180	7.86% 57	725
Fulfill a Spiritual Need	76.89% 559	18.57% 135	4.54% 33	727
Pray to God (praise, bless, thank, entreat him)	83.79% 615	11.85% 87	4.36% 32	734
Obligation (Sunday School, Parental Pressure, Other Church Commitments)	21.19% 150	32.63% 231	46.19% 327	708
See family and friends; enjoy a sense of community	45.62% 333	40.27% 294	14.11% 103	730

Q3 Which portions of the service do you feel add meaning to your worship experience? (Please check all that apply.)

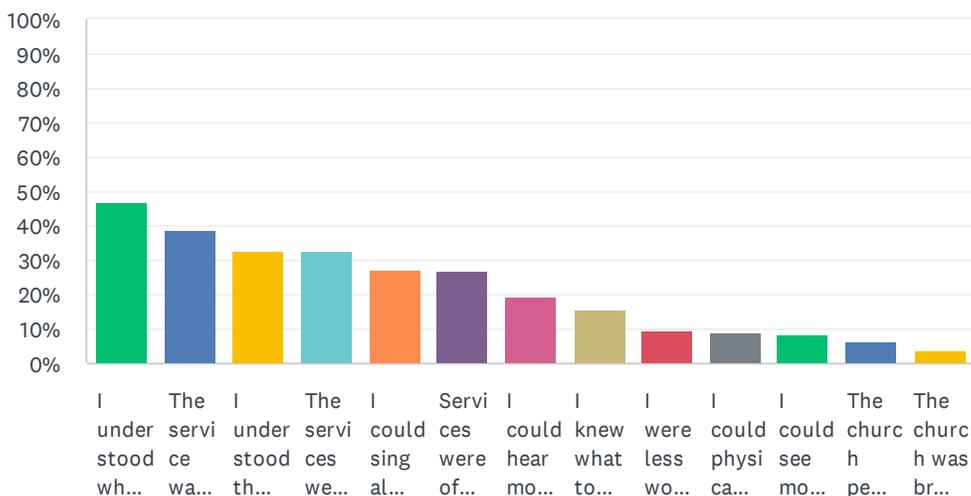
Answered: 734 Skipped: 7



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Receiving Communion	79.97% 587
Homily/Sermon	78.07% 573
The Gospel Reading	77.79% 571
Communal prayers recited together such as the Creed and the Lord's Prayer	72.48% 532
Lighting candles and venerating icons as you enter the church	71.12% 522
Personal prayers silently expressed	65.94% 484
The Procession of Priests with the Gifts (The Great Entrance)	53.54% 393
Kneeling during consecration of the Gifts	52.18% 383
Hymns sung by the choir	52.18% 383
Byzantine Chanting	49.46% 363
Hymns sung by the congregation	45.37% 333
Following the written text in the books provided in the pews	43.73% 321
Praying with icons depicted on the church's interior during Liturgy	41.55% 305
Total Respondents: 734	

Q4 I would be more engaged in worship if..... (Please check all that apply.)

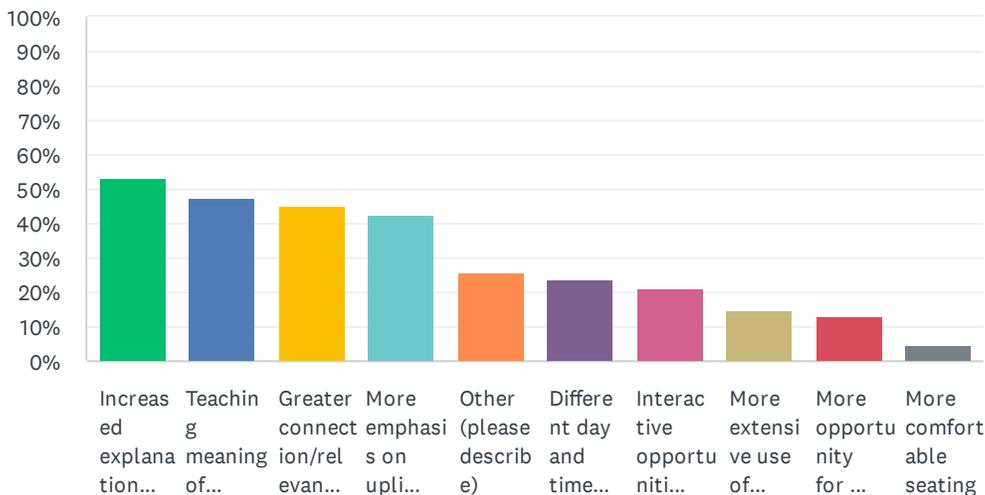
Answered: 610 Skipped: 131



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
I understood what was being said and the language in which the Divine Liturgy is being spoken	46.89%	286
The service was focused on strengthening my relationship with Christ	38.69%	236
I understood the meaning of the service (even with the Liturgy guide book)	32.46%	198
The services were more applicable/relevant to my daily life	32.46%	198
I could sing along with the hymns and petitions	27.54%	168
Services were offered at a variety of different days and times	26.89%	164
I could hear more clearly during the service (Priests, readers, etc....)	19.67%	120
I knew what to do during the service. (when to light a candle, sit, stand, kneel, etc.)	15.90%	97
I were less worried that my children may be disruptive to others	9.67%	59
I could physically enter the sanctuary and the building enabled full access (ADA Compliant)	8.85%	54
I could see more clearly during the service	8.36%	51
The church pews were less crowded or more comfortable for longer periods	6.56%	40
The church was brighter and better lit	3.61%	22
Total Respondents: 610		

Q5 What are some possible changes that would make the worship experience more engaging for you? (Please check all that apply.)

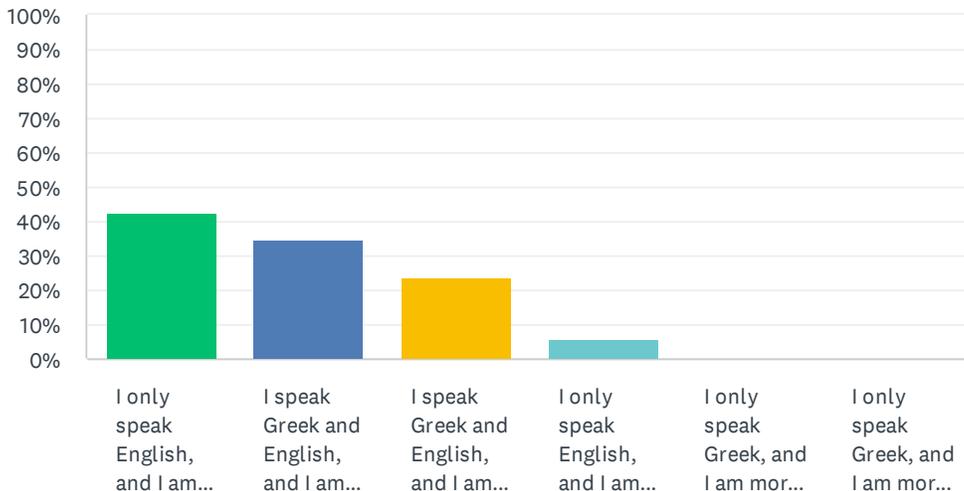
Answered: 692 Skipped: 49



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Increased explanation of symbolism embedded in the service/religion	53.18%	368
Teaching meaning of Icons and lives of saints.	47.11%	326
Greater connection/relevance to my daily life	45.23%	313
More emphasis on uplifting or inspirational message	42.49%	294
Other (please describe)	25.72%	178
Different day and time options for services	23.84%	165
Interactive opportunities during the service	20.81%	144
More extensive use of technology and/or addition of visual aids (outside of books)	14.88%	103
More opportunity for my children to participate	13.15%	91
More comfortable seating	4.77%	33
Total Respondents: 692		

Q6 How does language affect your engagement in the service? (Please check only ONE.)

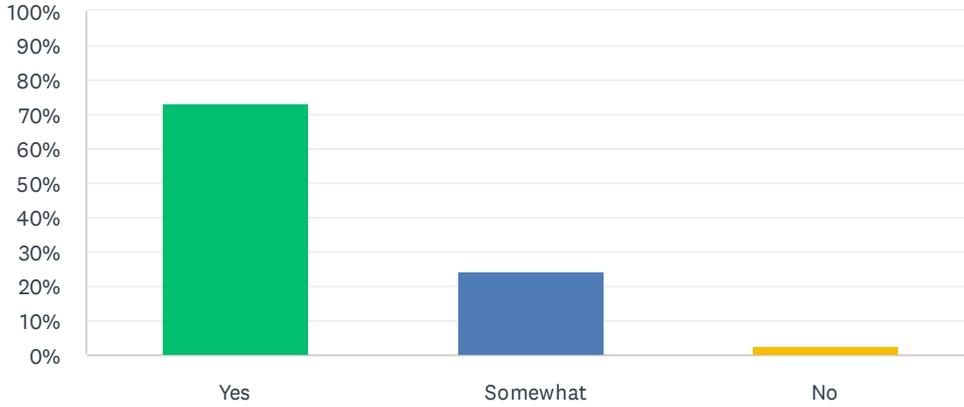
Answered: 706 Skipped: 35



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
I only speak English, and I am more engaged in worship when it is in English.	42.49%	300
I speak Greek and English, and I am more engaged in worship when it is in English.	34.56%	244
I speak Greek and English, and I am more engaged in worship when it is in Greek.	23.65%	167
I only speak English, and I am more engaged in worship when it is in Greek.	5.81%	41
I only speak Greek, and I am more engaged in worship when it is in Greek.	0.14%	1
I only speak Greek, and I am more engaged in worship when it is in English.	0.00%	0
Total Respondents: 706		

Q7 Is the message of the Divine Liturgy, even when spoken in English, understandable and meaningful to you?

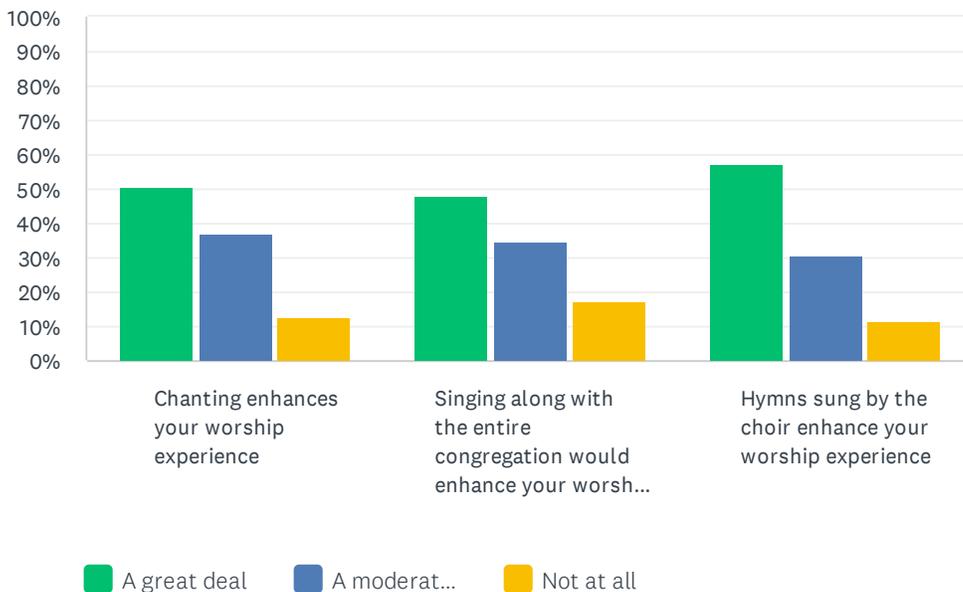
Answered: 730 Skipped: 11



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	73.01%	533
Somewhat	24.38%	178
No	2.60%	19
TOTAL		730

Q8 To what extent do you feel that music impacts your worship experience?

