

# Parish Mission Feedback

**Program Title:** *Fulfilling our Destiny: Theosis, Pope Francis, and the Jubilee of Mercy*

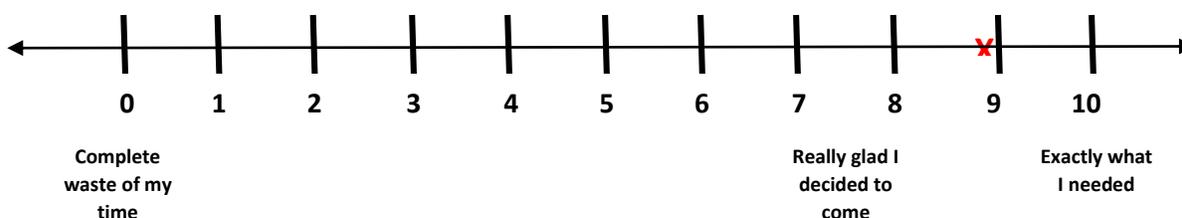
**Date and Location:** January 22-23, 2016 (St. Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Church)

**Primary Presenter(s):** Fr. Deacon Edward Kleinguetl

*In order to prepare relevant programs in the future, please take some time to provide candid feedback to our 2016 Pre-Lenten Parish Mission. All information will be kept confidential and is intended for planning purposes only.*

## Overall Impression Regarding the Parish Mission:

1. On a 0-10 scale, please rate your overall reactions to this Parish Mission.



<b>Total Attendees:</b>	<b>Friday: 48</b>	<b>Saturday: 49</b>		
<b>Responses: 37</b>		<b>6.0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8.5</b>
<b>Average:</b>	<b>8.38</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>9.0</b>
<b>Low:</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>10.0</b>
<b>High</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>9</b>	
<b>Median:</b>	<b>9.0</b>			

2. Please explain the reason for your rating.

Jesus Prayer	23	
Self-examination/reflections	8	("unjudged self-reflection" = 1)
Content/Presentation	3	
The Journey (of Theosis) / Tools	2	
Focus on repentance and humility	1	

### Selected comments

*"Lately I have fallen away from my daily prayer life. I did not have a holy Christmas. It was caught up in the hustle and bustle of season and ignored the holiness of the season. I greatly needed a kick in the pants to get back on the right track."*

*"I needed a boost in my faith life and this hit the spot."*

*"My heart has needed stirring up to repentance and remembering God's forgiveness as we forgive others."*

*"Affirmation in my own journey. A wonderful, well-explained, executed presentation that everyone needs to hear – more than once."*

*"I learned so much about God and His plan for my life, and the Jesus Prayer, and how to pray today while I was here."*

*"I never tried the Jesus Prayer like we did and found it very fulfilling."*

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR CANDID FEEDBACK!**

*"Challenged me spiritually."*

*"It was a good opportunity for me to evaluate where I am on the spiritual journey."*

*"I've been a superficial 'believer' for a while. It's time to dig in and restore what's inside me – the gifts He has given me."*

*"Very applicable information, encouraging and inspiring."*

*"The issues I'm dealing with in my life and the timing of this retreat is uncanny."*

*"The information presented was uplifting and clear with tools and directions."*

*"So many parts were so applicable to my journey."*

*"Touched on some things that I've never taken the time to think about before – great to spend a day with parish family to think about my own purpose and meaning."*

*"It (the retreat) helped me be closer to God."*

*"Professionally put together. Well supported, not too long. Q&A was great, reflection time was good."*

*"The retreat was very well organized, both for the spiritual needs that were fed as well as physical needs."*

### **Thoughts on the Parish Mission Content:**

#### **1. What did you liked best or the high point of this Parish Mission?**

Jesus Prayer	16
Silent reflection.	11
Video	6
The presentation	2
Preparing for the Great Fast	1
Reflections on humility	1

*"People were moved by the mission. Those who attended were still talking about their experiences during lunch and discussing personal reflections on theosis."*

*I ordinarily don't like reflective questions but I did them and found them helpful—especially after the talk."*

*"The talks, but Q&A was good too. His ability to answer questions was superb."*

*"Talks well prepared; the reflection questions help personalize the talks."*

*"Hearing the parables and other background information."*

*"Jesus Prayer video was great."*

#### **2. List some of the positive experiences you had?**

Sharing with others/same journey	7	(Like presentations in church, breaks in hall = 1)
Jesus Prayer	7	
Asking questions/dialogue	2	
Better understanding of mercy	1	
Inspired to improve what I learned	1	
Liturgy	1	
Good Food	1	

*"I think I am starting to understand where I am going in my faith journey."*

*"I had several eye-opening experiences. One is love and acceptance of neighbor."*

*"I was brought back to reality....my problems are from my bad behavior and lack of closeness to Our Lord, not from other people giving me a hard time."*

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR CANDID FEEDBACK!**

**3. What areas could we improve for future programs of a similar nature?**

- Lengthen the breaks – 10 minutes too short. 8x
- Would prefer small group discussions. 3x
- Emphasize “the Church is our children’s future.”
- Microphone for Q&A (vs. repeating the question).
- More handouts. Bring the language down so beginners can understand.
- Temperature in church could have been slightly cooler in the afternoon.

