

STRENGTHS

34 - STRONG CLERGY LEADERSHIP - leadership by Parish priests; two great priest; strong progression and succession plan for our priests; our priests; Knowing spiritual guidance from Fr. Costa; Father Cost; Father Demetri; Father Demetri & Father Costa; history of leadership in our community; our priests and presvyteras; two wonderful priests who serve the Parish with love.; Two priests that are amazing and are willing to put forth what is necessary; our parish priests;; clergy;; We are blessed with 2 wonderful priests and presbyteres; Blessed with 2 wonderful Parish Priests; The priests at our Church are amazing in teaching the faith; excellent priests; two priests we adore; spiritual guidance; our priests; approachable clergy; Two committed and accessible priests; extremely strong spiritual leader Father Kosta; fresh new young spiritual leader Father Demetri; the want by our church leadership to understand the concerns of our community; good priests to serve our needs; combined efforts of our local and site clergy to lead us to worship; in conjunction with item 1 the initiation of a clergy succession plan for St. Demetrios; Father costa provides strong leadership; solid clergy; priests that genuinely care; leadership of Fr Costa with experience how to lead and work with community; 2 great Priests loved and spiritually guiding us.

34 - WELL-ROUNDED CLOSE COMMUNITY - well-rounded congregation; Large group of intelligent and talented parishioners; people of many talents; hardworking people; people with many talents; hardworking people; diversity among parishioners; Well educated parishioners; parishioners with a variety of knowledge and ability; St. Demetrios has a strong core of parish member who run the most important aspects of the business of the Church including Fish Fry's, Festivals, Rentals, etc; St. Demetrios has a strong core of parish member who run the most important aspects of the business of the Church, including Fish Fry's, Festivals, Rentals, etc,; very successful parishioners; diversity; uniqueness, similar and share values; mix of young families with wise elders; supportive parishioners during hardship; generous parishioners; We come together when there is need; generous donors; Our parish is extremely close and generous with one another; tight-knit community who love their culture; strong parishioner support,; we have a core group of dedicated and hardworking parishioners; hardworking people of our Parish; we bond together when in need; hardworking parish for the good of the church; parishioner job or career diversity; People; wonderful personalities; amount of education of parishioners; Wealth of knowledge of professions and industries and needs of church; Community love for one another in times of need; accept all people and great diversity; passionate community.

25 - STRONG HISTORY AND TRADITIONS - history of our St Demetrios heritage is viewed positively; our history; longevity and strong values and traditions; Culture; forefathers knowledge of our parish; heritage; maintaining traditions and culture to keep us a "close" community that values each other; traditions; culture; history within community of leaders who have led; Strong will to hold on to tradition/culture throughout generations; longevity as a parish; staple of warren community; Strong with traditions; Strong love for culture that blooms parallel to Orthodoxy (pageantry and ministry); longstanding history; our traditions; love of heritage; traditions and customs; a centennial church; culture; strong sense of tradition; respect for the historical fabric of the church; rich history and lineage; tradition and culture,

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19 - VALUABLE REAL ESTATE AND FACILITIES - multiple areas of growth available on Atlantic Street; church property on Atlantic; church property on Atlantic; beautiful church; 55 acres of land; event center; beautiful youth center; beautiful property with much potential for growth; our infrastructure; No debt on the infrastructure; beautiful place of worship; We have the most beautiful Church and Community Center that are paid for; beautiful church space; 55 acres of property ready to develop; acreages of land we own to build new church and community center; beautiful state of the art facilities; beautiful church and community center; a beautiful church; Beautiful church and community center and 50 acres.

17 - ORTHODOX FAITH - love of God, Church and Community; Love of the Orthodox religion (faith); Our faith in God; our religion; faith,; Steadfast in our faith; love for Christ,; Our parish possess a uniquely strong faith; strong belief in Christ; the Holy mysteries; enriching Bible studies; beautiful service; active liturgical life,; message of hope through service and communion; vibrant liturgical life; beautiful services; faith.