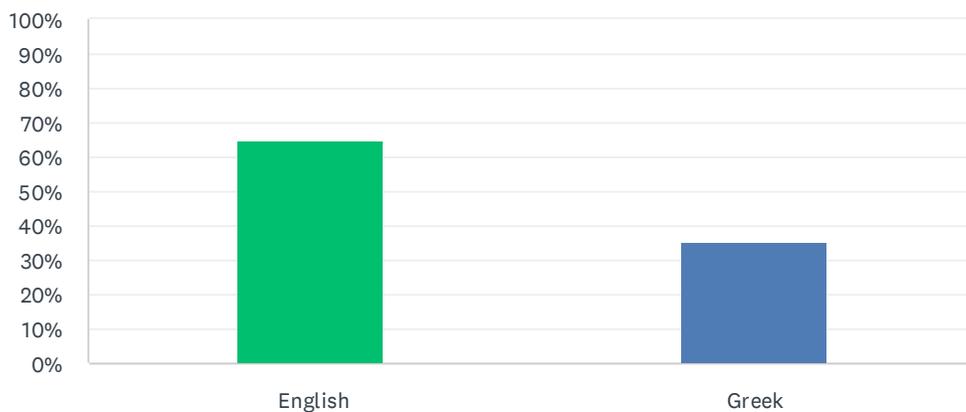
Answered: 741 Skipped: 0



	A GREAT DEAL	A MODERATE AMOUNT	NOT AT ALL	TOTAL
Chanting enhances your worship experience	50.62% 369	36.63% 267	12.76% 93	729
Singing along with the entire congregation would enhance your worship experience	48.08% 350	34.48% 251	17.45% 127	728
Hymns sung by the choir enhance your worship experience	57.60% 417	30.66% 222	11.74% 85	724

Q9 Would you be more engaged if the Chanting was predominantly in

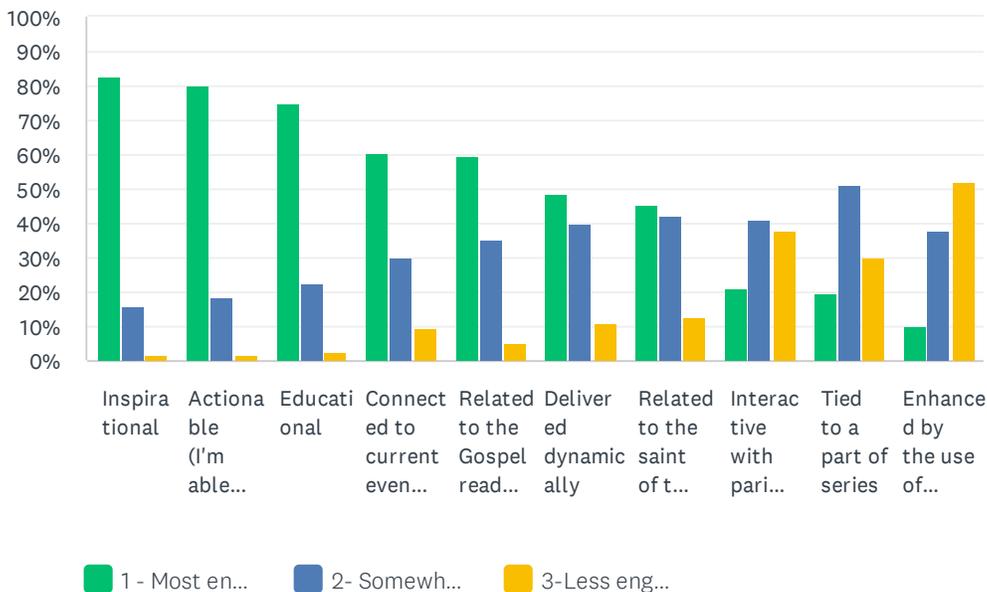
Answered: 687 Skipped: 54



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
English	64.92% 446
Greek	35.08% 241
TOTAL	687

Q10 Ideally I am most engaged when the Homily/Sermon is _____ (Please rate.)

Answered: 736 Skipped: 5



	1 - MOST ENGAGED	2 - SOMEWHAT ENGAGED	3-LESS ENGAGED	TOTAL
Inspirational	82.66% 596	15.95% 115	1.39% 10	721
Actionable (I'm able to incorporate into daily life)	80.14% 573	18.32% 131	1.54% 11	715
Educational	74.96% 533	22.64% 161	2.39% 17	711
Connected to current events and today's world	60.59% 432	30.15% 215	9.26% 66	713
Related to the Gospel reading for the day	59.24% 423	35.43% 253	5.32% 38	714
Delivered dynamically	48.63% 338	40.14% 279	11.22% 78	695
Related to the saint of the day	45.25% 319	42.13% 297	12.62% 89	705
Interactive with parishioners	20.95% 145	40.90% 283	38.15% 264	692
Tied to a part of series	19.34% 129	50.82% 339	29.84% 199	667
Enhanced by the use of technology or visual aids	9.82% 67	37.98% 259	52.20% 356	682

Q11 What are some possible changes that may improve your worship experience?

Answered: 467 Skipped: 274

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	More fellowship options, support and groups for couples, parents, etc	5/1/2021 7:22 PM
2	Let's not be scared to be counter-cultural. Please stop caving in to covid rules. Bring our kids back to church school on Sunday! Take off masks, let us into social hall. Our church community needs to be together to help each other! In services, let's think about what we are saying with priests giving lead-ins to the prayers and events. (Like they do in weddings when there are new people, but tailored to faithful.) Change things up, e.g., have choir sing something one Sunday and congregation the next. More singing by congregation please! Please stop trying to "get through the book" and do long reciting, but instead choose certain ones that are the most meaningful for the time. Then it is varied and does not feel like a chore.	4/25/2021 10:04 PM
3	Train your priests in voice and motivation. They seem to be more enthusiastic about their research then interacting with their parishioners and improving their delivery.	4/22/2021 10:08 PM
4	not sure	4/21/2021 12:47 PM
5	Education...it's difficult to be Orthodox. I feel like I'm being preached to instead partnered with. There is a "that's just the way it is" attitude. Instead of explaining why that is the way it is.	4/21/2021 9:18 AM
6	When you feel that you are worshipping our Lord with people who feel love for everyone around them.	4/20/2021 2:54 PM
7	No changes needed for me	4/20/2021 1:14 PM
8	Shorter services.	4/17/2021 11:04 PM
9	More informative/engaging of the parts of the sermon, the symbolism of various acts..	4/17/2021 4:50 PM
10	I would recommend starting Orthros later in the morning and punching back the liturgy by 30 minutes. Many parishioners come late, especially young families who need to prepare their children on the weekends. Also, I would push Sunday school back by 15 minutes or so children hear the sermon and don't miss too much of the liturgy in the end..	4/16/2021 1:36 PM
11	Not sure.	4/16/2021 9:50 AM
12	Thoughtful, educational, and challenging homilies. Greek language, more emphasis on chanting, less emphasis on choir singing.	4/15/2021 10:39 PM
13	Bring back our choirs! More English in the Memorial Service	4/15/2021 9:11 PM
14	Singing the beautiful hymns of our church in the way they were written.. the Greek language which rings in my heart!	4/15/2021 6:17 PM
15	More English. I can't stress that enough!	4/15/2021 6:11 PM
16	Not drawing out the Liturgy with dramatic chanting! I would also enjoy more participation	4/15/2021 5:25 PM
17	I feel blessed to listen to my priests' sermons-very meaningful the way it is!	4/15/2021 2:23 PM
18	Not having to sign up Better sermons	4/14/2021 6:54 PM
19	All English liturgy - including chanting and choir.	4/14/2021 4:33 PM
20	While I speak English and have a limited Greek vocabulary, I like the combination of both language	4/14/2021 3:50 PM
21	Maybe a lil shorter liturgy	4/14/2021 10:46 AM
22	Rotating priests more from the churches. I understand that many priests have been rotating to	4/14/2021 9:15 AM

Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Chicago Worship Engagement Survey

new churches - but having the the same priest for 20+ years allows the congregation to become stagnant and routine. We as lambs need to learn that there is more than just Fr so & so's way to do things.

23	Start allowing liturgy to return to its pre-covid state.	4/13/2021 2:23 PM
24	I love to sit and discuss daily life and challenges with others and make a difference to someone	4/13/2021 1:41 PM
25	The end of COVID restrictions!	4/13/2021 1:10 PM
26	Better able to hear throughout the church and all priests using the same microphones, despite their feeling they may be able to project without one.	4/13/2021 10:11 AM
27	Encourage more people to dress modestly, especially the younger women	4/12/2021 10:43 PM
28	English and maybe another day/time offered	4/12/2021 4:02 PM
29	Communion being done either like the Catholics with wafer dipped into wine or with separate disposable spoons used for each person.	4/12/2021 2:34 PM
30	More participation from the congregation to be allowed to do readings, more women participation beyond passing out the money tray each week. More women involvement in general. Hearing less judgmental remarks from priests regarding abortion, gay marriage and other topics that personally should serve no purpose in our religion. It's 2021 and we should be welcoming to all. We don't have to have gay weddings in our church, but we should make gay people feel welcome. We shouldn't tell people that Christ will never accept them for reasons like these. I have personally heard from family friends who have been told things like that from priests and it has really really turned me away from the church. One family friend took his own life because of something along those lines a greek priest told him. The corruption that has plagued some of our churches has been very disheartening over the years. I know there has been some change but I have not seen this truly addressed by Leadership. I know many people of my generation want to see real change, not just in the services but in how the churches are run. it also is incredibly concerning to me that we all take communion from the same spoon. I have a family member who is high risk, amongst several other people in my life, who should not be exposing themselves to any potential illnesses. There should be an alternative option to communion for those who don't feel comfortable taking it from the same spoon. I personally am one of those people. There is so much that can be done to make our church more welcoming to all. It all depends if leadership is actually willing to make those changes and not continue on with the status quo. Furthermore, the membership fees are ludicrous. Most families have a ton of expenses, and they should not be asked to make a \$1,000 donation to the church in order to be a part of it. That's another huge turn off for this generation.	4/12/2021 2:14 PM
31	More explanation of what is going on and why it is done, especially for my wife who is not Orthodox but wants to learn	4/12/2021 11:51 AM
32	It's too late for my grandchildren, but efforts to keep the length of service and Sunday School to 90-100 minutes would have kept my children/grandchildren in the Orthodox religion. And even for me, long services do not increase my spiritual experience.	4/12/2021 8:44 AM
33	Accessibility to church ams communion	4/12/2021 7:28 AM
34	Practice what you preach	4/12/2021 5:16 AM
35	Make it inspirational	4/12/2021 5:02 AM
36	Nothing else I can think of	4/11/2021 11:32 PM
37	In English	4/11/2021 10:32 PM
38	A shorter service More English More related to daily life	4/11/2021 9:29 PM
39	More adult in depth Bible study and study about the Orthodox faith specifically as they each help us to relate to our success in our needing to live in this world.	4/11/2021 2:55 PM
40	See previous answers.	4/11/2021 1:51 PM
41	A more dynamic and inspiring Priest.	4/11/2021 11:56 AM
42	Move memorial services to Saturday vespers. Shorter service Service all in English	4/11/2021 11:37 AM

Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Chicago Worship Engagement Survey

43	More Greek and sung a cappella.	4/11/2021 6:50 AM
44	As I mentioned earlier, it would be nice to have a little bit of Greek included mostly with singing, and not every single song in English. I love hearing the Greek byzantine sounding songs and miss some of that especially during Pascha season.	4/10/2021 11:10 PM
45	Hymns in Greek. Explanations of special services and symbolism, sermons that were relevant but not preachy as people do not want to feel ashamed in church	4/10/2021 10:02 PM
46	Start incorporating more Greek into service	4/10/2021 9:32 PM
47	Make it acceptable to sit during service. Offer more confession times, not just Lent.	4/10/2021 8:48 PM
48	Brief sermons and not dragging out the chanting/singing.	4/10/2021 8:38 PM
49	More spoken in Greek	4/10/2021 8:16 PM
50	For me, I've really like the option of Saturday liturgy during Covid. I'd love to see that option continue once the pandemic subsides.	4/10/2021 7:44 PM
51	Don't chant the gospel. Have activity bars of quiet toys for children. More teaching of the Bible instead of just pep talks for the sermon. Less repetition. The priests can silently recite parts of the service while another priest keeps the service moving with more relevant portions of the liturgy said out loud. It seems so obsessive compulsive to me sometimes that everything has to be said and repeated and said again. I understand there is a benefit to not being too loopy goosy, but I never feel like the Holy Spirit could get a word in edgewise in the orthodox liturgy.	4/10/2021 7:32 PM
52	I will not assess my church leaders. They work hard and do a great job and it is not for me to comment on how they can improve my worship experience. I own that. If I have a concern that can be changed, I will take it up directly with my church leaders. I have no need to change anything at this time	4/10/2021 7:10 PM
53	The choir or chanter setting a tempo the people can follow, allowing congregation to along the Kontakion of the fest, the church's hymn, cherubic hymn, agios, post consecrational hymns (se hymnomen and megalynarion), and communion and post communion hymns (the OCA churches do ost of these, and at a good pace).	4/10/2021 6:11 PM
54	More Greek at the church	4/10/2021 4:46 PM
55	Having two sermons. One after the Gospel that speaks to the reading and how it applies to our modern era. And the second one prior to the dismissal that provides a lesson about Orthodoxy, the sacraments, or the lives of a particular saint. They don't have to be long, it just feels like Orthodoxy is so rich with tradition and meaning that a second sermon would provide a lesson in the richness of our orthodox traditions to many who are new to the church and to those of who grew up in it.	4/10/2021 3:57 PM
56	It would be nice to have a children's session during the service. When I was younger, our priest would have all of the children come and sit with him in the front of the church, near the altar. He would tell the story depicted in the sermon in more child friendly terminology. He used examples that the children could relate to. The children seemed to enjoy it.	4/10/2021 2:32 PM
57	Less exclusion of non converts. My spouse has not converted and has been treated differently.	4/10/2021 2:23 PM
58	More English, or else many young people who do not know Greek will leave the church.	4/10/2021 2:18 PM
59	The sermons need to be more evangelical and not so structured so we as parishioner can relate. Also, priests need good communication skills as to have an impact on people.	4/10/2021 2:05 PM
60	I love the church, and am at home there. I can't imagine drastically changing anything. I would like to understand more of what is happening, but I don't view that as the responsibility of the clergy during the service.	4/10/2021 1:52 PM
61	A children's choir would be really great to have. Encouragement for more congregational participation in singing hymns.	4/10/2021 1:28 PM
62	I would love for the choir to come back, a beautiful choir enhances the liturgy for me very much	4/10/2021 1:21 PM
63	I really hope our church doesn't do away with the mixture of English/Greek. I'm not fluent in	4/10/2021 1:09 PM

Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Chicago Worship Engagement Survey

Greek, but understand the Greek spoken at church and I hope the same for my children. Pews have always been uncomfortable so making them more comfortable would be great. That being said, compared to other Greek churches, ours are more comfortable. I do get more out of sermons when they're related to everyday life as opposed to being told as a full story and that's it.