**Thoughts on the Parish Mission Presenter**

**1. What did you like best about the presenter?**

- Ease of understanding 9x
- Knowledgeable 6x
- Well prepared; great ability to answer questions. 5x

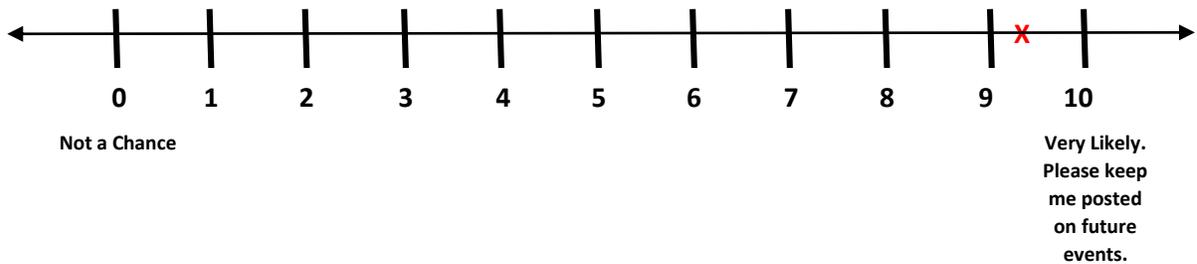
Could cite many related sources and used multiple examples to reinforce issue.  
 Excellent speaker, experienced, followed program, knowledgeable, enthusiastic, humble, patient.  
 Was not boring and he presented good talks. Easy to listen to.  
 Very knowledgeable. Answered all questions without hesitation.  
 Very down to earth. Not too academic. Approachable.  
 Great eye contact; believed in everything.  
 Organization of materials; conference really flowed into each other.  
 Well-grounded in the Church Fathers. Has a true love of the Eastern Church.  
 Understood the day-to-day struggles of the common person and how the Gospel helped him.

**2. How could the presenter improve?**

- Presenter could be slightly more interesting.
- Perhaps pass out notes. (Note: Will be posted to parish website.)
- Move around a bit.

**My Likelihood of Attending a Future parish event of a similar nature**

**1. On a 0-10 scale, please tell us your likelihood of attending a future Day of Reflection**



<b>Responses:</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Average:</b>	<b>9.38</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Low:</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>1</b>		
<b>High</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>5</b>		
<b>Median:</b>	<b>10.0</b>				

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR CANDID FEEDBACK!**

2. **What is the best time of year for a Day of Reflection? Did you like having a program in Lent or before?**
- |                  |    |
|------------------|----|
| Before Lent      | 19 |
| Either           | 9  |
| Before Christmas | 1  |

### Next Steps: Follow-up to this Parish Mission Experience

1. **What would you like to see as a follow-up to this Parish Mission experience (i.e., next steps)?**

Multi-parish mission.

More programs to live out the Mission of Christ's Church.

Watch the rest of the video (*The Mysteries of the Jesus Prayer*). 4x

Prayer and spiritual reading group.

Movie about Mother Teresa.

"Follow-up with those who could not be here about this amazing experience. Encourage others to watch the videos."

2. **What other recommendations do you have?**

Faith sharing groups/ discussion groups 7 (After Liturgy = 1)

### Looking to the Future

1. **There are essentially two parish mission formats: (1) Friday-Evening and Saturday all day (like this mission) and (2) a mission beginning on Sunday with Divine Liturgy and spread over multiple evenings (e.g., a conference each evening). There are trade-offs associated with each. In the future, which format would you prefer? What would work best for you personally? Why?**

Friday evening and Saturday 23

Mission beginning Sunday and spread over multiple evenings 2

Saturday only 1

Sunday only 1

Suggested: One final opportunity for group sharing after Saturday liturgy.

2. **Are there any specific themes you would like us to consider for a future Retreat, Mission, or Day of Reflection?**

Consider *The Mountain of Silence*, "Unwrapping the gift" to family, self, and others (Kyriokos is the author).

Discovering the true presence of Christ in the Eucharist.

*The Ladder of Divine Ascent*.

Papal encyclicals.

Importance of Confession.

Developing "interior monasticism."

Theotokos.

Holy Spirit.

The Saints – their lives and troubles that are similar to ours today.

Attention to prayer as a family and teaching children the art of prayer.

Explanation of our Eastern Church (history, tradition).

Teaching on humility.

Fasting – how and when

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