16 - LOCAL WARREN COMMUNITY - strong love for the Warren community; hardworking community; hardworking community; community cares about the future of the church; I came to this community after I was married and always admired the love our community had for our church; community; community; bringing the community together, and bringing new ideas to keep our parishioners engaged with our faith; The priests at our Church are amazing in teaching the faith, bringing the community together, and bringing new ideas to keep our parishioners engaged with our faith; sense of community; strong connections and support; community familiar with our church; we consistently minister to the needy in both our church community and the community at large; Love of community,; numerous young adults living or working in the Warren area; commuter college students.

16 - FUNDRAISERS - Fundraising; parishioners come together for major fundraisers; excellent Greek festival; fundraisers with great cooks; one of the biggest best Greek festivals in the state; annual festival; a very education successful parishioners; our annual festival and fish fry; support of church through monetary donations; the best Greek festival in the tri-state area; strong Greek festival and fish fry; we have done well raising money and investing funds for future growth; we have a wonderful family centered festival; One of the best Greek festivals in the nation; financial strength; No debt.

15 - YOUTH MINISTRIES - youth and young families; active in growing GOYA; GOYA enjoy programs; revival of youth programs; children involvement; merging younger generation; intense love for the Greek culture among the youth; recent investment into our youth with the hiring of clergy; we have a good scholarship program; more younger children in church; new programs for children; growth in GOYA; young adult and children's educational programs; GOYA; SOS Youth programs on Saturday learning (super orthodox Saturdays).

12 - ENDOWMENT FUND - financial strength; large endowment fund; new people coming in through marriage; endowment fund; Fortunate to have money set aside to make improvements; endowment fund; the funds we have available; strong endowment; a healthy endowment fund; we have an endowment for repairs; large endowment fund; good endowment fund.

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11 - CHURCH MINISTRIES - strong Parish organizations; SOS; Increase in programs that keep families engaged; organizations; programs the priests are offering; such as Bible study, catechism, SOS, our church organizations; programs for the youth and adults; we have an ongoing adult; Strong organizations like Philoptochos and Goya; additional ministries.

9 - VOLUNTEERISM - dedicated core group of volunteers; passionate and growing number of altar servers; People who are willing not only to work but to donate financially; many committed volunteers; sense of service to the Church; volunteerism; people willing to help when asked; come together when it's really needed; High participation rates despite opposing difference.

8 - LARGE PARISH SIZE - over 500 families; large community of Orthodox Christians; large community with many strength; Blessed with large community of people who are willing to help; well established and sizable Greek community; large Greek community; large member population; large amount of families.

7 - FAMILY ORIENTED - longstanding family roots; parish longevity; family unity; strong family history; retention of parishioners throughout generations; despite low attendance the St Demetrios family has a loyal following; young families.

6 - GREEK PRIDE - Love for Greek culture; sense of pride; philotemo; love for Greek heritage; our pride to say "We are Greek Orthodox"; common nationality.

4 - USE OF TECHNOLOGY - live Facebook liturgy; new weekly Church email updates; new website; access to online services.

4 - OPEN TO POTENTIAL GROWTH - potential to grow; willingness to work with Bill Marianes to improve our Parish; Community members that want to see the church grow and thrive; growth.

4 - NEW MEMBERS / CONVERTS - new people coming in through marriage; new people coming in through marriage; Gaining members that are converts; People marrying into our faith

3 - GOOD CANTOR – good cantor; great cantor service; Great Psaltis

2 - OFFICE STAFF - loving and knowledgeable Secretary; knowledge and dedicated office staff.

2 - BOOKSTORE - new bookstore; new gift shop.

ONE-OFFS:

~Joy;

~very good food;

~gratitude for USA;

~minutes of prior church board meetings items discussed but not yet acted on;

T~he gas well;

~commitment to gathering in God's house; our clergy, strong history, successful fundraisers;

~respect for clergy, elders and family;

~religiously committed older members;

STRENGTHS

- ~I have no additional feedback to provide regarding parish strengths beyond what was already captured during the Community Open Forum event on 8/29/23;
- ~we work together even if we disagree on how to get it done;
- ~ having events to learn our Orthodox faith;
- ~ Considered and implement a succession plan
- ~ Love
- ~ Compassion