64	Making kids activities more conducive to a single parent. Times of Goya when I can realistically get them there.	4/10/2021 1:04 PM
65	I was raised in the OCA and now attend a Greek Orthodox Church. Some practices are different. Would be nice to have the explanation of practices. If it is different for me being raised orthodox it is probably really difficult for converts	4/10/2021 12:28 PM
66	Not sure.	4/10/2021 12:25 PM
67	Less required time for standing; more English; less repetition from the choir; less choir—the choir continues to take more and more time on Sundays. Less is better.	4/10/2021 12:17 PM
68	Maybe for sermons. Talk about the meanings of all the symbolisms of the church and sacraments. Educate members	4/10/2021 12:14 PM
69	Let's switch to English, emphasis the gospel instead of Greekness, and focus on real study of the scriptures. Worship experience would also be enhanced if I felt it was an environment were I felt we could all be honest with one another about ourselves (the reality is, we are all broken and sinners). I see this sort of honesty in AA. But, in church, it seems people are only concerned about getting their way and stepping on other people to "get to the top." At least this is the impression I get from parish assemblies and internet gossip news.	4/9/2021 2:05 PM
70	More opportunities to learn about the meanings behind the traditions of the Liturgy. Many of us who grew up in the church only learned some of those things, and really only during elementary Sunday school.	4/9/2021 11:56 AM
71	Know how to access liturgy with my phone as there are no books due to Covid	4/8/2021 10:55 PM
72	The Church should be more welcoming and receptive to non Orthodox Christians and should have its on Patriarch in the Americas like most other countries. That would do more to grow the church than much else.	4/8/2021 9:40 PM
73	The end of the COVID nonsense, some of which utterly defies logic.	4/8/2021 12:59 PM
74	Our parish is predominantly English speaking and the liturgy and hymns need to reflect that. We only have a handful of Greek speakers in 50-some members.	4/8/2021 11:42 AM
75	Being allowed to kiss icons, not where masks, and engage fully in the worship as it has always been. Allowed to visit metropolis monasteries without restrictions.	4/8/2021 10:50 AM
76	See comments above. I prefer a 9:00 DL start time (or at least for the summer) so that we can enjoy most of the late morning and day. While Sunday is the Sabbath, for some it is the only family time and going to church is a great way to start but if it drags on, unfortunately the attention span of some gets lost and then attendance can suffer for those that are not super disciplined.	4/7/2021 1:00 PM
77	No changes needed	4/7/2021 9:47 AM
78	I like the idea of offering more than one liturgy per week.	4/7/2021 9:18 AM
79	More chanting in Greek	4/7/2021 8:54 AM
80	More services in English	4/6/2021 11:51 PM
81	Having the sermon more in English	4/6/2021 11:02 PM
82	None come to mind	4/6/2021 10:52 PM
83	Shorter liturgy time duration and flexibility on clothing options (i.e. business casual such as churches in Greece)	4/6/2021 10:12 PM
84	n/a	4/6/2021 9:42 PM
85	Greater sense of community; I've been to a few churches where parishioners shake hands and say blessings to each other during part of the service and I did enjoy that, even though it's not	4/6/2021 8:26 PM

Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Chicago Worship Engagement Survey

	according to tradition	
86	More English would be wonderful	4/6/2021 3:28 PM
87	Education of the meaning of the liturgy and its order. Once in Naples the visiting priest referred to the altar as the New Jerusalem and everything outside of altar the old Jerusalem. Beautiful explanation. Need more on the beauty of Orthodoxy.	4/6/2021 3:17 PM
88	A more balanced service of Greek and English and one that does not drag on because a chanter wants to be the focus of the service	4/6/2021 3:13 PM
89	I want to continue to learn more	4/6/2021 10:16 AM
90	Most of this survey focused on cosmetic/sensory things that can be done to the service. In my understanding this is not what the point of orthodoxy is, rather than changing things that are inconvenient to you, use that inconvenience as a point of askisis in your road to salvation. One needs only look at the Catholic Church to understand and learn this lesson, the problem was not that services were in Latin, rather than there was a toxic culture in the clergy slowly pushing people away. Thank God we only face lack of engagement rather than this type of rot in this church. But the point remains, don't simply put a bandaid on our situations, you'll just end up with more of the same. This can again be seen in complaints about how long our services are... That is not the issue. The issue is that people leave church still feeling empty. Who cares if the service is 45 minutes --- 45 mins/2 hours, who cares. Still burning YOUR time. Ultimately in sure you will get a wide swath of opinions across these issues. I urge you to not use your confirmation bias and selectively filter the responses that fit with your world view. Our church is large and diverse with broad needs. What we do not need is a metropolitan to send edicts from Chicago that don't fit the wants or needs of specific communities in his flock. Each person is different, each parish is different -- I pray you treat us this way and don't force us a unilateral one size fits all thinking. Based on what I have seen; that rarely works.	4/6/2021 7:52 AM
91	Explaining reasons for rituals/traditions and what is being celebrated that day. As someone who brings non Greeks to church it is always most helpful with things are also explained and in English	4/5/2021 8:46 PM
92	Nothing. I think it's perfect	4/5/2021 8:37 PM
93	More English translation — without losing Greek language entirely. I do not want to lose that. Supporting reading materials in English language placed in pews to help follow along.	4/5/2021 8:36 PM
94	More INFORMATION and education about what is going on during the service. I realize I also have to do some work on my own. I think a printed bulletin every Sunday would be enormously valuable that could bring new faithful parishioners (specially those that did not grow up with the greek orthodoxy rituals or the language). More call and response engagement and hymns participation would be valuable, it is just my humble opinion.	4/5/2021 7:19 PM
95	Having more access to the Relics of the Saints we have at our church. We used to have them out on Sundays for veneration and not any more.	4/5/2021 2:38 PM
96	If service was entirely in English, including chanting.	4/4/2021 4:45 PM
97	More relatable to current events in everyone's daily lives	4/4/2021 3:24 PM
98	have the church be a welcoming place - where the older generation is willing to teach and show the young adults and younger generations how they have helped build community, build the churches (in some cases literally) and give us more opportunity to be involved and or take leadership/responsibility	4/3/2021 10:43 PM
99	More applicable content to today's challenges delivered at more convenient times and no longer than 1.5 hours.	4/3/2021 9:02 PM
100	Nothing. It come individually. It is up to the person. Not the church.	4/2/2021 9:01 PM
101	Lessen visible and audible distractions. Also being properly dressed when entering church. Too many are dressed trying to attract a mate.	4/2/2021 9:00 PM
102	No choir, no pews, men on one side, women on the other. More Chanters. At least half the service in Greek.	4/2/2021 6:30 PM
103	Sermons less than 20 minutes. More use of English. Chanting in Greek is fine, though.	4/2/2021 6:11 PM

Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Chicago Worship Engagement Survey

104	Not allowing people to arrive so late that it affects the people (distraction) who are there and have been there from the beginning.	4/1/2021 8:22 PM
105	n	4/1/2021 4:44 PM
106	Much more English More singing and less chanting Some congregational singing More involvement of women.	4/1/2021 4:15 PM
107	At my particular church, finding a seat would make a difference. Also having the major hymns chanted in Greek, as they are meant to be since we are a Greek Orthodox Church.	4/1/2021 12:48 PM
108	Less chanting- can't understand it even in English	4/1/2021 9:41 AM
109	We need to be back in Church when it is viable. Online is simply not a substitute.	4/1/2021 8:50 AM
110	Making it somewhat normal in the culture to move around during the liturgy.	4/1/2021 8:20 AM
111	Being able to understand more about why things happen during the Liturgy and why.	4/1/2021 8:09 AM
112	English and being more welcoming of non orthodox people in my family and friends	4/1/2021 7:25 AM
113	The issue for me is NOT what goes on around me, but what is going on inside my head.	4/1/2021 1:01 AM
114	•If the priest was louder than the chanters. Many times, the priest is drowned out. •If the Divine Liturgy were offered later in the day or in the evening and were in English. •If Holy Communion was not given via a common spoon and chalice.	3/31/2021 10:12 PM
115	more services to participate more fully in the cycle of services	3/31/2021 2:38 PM
116	Humility, patience, and love.	3/31/2021 7:54 AM
117	Good English chanting. Keep up the pace (not drag it out). More youth participation beyond altar boys. For example, a youth chanting group	3/31/2021 5:05 AM
118	More English. Bring back the choir. Too much chanting can be distracting	3/30/2021 10:41 PM
119	I do have to say that I have Protestant churches that have been very strong in these strange times. I think the restrictions we placed in the temple according to CDC guidelines will deter from people who are really spiritually inclined.	3/30/2021 9:02 PM
120	None	3/30/2021 7:34 PM
121	More focus on my part, leaving my worldly cares in the Narthex, arriving before the service starts...	3/30/2021 6:15 PM
122	I would like to see parishes re-opened for in-person events and activities. The church should be a place of comfort to people during uncertain times, so it's confusing that not everyone who wants to come to church is able to (capacity limits due to COVID restrictions). Since GOYA and Sunday School are also not in-person, we are losing connection to youth who normally wouldn't come to church on Sundays but would be active during the week. We need to increase outreach to the youth, because they are the future of the Orthodox Church. With limited capacity in the church, our parish normally has the same parishioners in attendance every week. As a metropolis, we need to make an effort to bring back Orthodox who have stopped coming as well as welcome non-Orthodox into our faith.	3/30/2021 4:27 PM
123	Distributing Holy Communion with individual spoons. The spoon does not take away from the holiness of the Eucharist and with Covid & other diseases, we should be changing this method of distribution.	3/30/2021 4:09 PM
124	Occasional explanation on some of the reason for doing certain things during the liturgy	3/30/2021 2:30 PM
125	Chanting in Greek with text or technology so it can be read in English at the same time.	3/30/2021 1:44 PM
126	Length of liturgy tends to be long and somewhat tiresome, language is the MOsT important component. If one does not understand what is being spoken , one cannot benefit	3/30/2021 1:11 PM
127	Get rid of all this covid stuff once everyone that wants the vaccine has gotten it (a month or two from now?). There are no good options left. The vaccine doesn't prevent covid & it doesn't prevent giving people covid. The vaccine just makes people less sick when they do get covid. Wear a mask at liturgy if you want. Don't wear a mask if you don't want. Kiss an icon if you want. Don't kiss an icon if you don't want. Receive the Eucharist if you want. Don't receive if you don't want. Attend in person if you want. Watch at home instead, if that's what you want.	3/30/2021 1:01 PM

Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Chicago Worship Engagement Survey

No more sign-up sheets & tracking. Everybody knows what covid is at this point. The Church should not have closed its doors - ever. If the civil government had its way the Church would be suppressed & harassed for a decade or more yet. Now that covid's here, it's staying until the Lord returns. It mutates too quickly. We need a realistic timetable to resume normality. A year & 15 days ago, they said we needed a "15-day pause." Some 15 days! What I keep hearing is once there are no more cases. The cases will never be zero. Covid is not going away - ever. Set a date to return to normal, say Pentecost 2021. If the civil authorities come down on us for that, then make them set a date, say Christmas 2021 or whenever. Do NOT let them dictate to us some unrealistic goal like "when less than 5% of tests come back positive." Many secularists do NOT want this crisis phase to end...we need to exercise our Constitutional right to worship as we please. They've had time, plenty of time. The quarantine itself has become a bigger problem than covid at this point. The quarantine itself is shortening lives at this point, severely damaging mental health, & severely harming our children.

128	Children being controlled by their parents ...they create distractions!! Adults conversing during service and rude ushers ...let's all smile and be kind . Church is not a place to show disrespect for others needs...we must have AGAPE †	3/30/2021 12:31 PM
129	I feel that churches in the Metropolis should have at least one or more liturgies completely in English with Byzantine chanting. At least one per month or more The chants should be universal so that everyone can sing along. The chanters vary so much with personal effects they are impossible for parishioners to sing along—To participate . The hymns that repeat, once in Greek, the rest in English. The same as the other churches of the world celebrate in the language native of the parishioners	3/30/2021 12:28 PM
130	This is a tough question. And people who come infrequently will probably not even know what to say, because they might not understand why we have the liturgy as it is. They do not understand the meaning and symbolism enough to get engaged. We must come with an open heart and wanting to grow spiritually for our salvation.	3/30/2021 11:56 AM
131	Continue online services. For in person services, emphasize parishioners arriving on time to lesson worship distraction of others.	3/30/2021 11:52 AM
132	Less people in church per public health guidelines. I see too many people not wearing their mask or removing it in church. Therefore I do not attend right now.	3/30/2021 11:46 AM
133	Shorter service and less standing.	3/30/2021 11:20 AM
134	Allowing the choirs to sing.	3/30/2021 10:42 AM
135	More adult education to be completed on your own terms. More openness to volunteering and participating on committees. Church can be quite clique-ish, and yes not all volunteers pull through and do as they say, but there are some of us who have merit and can't break into that clique to show our worth or drive.	3/30/2021 10:37 AM
136	The only changes that could enhance my worship are changes that must be made inside of myself. "Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God." What better worship experience is there than seeing God? The seed has the power, but the soil must be receptive. Orthodox worship has everything. The one thing lacking is repentant hearts--including my own!	3/30/2021 10:15 AM
137	Tying the messages from service to current events and to our culture.	3/30/2021 10:13 AM
138	Good sound system. Priests to have good microphones and video equipment to effectively be able to stream the services.	3/30/2021 10:08 AM
139	Although I speak Greek fluently I feel it is time that liturgy be conducted primarily in English. My wife is a converted Orthodox Christian. It is very difficult for her to engage. Thus she attends less frequently. I also think the Orthodox parishes must find ways to be more inclusive of others that are not Greek.	3/30/2021 10:05 AM
140	High quality Byzantine chanting in Greek.	3/30/2021 9:59 AM
141	Offering services at different times of the day. Less pomp and circumstance and more focus on the message. Linking the experience to the real modern world for adults and for children.	3/30/2021 9:54 AM
142	None	3/30/2021 9:53 AM
143	Shorter services. I know the Liturgy can be completed in 1 to 1.25 hours. Announcements, memorials, sermons, slow chanting by the priest and chanters make it WAY too long. 2 1/2	3/30/2021 9:49 AM

Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Chicago Worship Engagement Survey

	hours is not going to cut it in today's world.	
144	For the COVID pandemic to end, or for me to be vaccinated. Before the pandemic I attended every week, and watching on Facebook live is nice, but not the same.	3/30/2021 9:43 AM
145	Our services are way way too long. You can only sit still and pray for so many hours. Once we get beyond 1.5 hours, you lose me. I start looking at my watch and want to leave. I have even contemplated leaving after Communion because I know we will be going late. We need to speed up the service. Also, the choir is extremely important to me. Some churches have gone the monastic route and eliminated their choirs which I believe is a mistake.	3/30/2021 9:36 AM
146	Caring about the entire community: all ages, all languages. Being respectful to all, including from the soles. Anger management training. Praying for victims of all civil, medical and natural disasters.	3/30/2021 9:26 AM
147	No more masks	3/30/2021 9:22 AM
148	Get the books back so we can follow	3/30/2021 9:22 AM
149	Service and chanting in English	3/30/2021 9:19 AM
150	Fewer distractions from fellow parishioners...talking, coming/going, phones	3/30/2021 9:19 AM
151	too much standing	3/29/2021 1:47 PM
152	More participation in the service. Service that takes about an hour. Use of English.	3/29/2021 1:04 PM
153	Participating as a reader, or attend a workshop specifically on the Divine Liturgy.	3/28/2021 2:03 PM
154	A bit more congregation participation. I love that parishioners can read the Epistle, e.g.	3/28/2021 1:18 PM
155	Restoration of our very beautiful, pious traditional Greek-American musical arrangements of the hymns that I grew up with. And better English translations of the texts that sound like real English.	3/28/2021 12:02 AM
156	I think church needs to continue to do what they are doing. The word of God does not need anything it is meaningful yesterday, today and tomorrow	3/27/2021 10:45 PM
157	Shorter service.	3/27/2021 9:33 PM
158	Getting young girls involved in the service.	3/27/2021 8:12 PM
159	be on time our Liturgy usually starts between 9:40 and 9:45 every Sunday	3/27/2021 5:28 PM
160	Make an effort to have the liturgy more beautiful musically and otherwise	3/27/2021 10:50 AM
161	Allowing all Christians to partake in sacraments and not taking communion from a common spoon	3/27/2021 9:58 AM
162	Remove modern innovation and soak the truth against the world and their lies.	3/26/2021 9:24 PM
163	#1.) Less Greek. How can somebody truly understand the liturgy if you can't even understand the language it is spoken in. This is one of the reasons our children do not attend. They say why am I going I can't understand what is being said? They need guidance in how to deal with this secular society. If that leadership is not coming from Church we should let it come from. If you want to talk to young people the message has to be relevant to their daily lives.	3/26/2021 8:43 AM
164	While filling out this survey, a few questions came to mind. There does not seem to be a place for general comments so I am inserting them here. Who created this survey? Was it a group of people from the diocese or an actual statistician/firm? How was the survey decided to be distributed? Randomly through certain parishes or certain parishes were just selected? What is your goal with this survey? The survey was sent out through a specific parish but does not appear to be sent out to all. I know others in Chicago not in this parish and not in Chicago that have already filled it out. People are also allowed to fill this out more than once. If this is what you wanted, will the responses be representative of those in Chicago? If changes are planned to be made to our parishes from responses in this survey, I would hope that it is done correctly so that the results are not biased and representative of the Chicago Greek Orthodox community. Only with a properly set up survey can statistically significant results be generalized.	3/26/2021 8:09 AM
165	Welcoming, peaceful environment inside the church, everyone knows their roles. Figure out the	3/26/2021 8:03 AM

Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Chicago Worship Engagement Survey

language issue--do not need to repeat everything in both languages--makes the service drag and take too long. Alternate, Creed Greek, Lord's Prayer English, alternate each week. Homily concise, direct, inspiring, not too long. Encourage lay people to speak/sing responses. Teach us to be in the Kingdom of Heaven during the Liturgy. While chanting and choir are beautiful, can seem dramatic--going on too long, more a performance (?) would rather understand the message/words than extended tones.

166	Re-establish the rubrics (normal Little and Great Entrance), let people kiss icons, fellowship.	3/25/2021 9:24 PM
167	Transitioning to the language of the land, English. Losing our young people.	3/25/2021 9:10 PM
168	inclusion of women in worship experience - may be disenfranchised due to lack of inclusion and visibility	3/25/2021 8:02 AM
169	Better quality of chanting	3/24/2021 10:55 PM
170	If all the churches/ priests were on the same page in terms of belief/practice. Also if the services/hymns were conducted relatively the same. Holy Friday is my favorite service. It was very disappointing last year to hear the service sung differently.	3/24/2021 1:34 PM
171	If my children (18 and 14) could be more directly addressed and could understand the homily and it's relevance, I would have more opportunity to attend.	3/24/2021 12:00 PM
172	Make the service shorter - 1 hour max. More inclusive of women - less patriarchal. More inspirational. More open/connected to other faiths, beliefs, customs and how fit together. How do we differ from other religions, and how can we connect or relate better with other Christian faiths, or judaism, Buddhism, Islam etc.?	3/24/2021 11:04 AM
173	I do not wish for there to be less Greek, but more English use would be helpful in terms of allowing explorers or hopeful converts to enjoy a more relatable and applicable experience. One thing that I have honestly noted is the volume of voices when singing or reciting prayers/creeds: The volume is noticeably louder when Greek is used as opposed to English, and I am unsure if it is because the demographic is primarily native Greeks or if the congregation just prefers Greek that much over English. I am a hopeful convert, and i recognize my place in the community. I want this faith to be as accessible and relatable as possible to others like me without sacrificing tradition or, more importantly, truth. Educational bits would help as well.	3/24/2021 11:04 AM
174	Having priests learn not to repeat themselves so much. I get tuned out when it becomes repetitive	3/23/2021 8:11 PM
175	na	3/23/2021 6:13 PM
176	Modern day English more education and less time	3/23/2021 5:44 PM
177	Times ofcservices	3/23/2021 5:33 PM
178	Air conditioning :)	3/23/2021 4:00 PM
179	Teaching to better understand the meaning of various parts of the service. Good singing/chanting Services in English	3/23/2021 1:46 PM
180	More ways to keep young children engaged in the Liturgy. Most of the time is spent ensuring they keep quiet or attentive. Buts it's understandably challenging for them.	3/23/2021 9:39 AM
181	would like the sermon to be more teachable how it relates to todays world	3/22/2021 9:12 PM
182	If everyone arrived on time. After attending Roman Catholic churches all my life, it just seems rude to come late and some older people talk to each other during the Liturgy. That's rude too. They should do their visiting afterward.	3/22/2021 4:57 PM
183	More participation from the young folks i.e. teenagers reading the epistle.	3/22/2021 4:16 PM
184	Remind people to enter the service only at certain times. This is unlikely to change, but I feel that people dress way too casually for services - tight leggings/pants, etc.	3/22/2021 12:27 PM
185	People coming on time and less distractive to worship without interruption	3/22/2021 9:51 AM
186	too many clergy at the altar blocking the view of all that is going on....it appears to be more theater than spiritual	3/22/2021 9:08 AM

Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Chicago Worship Engagement Survey

187	Having the Hymns printed out and when they are to be sung!	3/22/2021 8:07 AM
188	English language Relation to my life today and how teachings apply to today and not what happened many years ago.	3/21/2021 5:06 PM
189	Don't forget the Greek and the Byzantine chants. There is a movement to move to all English and I get it (as more younger people understand it better), but there is something special and magical about services, hymns, prayers and chants in the original Greek.	3/21/2021 3:17 PM
190	1. Currently, I am somewhat fearful when I attend because 1/3 of the attendees (on 3-19-21 Salutations to the Theotokos) were unmasked. 2. I feel constrained socially because our priest has told us not to visit inside the Nave and with COVID, not in the Narthex, either. 3. Years ago, when more were attending, the Greeks tended to visit mostly within their ranks. However, some crossed over to the converts. I hung out with fellow converts or Romanians, usually.	3/21/2021 2:53 PM
191	As hinted above, we experience much division and pain (emotionally and spiritually) at our church. I wholeheartedly believe that this is primarily due to the leadership of our parish refusing the authority of the Bishop, their open and forceful refusal to follow the Metropolis' mandates such as the Covid-19 mandates, setting themselves up as a higher authority than the Bishop. Many of us at the St. Luke's Church are longing for that unity and harmonious love that St. Ignatius the God-Bearer so sublimely speaks of: "Therefore it is fitting for you to run your race together with the bishop's purpose - as you do. For your presbytery - worthy of fame, worthy of God - is attached to the bishop like strings to a lyre. Therefore by your unity and harmonious love Jesus Christ is sung. Each of you must be part of this chorus so that, being harmonious in unity, receiving God's pitch in unison, you may sing with one voice through Jesus Christ to the Father, so that he may both hear you and recognize you, through what you do well, as members of his Son. Therefore it is profitable for you to be in blameless unison, so that you may always participate in God [Ephesians, Chapter IV]." With much sorrow in my heart, I have to say that at our parish in Columbia, MO, we experience much division that leads to inner turmoil and anxiety for so many of us. Please forgive me for all the things that I wrote. Please take them as the cry of a father who is deeply concerned about the spiritual well being of his family. Please pray for me a sinner.	3/21/2021 1:50 PM
192	A longer sermon and less praying.	3/21/2021 10:37 AM
193	Need to explain what goes on during the Divine Liturgy. There needs to be a better and conscious balance of Greek and English. You need to get your act together as more and more people are leaving the church. Our children do not have a desire to come even though they were raised Greek Orthodox,	3/21/2021 8:54 AM
194	- continuing education of all priests about all aspects of our religion and church - more byzantine chanting (with ison and preferably in Greek) - priests engaging with parishioners quite a bit more	3/20/2021 10:29 PM
195	I think the Orthodox religion is a beautiful religion that promotes the word of Christ. I am 100% Greek American and second generation. I went to Greek school as a child and learned conversational Greek. However, I do NOT understand the Gospel when read or other readings by the chanters in Greek, or hymns sung in Greek. This totals up to a significant part of the services. I am married to a non Greek Orthodox Christian who doesn't understand any Greek and neither do our children. Our children attended church regularly until age 18. However now as adults, they have choices to choose a church that they can "understand" what is being said and meets their spiritual needs. My concern is that we will lose them to other religions, and this truly breaks my heart. I have had this discussion with many of my friends at church. Most are hesitant to speak up as it will be frowned upon. I strongly believe that there is too much Greek spoken in our services. The statistics show that there is a very high percentage of Greek Americans marrying non Greek Americans which will likely only increase as the generations continue in the US. I believe our church should make some changes in an attempt to keep future generations in our faith. It is my opinion, the first step is to speak more English.	3/20/2021 7:41 PM
196	More preaching of the Gospel.	3/20/2021 5:31 PM
197	Again as I mentioned, having a choir	3/20/2021 5:18 PM
198	I'd like to hear some songs sung by choir in the Greek sometimes. Or once per month do all the singing in Greek and some of the responses in Greek.	3/20/2021 4:42 PM
199	I left Lutheran. Church as too secular. I worry about my soul and it feels heavenly with Orthodoxy.	3/20/2021 3:48 PM

Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Chicago Worship Engagement Survey

200	Shorter in length Evolve from the common spoon for communion. The health department should ban the use of a common spoon. It prevents me from taking communion.	3/20/2021 3:10 PM
201	Having a priest strict enough that he will not permit a squealing tit to disrupt the liturgy	3/20/2021 2:55 PM
202	I am 78 yrs old, and nothing needs to change for me except speaking English so the readings, gospel and sermon is understandable. I think for young people our services are long, and if we can maintain the meaning without being repetitive I think that would be good.	3/20/2021 12:53 PM
203	Live choir	3/20/2021 12:50 PM
204	I enjoy the services as they are, to have the solid foundation of a 2000+ years is most comforting to the soul.	3/20/2021 11:15 AM
205	My parish recently lost its two primary chanters, through death and relocation. Since then, the services are lead by the priest's children, aged 7 to 12. While I understand the rationale, I find it so distracting that I've started attending services at another, Antiochian parish.	3/20/2021 3:01 AM
206	I think more English especially in the non-Sunday services. At least on Sunday I could follow along and after all these years I pretty much know what is going on. I feel the lack of English turns young people away especially in mixed marriages because the spouse is used to a religion where they understand what is being said.	3/19/2021 11:25 PM
207	Keeping our Greek language, incorporating music/songs with our Greek hymns, keeping inspirational and supportive sermons.	3/19/2021 9:46 PM
208	Less old liturgy... more relatability	3/19/2021 9:28 PM
209	Less judgmental messages from our Priest. It's fine to explain what our Orthodox faith accepts and what it rejects, but the message should be clear that our Lord accepts all of us and to offer more assistance/open door to our Priest to discuss anything we may be struggling with as Christians living in today's society among all walks of life.	3/19/2021 9:17 PM
210	Just as said before. Alternating Greek and English throughout service. Does not have to be in both - even when other priests are visiting.	3/19/2021 8:50 PM
211	Seeing my beautiful Kimissis church full again!	3/19/2021 4:21 PM
212	More English	3/19/2021 3:27 PM
213	Presiding priests giving gospel teachings to rafts society	3/19/2021 12:30 PM
214	churches without a cry room are very difficult. Cry room where the family can see the liturgy is important and parents do not have to feel uncomfortable or worry about their children the entire time during the service.	3/19/2021 11:32 AM
215	More English	3/19/2021 11:18 AM
216	I need to attend more services.	3/19/2021 11:17 AM
217	Inspirational messages to help us get through the challenges of life.	3/19/2021 11:17 AM
218	If a parish is Christ first, nothing else matters . Matters such as transparency in it's leadership and operations and failure to recognize financial responsibility, parish and stewardship all act to affect the worship experience. We're all human and it's hard to overlook shortfalls. These rob from the worship experience. I don't have an answer but do believe that small incremental changes accumulate into have huge results.	3/19/2021 10:50 AM
219	I think most Americans (this probably includes younger Greeks) would be more receptive to a Liturgy that is mostly in English. It is vitally important that elements like the Creed and the Lord's Prayer are done in English, as well as many of the prayers. I think the litanies are the best sections to retain a mix of Koine and English.	3/19/2021 9:04 AM
220	Communication, Acceptance, and given a choice as parishioners to make decisions for our church or priest(s)	3/18/2021 11:15 PM
221	A positive sermon	3/18/2021 10:49 PM
222	Although I love hearing the Greek in parts of the liturgy, it's difficult to follow the Orthros service because it's almost entirely in Greek	3/18/2021 9:33 PM

Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Chicago Worship Engagement Survey

223	More English speaking More applicable to daily life Growing spiritually, knowing, understanding the Bible as well as our church services and having a relationship with God my Heavenly Father and His son Jesus Christ	3/18/2021 8:04 PM
224	Better delivery of the Homily/Sermon, more English in the service (including chanting) and more interaction with the parishioners attending the Divine Liturgy.	3/18/2021 7:38 PM
225	Length of Service. More Inspirational, Different times.	3/18/2021 7:21 PM
226	Do more to be more aware of, and work to remove, the underlying white superiority complex that is not only running through our country, but through our church and church leaders as well. Help our congregation to lead more of a Christian life and not be more of a "Christian". Understand that being a decent human being, listening, understanding, and helping other, is more important than just receiving sacraments every Sunday.	3/18/2021 5:34 PM
227	All moveable portions in English.	3/18/2021 4:33 PM
228	Feeling welcome in church. I am a nurse and the guidelines related to covid exclude me from attending worship as we are told not to come to church if you are around sick people!	3/18/2021 2:33 PM
229	Nothing	3/18/2021 1:41 PM
230	More congregation participation for all services if possible. All English. Adopt the "Kiss of Peace" for all GO churches. Start and end on time - not Greek time. Have children attend liturgy with their family - church school after communion, at the earliest.	3/18/2021 1:10 PM
231	Contemporary worship music instead of extremely dated hymns often sung in Greek	3/18/2021 12:55 PM
232	Priest should instill a sense of family and community in parishioners. We should all feel recognized and feel as if we are a part of our parish family. It helps greatly when the priest takes a personal interest in his parishioners, and when the priest knows you.	3/18/2021 10:54 AM
233	More dialogue with priest either during sermon or immediately after services.	3/18/2021 9:23 AM
234	To go bsck to Church as before.	3/18/2021 8:57 AM
235	Chanting well more so than the language of chanting is important. It is hard to focus with off key chanting, although I see this as a great opportunity for me to practice not criticising others, so I'm conflicted	3/18/2021 8:45 AM
236	Dig deeper into the Bible and how the liturgy and symbolism relate to it	3/17/2021 10:58 PM
237	Have the services balanced in Greek and English.	3/17/2021 9:49 PM
238	Modernizing the experience of being a practicing Orthodox Christian parent and person	3/17/2021 5:22 PM
239	As I said earlier, I feel that the Greek Orthodox church cares more about continuing Greek culture, language, and tradition than it does actually ministering to the congregation in an effective way. To be viable, the church MUST adapt those things developed by man. For example, continuing to serve communion from a common cup/spoon during a pandemic was ABSOLUTELY unconscionable. Tradition ruled the day, the health of the congregation was a distant second. In several sermons, I heard statistics from the Pew Research Group that indicated an ongoing decline in youth retention to Orthodox churches. The "plan" was being told to attend church, pray on it and fast. As leaders of the church, you OWN the responsibility to develop a strategy that addresses this. If dramatic changes do not occur, I fear that the entity will be short-lived. Finally, when we were married, I agreed with my wife that our children would be raised in the Orthodox church. Until they were college age, they were regular attendees and my son even served in the altar. Now that they're in their 30's, they seldom attend any church. As a father, I deeply regret the initial decision I made with my wife. I pray that they one day will find a spiritual home that relates to the world in which they live.	3/17/2021 4:20 PM
240	More English - husband is not Greek and no one in my family speaks Greek, which makes it hard to encourage attendance; More inspirational, relevant sermons, less preaching to those of us that are actually IN church - need to find a way to reach those who aren't, especially young adults.	3/17/2021 1:47 PM
241	to be able to sing in the choir again	3/17/2021 9:35 AM
242	I am not sure of changes other than the language, I just do not feel spiritually lifted at church 90 per cent of the time	3/17/2021 8:12 AM

Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Chicago Worship Engagement Survey

243	Explanation of what the priest does during portions of the liturgy	3/16/2021 11:46 PM
244	English and shorten the service. We used to have less and it was just as meaningful.	3/16/2021 10:18 PM
245	Divine Liturgy beginning on time, a sermon limited to 10 minutes and ending within one and a half hours.	3/16/2021 10:12 PM
246	Shorter service & sermon.	3/16/2021 9:33 PM
247	More beautiful music, engaging but brief talks, acknowledgement that we are most English speakers in our church, that we need to start to crept that our young people are not accepting two hour services and do something to win them back. If we don't change they will go somewhere else.	3/16/2021 9:18 PM
248	More English! Sermons more relevant to application of daily life. More instruction in traditions	3/16/2021 9:18 PM
249	Shorter liturgy; shorter sermons; less Greek. The sermon should connect the gospel reading to something pertinent today rather than a Bible lesson.	3/16/2021 8:44 PM
250	Include women and girls in the services. Have altar Girls too!	3/16/2021 6:45 PM
251	People have really lost the ability to pay attention. This has worsened due to technology and the pace of life. There is SO much repetition in our services (the same petitions said three times!!) that the resulting length causes fatigue and wandering thoughts rather than focused, targeted worship.	3/16/2021 5:38 PM
252	ALL ENGLISH!! That is the language of our country! Single use spoons for communion! I had difficulty before the pandemic, now there is no possible way I would take it!	3/16/2021 3:17 PM
253	Shorter services.	3/16/2021 2:42 PM
254	Congregational singing would be wonderful. Finding ways to include girls in the church service, even if not behind the altar. This would give worship a more inclusive and welcoming feel.	3/16/2021 2:41 PM
255	Changing my own mindset and not getting stuck inside my own thoughts - learning how to engage in worship more fully	3/16/2021 2:30 PM
256	MORE ENGLISH, INCLUDING VESPERS. BACK TO PRE-COVID FELLOWSHIP. OPPORTUNITIES TO EXPAND FAITH OUTSIDE OF SUNDAY WORSHIP.	3/16/2021 1:23 PM
257	Feel Greek should still be part of the worship experience. Do not think it should be removed entirely.	3/16/2021 11:58 AM
258	More engagement for the children. Bring back Chapel services prior to Sunday school	3/16/2021 8:10 AM
259	See #4 and #5 above.	3/15/2021 11:54 PM
260	improve the byzantine chanting in the churches, add female voices	3/15/2021 10:38 PM
261	I would like to know more about the actions happening in the Holy Altar during Divine Liturgy.	3/15/2021 7:01 PM
262	Meaningful, relatable sermons that tie into daily life, trials, etc.	3/15/2021 6:37 PM
263	Although I know and enjoy singing the hymns in Greek, English must be the exclusive language to assure reaching all of our community. Also, I feel that the services need to eliminate duplication and repetition that diminish the participation and needlessly prolong the service, inviting a loss of focus and promoting distraction. Moreover I appreciate services that are conducted in one hour, and more than that seems to be the result of repetition, loss of focus, or misdirection that distracts from the solemnity and involvement of the congregants.	3/15/2021 5:02 PM
264	english	3/15/2021 4:01 PM
265	Using current English	3/15/2021 3:30 PM
266	N/A	3/15/2021 3:21 PM
267	More congregation members singing along instead of just the chanters.	3/15/2021 11:27 AM
268	Shorter more educational or related to every day living sermons. 10/15 minutes. If the demon was short I would be more engaged in the special prayers/devices that are many times attached to service	3/15/2021 10:53 AM

Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Chicago Worship Engagement Survey

269	more interaction? I know that there is not much space for that in our service but it may break up the monotony of the service for those who are converts or who do not understand the parts of the service.	3/15/2021 10:37 AM
270	Cut down the length of the service. For heaven's sake, this is the 21st century and people do not have time to sit for hours on a Sunday. They just don't. Time obligations and constraints are much greater now than when the divine liturgy was first written. Back then, there was a whole lot less to do and much fewer distractions. The Church needs to be aware that in today's attention-deficit, always-on-the-go society, staying seated for 2+ hours just isn't realistic. Give us our weekly dose of God, our sermon, our communion...basically, give us the spiritual guidance and strength we need for the week, then release us. The Church is in dire need of time management, and if efforts aren't made to shorten the services (one good place to start, remove the memorial services from the liturgy), losing a young generation of worshipers is highly likely. By comparison, a typical Catholic service is over in under an hour. That's reasonable, that's doable, that's realistic for today's worshiper of whatever age. Also, change the communion distribution process to be more sanitary. There's no way I'd take communion from a spoon shared with hundreds of others. No way!	3/15/2021 10:29 AM
271	More relaxed dress, and a focused service. I do not need to hear the same message multiple times. Acoustics/ priest's voice level and speaking clarity can be improved. Can memorials be celebrated after services for only the families instead of involving the entire parish? Priest asking for donations at the end of every service to "open our hearts " seems repetitive and unnecessary. We all give what we can.	3/15/2021 9:43 AM
272	That our priest can connect to his parishioners.	3/15/2021 9:33 AM
273	Please, open the church. Communion is very important to me. I do not believe that Panagia needs to change, perhaps after not being able to attend regular services, people have realized, and will appreciate, coming back into God's house and the pews will be filled...	3/15/2021 8:52 AM
274	None	3/15/2021 7:51 AM
275	To go back to church like before the pandemic. No more having to make reservations. This past year has made me lose faith - need to physically go to church and interact with the people	3/15/2021 4:30 AM
276	No changes	3/14/2021 11:43 PM
277	With the covid restrictions, I miss the processions, and the choir, and the intimacy of the liturgy	3/14/2021 11:41 PM
278	I would love to see some of our parishioners be trained as chanters. That's a lot of work for Father, though.	3/14/2021 11:15 PM
279	No covid restrictions	3/14/2021 10:36 PM
280	Hearing a dynamic sermon. Relevant to my life. Drawing us to a closer relationship with Christ.	3/14/2021 10:36 PM
281	Physically attending services post pandemic. Sermons reflecting the bible readings and the current world	3/14/2021 10:28 PM
282	More English and a shorter service... I like the teaching and Orthodox services	3/14/2021 9:42 PM
283	Open the church	3/14/2021 9:42 PM
284	I'm not sure	3/14/2021 9:28 PM
285	More English due to so many convert now attending our services.	3/14/2021 9:15 PM
286	Only one sermon in English	3/14/2021 9:14 PM
287	A dynamic priest who is more engaged with the congregation and especially the young people	3/14/2021 8:54 PM
288	None	3/14/2021 7:58 PM
289	A dynamic and engaging priest who would include the parishioners in readings and involve the parish in serving the needy.	3/14/2021 7:03 PM
290	Less sitting and more standing. More prostrations during services.	3/14/2021 6:49 PM
291	Be involved in chanting. Have illuminating homilies.	3/14/2021 4:57 PM
292	More explanation of the symbolism of our faith, gospel lessons, lives of the saints and how	3/14/2021 4:47 PM

Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Chicago Worship Engagement Survey

	they are role models for us humans, welcoming faithful	
293	feeling inspired by the clergy when they deliver the message/sermon and also making me feel my family is important and reaching out to my 20 something children from time to time	3/14/2021 4:40 PM
294	None	3/14/2021 4:10 PM
295	I think that the entire metropolis should share all the sermons on a single web page. Each week, a single sermon should be selected as the most inspirational and shared with everyone! We also need more young people my age involved, please.	3/14/2021 3:33 PM
296	Better chanting, having the long drawn out 'ahhhhhh' or 'ooooohhhhhh' loses me, and I do not know the word being chanted. The chant can be in either language. A sermon that the priest also feels and understands, as the priest reading something monotone, is maybe a message to read, and not to be delivered.	3/14/2021 2:19 PM
297	Overall we've always appreciated Fr. Tilemahos Alikakos' sermons, above all how he made our family feel welcomed in the church. Fr. Tilemahos' is thoughtful and inspirational, he made his sermons relevant, thoughtful and meaningful. With respect to changes, traditionally the Greek Service is considered lengthy, not sure if the length of time can be shortened, but would be recommendation.	3/14/2021 2:02 PM
298	More English in the service especially for my young adult children. They perhaps would have better attendance if service was 90% Also I'm upset that my young adult daughters aren't connected to the church How can we get them back to church	3/14/2021 10:40 AM
299	More services	3/13/2021 11:24 PM
300	Stop forcing the horrible, suffocating, communist wearing of masks. Wake up!	3/13/2021 8:04 PM
301	Too much standing, which leads to lack of focus on the service.	3/13/2021 7:32 PM
302	If the majority of the service were in English	3/13/2021 6:58 PM
303	Emphasis on spirit of law rather than letter of the law. Priests have taken on a fire and brimstone attitude and no emphasis on the life of Jesus Christ	3/13/2021 6:55 PM
304	Language...the services are beautiful...I just can't understand most of it.	3/13/2021 4:56 PM
305	Choir and a new church less egotistic chanting	3/13/2021 4:08 PM
306	I don't see the need for change. It often comes down to the Father. If he is engaging ,welcoming, and in touch with the world it's been good.	3/13/2021 4:03 PM
307	English used 100% where possible (I understand that some parishes must have some Greek - but I think most Greek born people want their grandchildren to stay in the Church so their requirement to hear Greek may be overstated). Important hymns of the Church chanted or sung in English (common translations). Parishioners participating.	3/13/2021 3:41 PM
308	A mic for the readings.	3/13/2021 12:40 PM
309	None.	3/13/2021 11:34 AM
310	See "10", above.	3/13/2021 9:35 AM
311	Another service possible later on Sunday since working schedule difficult early in am	3/13/2021 9:24 AM
312	I feel the only change that needs to happen is for the individual attending the service. To humble your self and to forgive others so when we say the Lords prayer, it's not just words we recite but a true prayer to our Lord that we may be forgiven also. It's very important to keep the traditions of the Greek Orthodox Church, it's language, and teachings of the fathers.	3/13/2021 9:00 AM
313	Leave it the same. Don't change anything	3/13/2021 7:47 AM
314	The largest challenge is within myself. Staying focused and not getting distracted by others.	3/13/2021 7:30 AM
315	None at this time.	3/13/2021 7:00 AM
316	More congregation signing of hymns	3/13/2021 5:55 AM
317	People attending service quietly, in Narthex and in Church	3/13/2021 5:36 AM

Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Chicago Worship Engagement Survey

318	Please don't change anything. I'm old school and I don't think I would go to church if there were radical changes, ideas, or concepts introduced.	3/13/2021 2:15 AM
319	Sunday Bible study. Better sound system so you can hear everything during homily.	3/12/2021 11:39 PM
320	Small children should not chant. Chanters should be assigned to every church. We are a small church and can't afford to pay a chanter.Chanters can come and help train parishioners with chanting and travel from church to church. All people should light ciandles, no children stewardship tray-should be private donation not in front of everyone . All churches should use the same liturgical book with the same style of hymns. A YouTube video of the special hymns of the day so we can practice the song before Sunday service-we have congregational singing and lots of people are not familiar with the melodies. Or are familiar with a different melody then what is being sung by the priest-new and different then what I am used to. I've been in the go arch site looking for hymns only to discover we sing a different version at our church. It's discouraging. Maybe the daily readings app can include church hymns with music notations.	3/12/2021 10:58 PM
321	The pace of church services. I'm not suggesting services should be rushed but they shouldn't drag either. Sometimes priests need to pick up the pace and chanters need to minimize the long drawn-out "Kyrie Eleisons" (as an example) and stop chanting in tones beyond their vocal capacity. Also, please note what I commented on above regarding duplicating things in Greek and English.	3/12/2021 10:57 PM
322	None.	3/12/2021 10:56 PM
323	Dress code. Sunday best means something different to everyone.	3/12/2021 10:39 PM
324	Shorter service	3/12/2021 10:24 PM
325	I really think offering different times, even if it's a smaller service or shorter. I love our faith and I love the traditional aspect of it, especially during just trying times when there is so much sadness in the world. A Saturday evening or Sunday late afternoon would be wonderful.	3/12/2021 10:08 PM
326	All English and relevant sermons.	3/12/2021 9:55 PM
327	Really nothing. I like the 50/50 Greek & English.	3/12/2021 9:42 PM
328	If any part of the service is not in English, then I can't relate and this was especially true for my children who have left the church. The focus of the sermons changed to support us in our daily struggles would be an improvement.	3/12/2021 9:36 PM
329	I enjoy listening to sermons. However if they last too long we tend to lose focus. I suggest keeping sermons 10 minutes or less	3/12/2021 9:16 PM
330	Nothing	3/12/2021 9:13 PM
331	More Byzantine chanting, less Westernized choral music.	3/12/2021 9:04 PM
332	More western-style music	3/12/2021 8:53 PM
333	Increase the English significantly and reduce the Greek. In large cities and large parishes that have a large ethnic population, this is not a problem. However, in small, non-growing parishes, the church will no longer be a viable organization because bringing in new parishiners and converts is practically impossible due to the Liturgy being primarily in Greek.	3/12/2021 8:48 PM
334	A Hand out that will allow me to follow along during the sermon.	3/12/2021 2:41 PM
335	n/a	3/12/2021 1:12 PM
336	More times available, less standing, more English	3/12/2021 11:26 AM
337	None I am happy with the present experience I receive at my church.	3/12/2021 10:20 AM
338	Please take the focus off of worshiping saints and keep your focus on Jesus	3/12/2021 9:08 AM
339	Stop COVID fear restrictions	3/12/2021 8:55 AM
340	Liturgy starting at 10a instead of 9a. I work nights and I live far from church.	3/12/2021 8:41 AM
341	Our chanting and choir hurts my ears. I know they try and mean well, but the talent just isn't there. I wear hearing aids and actually turn them off during much of the Liturgy.	3/12/2021 8:34 AM
342	Shorter services	3/12/2021 8:23 AM

Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Chicago Worship Engagement Survey

343	#1) Liturgy in a language I can understand. Keep services Holy and Sacred - don't let them become a spectacle. #2) Get rid of filming and cameras - but if you cannot do that then have it only for the parish and catechumens by having a password to sign in and watch. #3) Get rid of choirs and have only chanting.... and teach the laity to chant as well so the can chant along. I went to a different Orthodox parish and the whole congregation was chanting along. It was wonderful and I really felt like I was a part of the service. When I moved and went to the local the Greek church I did that when no one else did and people around me started joining in. (And some look at you like what are you doing? lol)	3/11/2021 10:28 PM
344	Having my family attend church more regularly because it is presented mostly in English.	3/11/2021 8:01 PM
345	There is inconsistency in the length of the services making me reluctant to attend on days where I have afternoon commitments. Memorials, special speakers, other events tacked on to the end of the liturgy can easily extend the time by over an hour or even more. I am uncomfortable just getting up and leaving.	3/11/2021 5:20 PM
346	Embrace and lure non-Greeks and younger generations that may not have been brought up in the Orthodox tradition and are not aware of the beauty of our religion and beliefs.	3/11/2021 4:56 PM
347	as above	3/11/2021 4:55 PM
348	Make it approachable for my family that is not orthodox	3/11/2021 4:14 PM
349	Get choirs back and lift many of the over cautious service restrictions. The churches of all denominations need to unite to save Christianity from being the worst casualty of COVID.	3/11/2021 3:58 PM
350	Maybe have what is being spoken projected in both languages so it is accessible to all people regardless of the language spoken. This will also allow better access and understanding for anyone with hearing loss.	3/11/2021 3:50 PM
351	Going back to normal	3/11/2021 3:39 PM
352	Do more to open the churches	3/11/2021 2:46 PM
353	More education	3/11/2021 2:38 PM
354	I appreciate having most of the service in English because I don't understand Greek at all, however, I do really enjoy some of the chanting being in Greek because I think it is more beautiful than when it is done in English. More educational opportunities outside of liturgy to understand what is happening in liturgy would be great too.	3/11/2021 2:21 PM
355	If church were closer to my home and services were shorter in length. Services to be offered on other days along with being held in Sundays	3/11/2021 2:16 PM
356	A way to understand and follow along in English - with maybe side notes w connections/meanings	3/11/2021 1:59 PM
357	Have the priests promote the church and get involved in local community events rather than them thinking that is not part of their job description. They always say "if someone is going to come to church they are going to come regardless if I invite them to come or get involved" etc. Have them call "lost parishioners" Get to know at minimum the local Greek businesses. Actually do classes on topics that people want to learn about and not what interests them. Spend more time to be on their local churches and less time working on Met projects when they are being paid by the local church to do local things	3/11/2021 1:34 PM
358	Stated - we must speak more English in the service.	3/11/2021 1:25 PM
359	no comment	3/11/2021 1:24 PM
360	I'm a happy Orthodox Christian, generally speaking. But would like to see fellowship, monthly coffee socials, etc. return.	3/11/2021 12:36 PM
361	For 2 thousand years the church has survived everything thrown at it. War, disease, scandal. Nobody should be surprised that when we shut down our churches *before* the government asked us to, we lost credibility and many people. Greeks are leaving and not coming back. If your faith didn't matter much to you, we just gave them a reason never to return. If your faith meant everything to you. you just exposed your lack of faith in the true church. Other Orthodox jurisdictions didn't cave and will now reap their reward. Where was the courage and faith that the sacraments of the church could heal and save us? Where were the processions? Cancel communion and confession? You cease becoming the true church. The church still exists, but	3/11/2021 12:32 PM

Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Chicago Worship Engagement Survey

not here. Where is the courage to stand up and be willing to speak the faith and risk jail?
Where are our leaders? Many people tell me now they just want to have online services.
Surprised? Comment on the music: the choirs are pretty universally horrible. Mostly very old,
very off tune.

362	Printing Orthodox Study Bible explanations in the bulletin about obscure phrases in the Epistle and Gospel. Printing proper protocol and explanations in the bulletin for upcoming services, especially during Lent. There are many services that I am not sure of their meaning/purpose or what I am supposed to do -- such as when I enter church and there are special Icons displayed.	3/11/2021 11:06 AM
363	Consider shortening the service to 1 hour. I understand this depends on the priest. Some move faster than others.	3/11/2021 11:00 AM
364	More incense in the censors, actually. I love thinking our prayers rising as incense before the throne and want to see clouds of aromatic smoke fill the altar area. I want the return of the entrance procession down the aisles	3/11/2021 10:54 AM
365	I am a recent convert, for the most part I can follow along and know where we are in the service by now, but maybe if each parish had someone who would guide visitors through the service, there's a pretty steep learning curve from Protestantism Our parish has used congregational singing which I greatly enjoy, there's a few hymns that I like more in Greek than English such as the Trisagion, but it's very hard for me to sing along with some of the less repetitive hymns if they aren't in English	3/11/2021 10:13 AM
366	More women chanting.	3/11/2021 9:52 AM
367	More english	3/11/2021 9:51 AM
368	Shorter rime of liturgy. Hard to engage for 1 1/2 hours without tuning out, especially when prayers and chanting are so monotoned.	3/11/2021 9:39 AM
369	Congregation singing with the choir.	3/11/2021 9:17 AM
370	Shorten the service. It is too long for today's modern world. Also, bring the stories to the future by making them relevant to today's world and news.	3/11/2021 9:07 AM
371	More ORTHODOXY. NO imitations of protestant or catholic heresies that FANARI leads us to.	3/11/2021 9:04 AM
372	None. The Liturgy is ancient and beautiful. It's what draws so many converts ... the authenticity and unchanging nature of it and the profound Divine nature we experience during Liturgy	3/11/2021 8:43 AM
373	I would like to see the church engage in dialog / address some of the important challenges our generation is facing like climate change, gun violence in schools, systemic racism / inclusivity, etc. Utilizing the message of the Gospel, the Saints, etc. to help guide us in navigating the challenging world we live in is important. Unfortunately it feels like the church avoids these topics and doesn't engage in them	3/11/2021 8:26 AM
374	More female involvement. I'm not advocating for ordained ministry, but deaconesses would be a good start. There are so many things that we can do to involve women/girls, and we choose not to. The Archbishop posted a video about women in the church and put us into a "philoptochos" box which is so stereotypical. What a performance he gave, and yet we applaud that nonsense? Women are doctors, lawyers, teachers, CEOs, but we promote their involvement into the only ministry for women. I was really happy to see Metropolitan Nathanael promote the Order of the Myrrhbearing Women and I look forward to what that means for women of all ages for our Metropolis. That will keep them engaged. Separately I think we need to focus on youth and elderly. Those are the two demographics that I think have been left out. What can we do to help them more? They have unique needs that need to be addressed.	3/11/2021 8:20 AM
375	Shorten services by eliminating repetition Shorter sermons Sermons that are not read	3/11/2021 7:43 AM
376	I would say less Greek speaking but then again I enjoy listening even though I don't understand it.	3/11/2021 6:44 AM
377	Use mainly English	3/11/2021 6:21 AM
378	My biggest complaint ever since converting is the total lack of musical control. As kids we learn the alphabit by song, we learn all sorts of things by song. But as a church as a whole, we don't have standard hymnology among the churches. I can't visit other churches and worship	3/10/2021 10:28 PM

Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Chicago Worship Engagement Survey

because I can't chant or sing, both because of the music and the words in the hymns. The church has been in the states for a 100 years or so, so why can't it be fixed? Outside of the music, the liturgy books are next. The church has the same issue - different translations, some include the full text so you know where you are, some skip text and then you get lost, some have the music so you can sing along, some don't have any hymns at all. If it wasn't for my wife showing me and turning the pages when text was left out, I don't know if I would have converted. Those are my biggest issues. The rest deal with the parishes I have attended that seem to let proper etiquette and good behavior go by the wayside just to please people in the hopes that they will stay in church, at the expense of those who train their families how to act (age appropriate) so as to not cause distraction.

379	Try to bring the congregation back to normalcy. It's been a toug year for everyone and so sorry people lost loved ones.	3/10/2021 9:32 PM
380	use of a cry room for children and to take care of infants. chanters who are being taught or have knowledge of Typikon and music. chanting from books, not tables/smartphones.	3/10/2021 8:46 PM
381	Since Covid having Communion administered in a more sanitary manner. Actively begin to reduce the Hellenic elements now in our church and begin to develop a more inclusive Orthodox status.	3/10/2021 8:41 PM
382	My biggest challenge is keeping my mind from wandering and thinking about other things I need to do. That is a personal issue for me and I don't think there's anything that the priest can do to change that. I also think a sermon does not need to be more than 15 minutes long. Unfortunately, we seem to have shorter and shorter attention spans, so the priest is going to lose the congregation if he speaks for too long. Additionally, and unfortunately, we live in a busy society. Families with children are involved in lots of activities. Even when we make time for church on Sunday morning, if additional services are tacked on that significantly lengthen the service, that can be a turn off for some people. It's a challenge for parents to make church a priority, so help them out when they do and don't carry on for too long.	3/10/2021 8:15 PM
383	An understanding of the diverse membership, both in backgrounds, language, commitment and experience. There are many of us who do not consider the church the end all be all word on God or life so a more inclusive attitude would be appreciated. Also attending services with a constant barrage of funding requests would be appreciated	3/10/2021 8:01 PM
384	The abulity to benerate icons and worship without masks	3/10/2021 7:45 PM
385	More explanation of the Saints celebrated and weekly services.	3/10/2021 7:26 PM
386	Hymns sung by the congregation in less minor tones so that it is more uplifting.	3/10/2021 7:24 PM
387	Have more priest like Father Sotiris Malamis	3/10/2021 6:11 PM
388	I want to learn more and more about the faith.	3/10/2021 6:10 PM
389	I'm happy and fulfilled with my worship as it is.	3/10/2021 6:09 PM
390	Better homilies, helping us implement the teachings into our daily lives . Our priests seem so sad or disappointed with their congregants, and what we want is to connect with them not only on a spiritual level but also personal. Maybe they don't have a voice in their careers?	3/10/2021 5:19 PM
391	Improved chanting in an understandable manner	3/10/2021 5:10 PM
392	More than one Liturgy. All English Liturgy.	3/10/2021 4:58 PM
393	N/a	3/10/2021 4:26 PM
394	More use of English in all faucets.	3/10/2021 4:23 PM
395	More times and Days to have mass	3/10/2021 4:16 PM
396	Stress Saints more, and their martyring, and the struggles many have had for Christianity. Do bring up discipline, sacrifice, humility, the importance of work tied to faith and giving. religion is serious work, but also provides serious strength, abilities, and help always when needed.	3/10/2021 4:16 PM
397	I would love to see more print outs of the services so that I can follow along. It might also help to have the current page number (in a service book or print out) posted somewhere at the front of the church as I lose a lot of time trying to find my place. Also, it might be cool to add in a	3/10/2021 4:15 PM

Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Chicago Worship Engagement Survey

paragraph or two about that particular service, feast or a action item in a booklet/print out of the service to help laity engage.

398	I am happy the way they are.	3/10/2021 4:09 PM
399	Open churches back up and allow for sacraments to return to normal!	3/10/2021 3:56 PM
400	Shorten services and use more English	3/10/2021 3:42 PM
401	NA	3/10/2021 3:36 PM
402	It would be nice to have a standardization of the English texts. Currently at our parish, there are 2 liturgy books that are offered for sale (because books have been removed). These books have different translations and the priest is at times using another translation. Our kids love to sing hymns at home and reenact parts of the servies and when the English versions keep changing, they learn one and then hear a different one during liturgy. Part of this is due to the constant shuffling of priests but if we had a standard English version, it would not be a problem. That brings up another issue - I think priests being moved around often is detrimental to the spiritual and financial growth of a parish. If the parish is not complaining and the priest is not complaining, I don't think there should be changes.	3/10/2021 3:30 PM
403	Make the church relatable to current world issues	3/10/2021 3:16 PM
404	None	3/10/2021 3:10 PM
405	Go to monastery	3/10/2021 1:51 PM
406	No changes necessary	3/10/2021 1:39 PM
407	I love my worship experience as it is.	3/10/2021 11:11 AM
408	Everything in English. Gospel spoken and not chanted. Later mass time. More time for fellowship with other parishioners.	3/10/2021 10:52 AM
409	Shorter sermons	3/10/2021 7:21 AM
410	A simplistic sermon. We have many educated but also many uneducated parishioners-father is challenging to follow abs comprehend.	3/9/2021 11:50 PM
411	A full choir.	3/9/2021 11:04 PM
412	Just paying better attention to the divine and inspiring words of the services.	3/9/2021 10:06 PM
413	A talented choral leader would attract more capable singers who could grow the choir hopefully to the point of the whole community. People expect music to either be good -- or over quickly. If the priest isn't a good singer -- better to pay an excellent chanter than an iffy choir.	3/9/2021 9:41 PM
414	I always feel fulfilled after I attend a church service. I love the traditions of the church and hearing the Greek language reminds me of my grandparents! I can't think of anything that I would change.	3/9/2021 9:30 PM
415	Westernize the chanting. I'm really not sure. I'm a convert and I have never felt connected to the liturgy,	3/9/2021 9:30 PM
416	Testimonials	3/9/2021 9:29 PM
417	Having the initiative to attend	3/9/2021 7:36 PM
418	Open church the way it's meant to be - free from political baggage and fear mongering	3/9/2021 6:57 PM
419	The church needs to identify how to engage the college-aged and young adults (I.e., 18-30 year olds).	3/9/2021 6:38 PM
420	Early service, mostly in English	3/9/2021 5:48 PM
421	Move to very little Greek.	3/9/2021 5:43 PM
422	More videos etc throughout the week love the Bee to Bee and three men and a Bible series	3/9/2021 5:24 PM
423	Probably none.	3/9/2021 5:17 PM
424	Rather than being a Greek community, I prefer an Orthodox community with a feeling of more acceptance of the neighborhood	3/9/2021 5:12 PM

Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Chicago Worship Engagement Survey

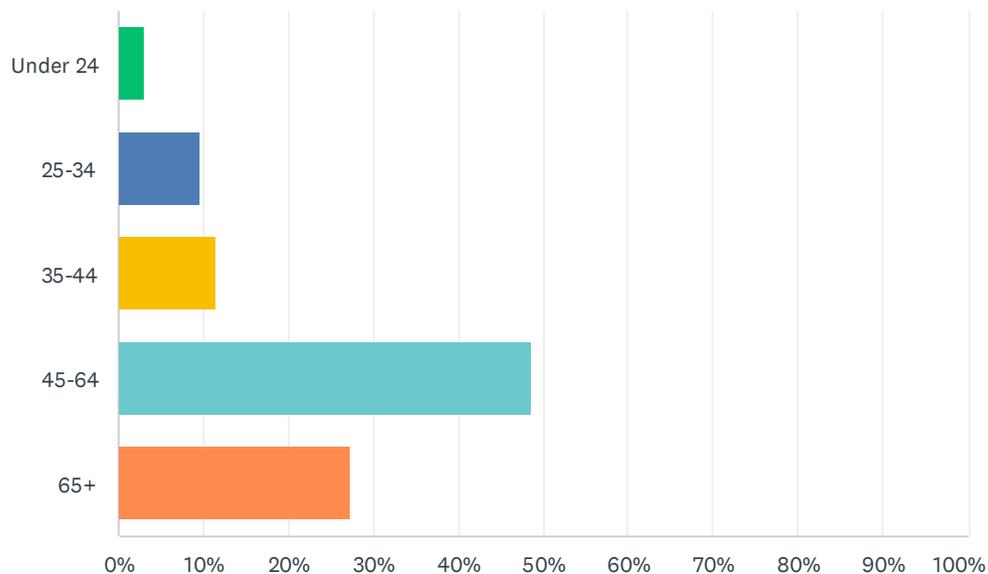
425	A choir singing hymns and response in English AND in Greek is important to me. There is no Greek used any longer in our Divine Liturgy. I miss hearing what I remember as a child when going to church with my parents and grandparents. The sound of Greek in church gives me comfort. While I understand English much better than Greek, I think responses such as Kyrie Eleison can certainly be kept. While growing up, there was little or no English in the Liturgy but I followed along in books. That learning has remained in me.	3/9/2021 5:10 PM
426	More services during the week.	3/9/2021 5:09 PM
427	Chanting in Greek	3/9/2021 5:01 PM
428	Shorten services	3/9/2021 4:58 PM
429	Focus the sermon on the gospel reading. Dispense with all the pomp and circumstance. Sing actual hymns in which the congregation can participate.	3/9/2021 4:49 PM
430	Teaching the children and the adults the symbolism, history and meaning of Orthodoxy in a very relevant and simple manner.	3/9/2021 4:34 PM
431	Create new types of hymns that lend themselves to congregational singing for some services.	3/9/2021 4:30 PM
432	Since Covid, kids are not involved at all-no alter boys, etc.	3/9/2021 4:26 PM
433	I'm generally happy with my worship experience as it is right now.	3/9/2021 4:25 PM
434	Chanting in a more energetic - lively manner. (No more Christ is risen.... that sounds like a funeral dirge)	3/9/2021 4:08 PM
435	Nothing. It is fine as is for me.	3/9/2021 3:48 PM
436	I think the service should retain some of the Greek, with more English. Greek is the language of the Bible, and our Ancient faith. Most should be English because we are in America, but parts of it should remain Greek.	3/9/2021 3:42 PM
437	Hymns and chanting in English,	3/9/2021 3:16 PM
438	It has been mentioned to me on many occasions but if church would be at different times and offered on different days and shorter that they believe more people would attend. Sitting in church I see a majority of people come in just before communion take communion set for the gospel reading leave church and feel that they attended church and be happy with that we need to take a look at this	3/9/2021 2:55 PM
439	The Church must be entirely focused on Christ, the Holy Fathers and Saints and stand apart from worldliness, temporal politics and innovation. I cannot overstate the damage being done to Greek Orthodoxy by your flirtations with the Democratic party and implimentation of COVID-19 measures. I hardly recognize the Church I was received into or the parish I once attended. They have become shadows of their former glory.	3/9/2021 1:45 PM
440	Bring back a choir. That was the most beautiful part of the services. The chanter is wonderful, but there is nothing like a full choir signing in church.	3/9/2021 1:12 PM
441	As I have repeatedly said already, DUMP THE COVID CRAP. The Apostles didn't walk in fear, and NEITHER SHOULD WE. OPEN US COMPLETELY - NO RESTRICTIONS.	3/9/2021 12:41 PM
442	Keep small children under control. Very disruptive and annoying when they are allowed to run up and down the aisles. Talking is fine, but the constant disruption has to stop. Sometimes I walk out because of the noise. Cannot hear the serice.	3/9/2021 11:30 AM
443	Please, STAY IN YOUR LANE. Do what the church is supposed to do: 1. Open and provide the FULLNESS of orthodox worship. 2. Do not discriminate against those who know that masks are harmful, and refuse to harm themselves with them. 3. Keep politics OUT of the church!	3/9/2021 11:29 AM
444	The Orthos is long so most people don't go. Although I go, it would be nice if more than 3 people were there	3/9/2021 11:23 AM
445	Shorter sermon however more engaged and relevant and uplifting like some big box churches do and have benefited with substantial transfers from the Orthodox churches Must keep parishioners engaged and hopeful so they will return often	3/9/2021 11:22 AM

Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Chicago Worship Engagement Survey

446	Chanter pronouncing Greek words properly. They should receive lessons.	3/9/2021 11:15 AM
447	More clear and modern day relevance.	3/9/2021 10:31 AM
448	Finding a way to keep traditions while making the liturgy accessible (it shouldn't be so hard to be able to figure out what the hymns of the day are). I have a masters in music education but I still am lost when it comes to music in the church. Music, ability to use very basic instruments in worship, accessible language, etc. would be very helpful. Also, just making it so anyone could follow along with a basic understanding of Christianity. There are still so many things I don't understand after 11 years. I'm raising my almost 7yr old in the church but went through a horrible divorce so I can only take him every other week. Additionally, I don't want to have to pay such a high fee to get a divorce in the church. My ex husband and I were married in the church. He cheated on me and I feel like the high fee is an additional burden. Either require the party in the wrong to pay but allow innocent parties to maintain good standing in the church.	3/9/2021 9:31 AM
449	The priest can do a sermon on the symbolism And tradition of the church but, should also increase the emphasis on the New Testament and Christ teachings. Relate his teaching to our life and relationships with our fellow humans.	3/9/2021 9:29 AM
450	End the Covid 19 restrictions	3/9/2021 9:04 AM
451	Lessons on chanting. Our chantors aren't the best and one of our chantors rushes through a number of her prayers/chants and it ruins the experience. I know they're trying but some direction may improve what they give us.	3/9/2021 9:01 AM
452	Getting baptized so we can participate in the sacraments :) I do feel like the process to prepare families for baptism could be standardized. From a newcomers perspective - it seems like an ambiguous process, but I trust the church - so maybe this is how it is.	3/9/2021 8:58 AM
453	move away from distributing communion through community spoon/chalice. Sanitary concerns prevent me from taking communion as often as I would like.	3/9/2021 8:41 AM
454	Having the Greek Orthodox church make it relatable to the 21st century. Removal of any clergy who do not remain neutral politically such as the current Archbishop (Epidophoros).	3/9/2021 8:21 AM
455	Definitely the use of mostly all English. Getting rid of the Cantors. Having sermons relate to today. Quit quoting the ancients. Having more participation from the congregants.	3/9/2021 6:55 AM
456	Having attendance restrictions removed.	3/9/2021 12:45 AM
457	shorter services	3/8/2021 9:24 PM
458	If hymns are sung or chanted in English that the same translation is used by the choir, chanters and the congregation.	3/8/2021 8:59 PM
459	I'm ok with the worship experience.	3/8/2021 5:23 PM
460	Making the liturgy easier to understand, a way to incorporate more English	3/8/2021 4:56 PM
461	Have a breakdown of the service available to read	3/8/2021 4:04 PM
462	None	3/8/2021 4:03 PM
463	I would like our choir back. Also, I like the chanting but not when it is dragged out.	3/8/2021 3:56 PM
464	Look at overall trends of each parish, not a blanket survey	3/8/2021 2:03 PM
465	getting rid of these silly surveys	3/8/2021 12:30 PM
466	Chanting, English, Length of service	3/7/2021 9:35 PM
467	More English in the service and less Byzantine chant	3/7/2021 8:48 PM

Q12 What is your age?

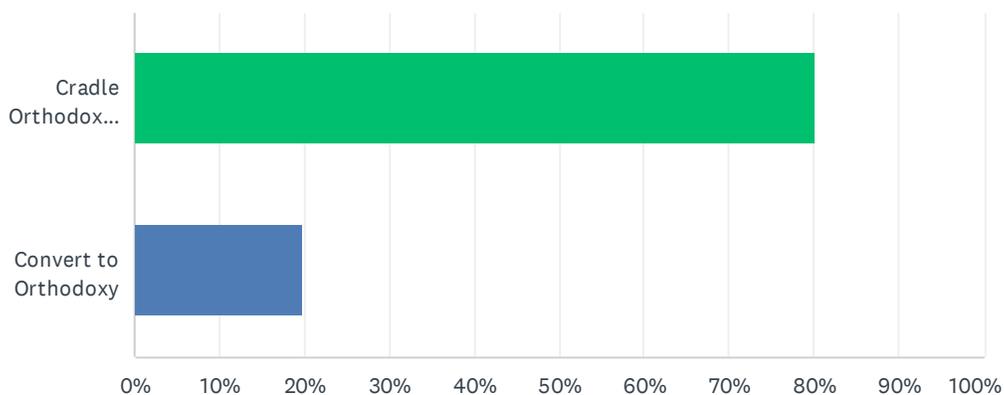
Answered: 727 Skipped: 14



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Under 24	3.03%	22
25-34	9.49%	69
35-44	11.55%	84
45-64	48.56%	353
65+	27.37%	199
TOTAL		727

Q13 Are you a Cradle Orthodox Christian or a Convert?

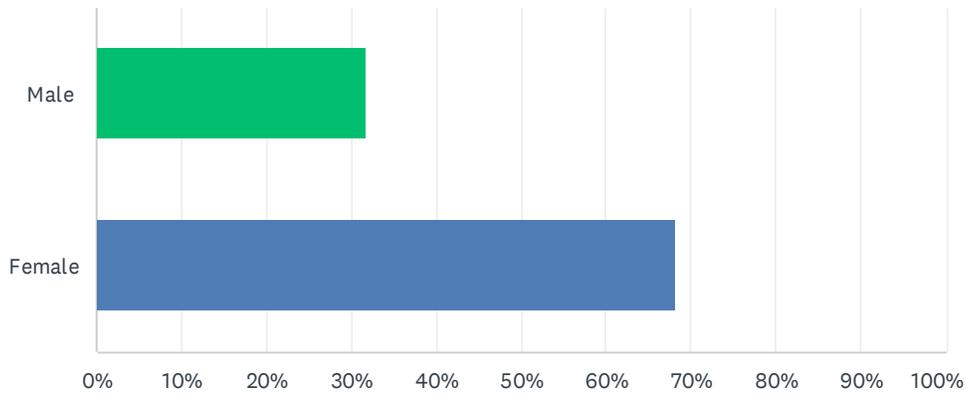
Answered: 718 Skipped: 23



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Cradle Orthodox Christian	80.22%	576
Convert to Orthodoxy	19.78%	142
TOTAL		718

Q14 Gender

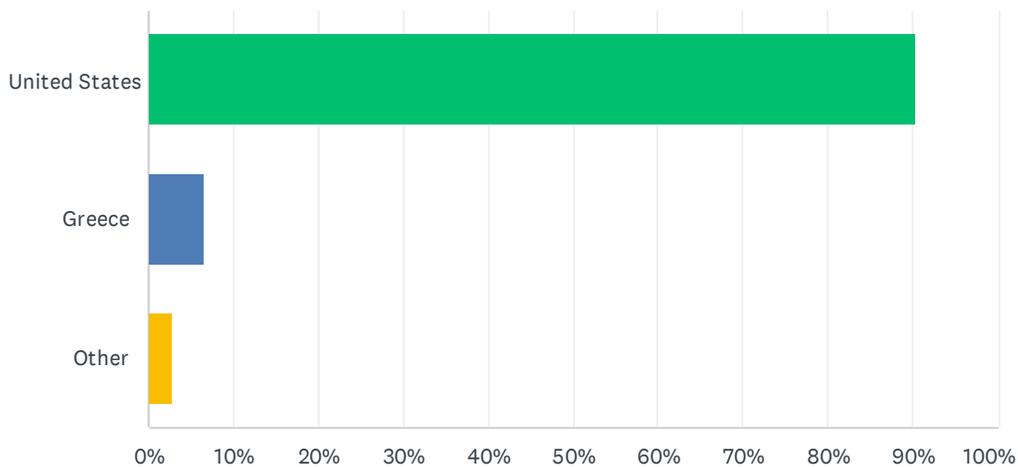
Answered: 720 Skipped: 21



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Male	31.67%	228
Female	68.33%	492
TOTAL		720

Q15 Country of birth?

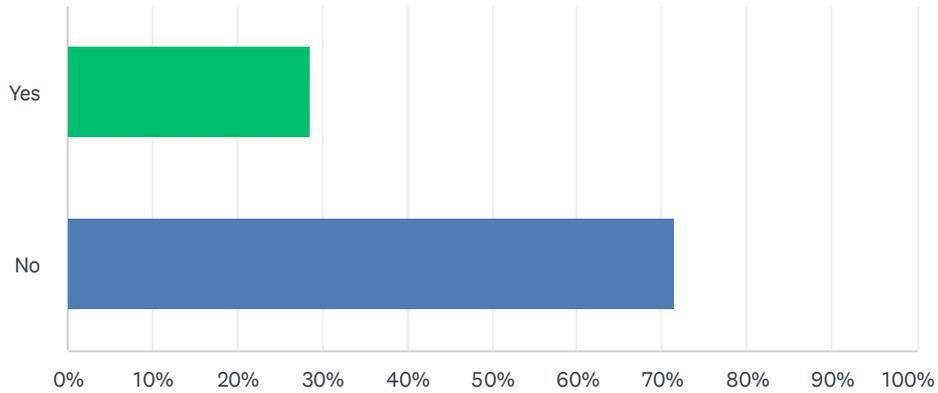
Answered: 730 Skipped: 11



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
United States	90.41% 660
Greece	6.71% 49
Other	2.88% 21
TOTAL	730

Q16 Are you a parent or guardian of a child/children (under the age of 18) living in your household?

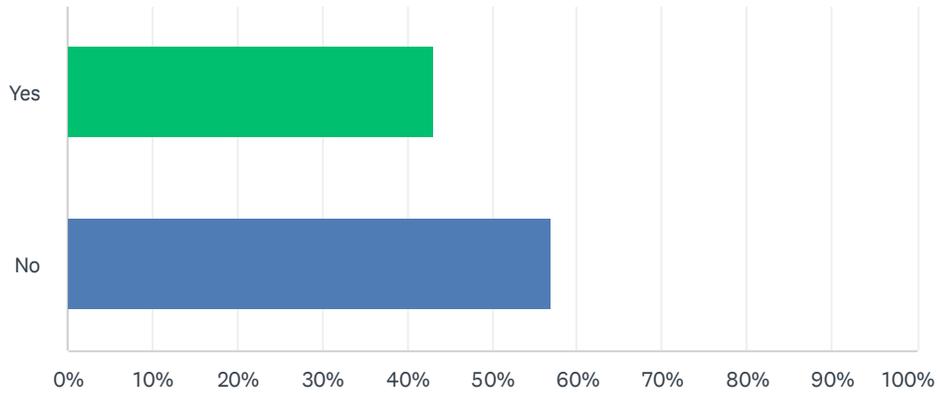
Answered: 730 Skipped: 11



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	28.63%	209
No	71.37%	521
TOTAL		730

Q17 Would you be willing to receive a call from one of our committee members to discuss your answers?

Answered: 723 Skipped: 18



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	43.02%	311
No	56.98%	412
TOTAL		723

Q18 Name and Contact Information (Optional)

Answered: 319 Skipped: 422

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Name	98.12%	313
Company	0.00%	0
Address	0.00%	0
Address 2	0.00%	0
City/Town	0.00%	0
State/Province	0.00%	0
ZIP/Postal Code	0.00%	0
Country	0.00%	0
Email Address	94.04%	300
Phone Number	91.85%	293