

INTERNAL STRENGTHS

15 - WELCOMING COMMUNITY - We have a coffee hour to get to know our parish members; Welcoming congregation; Welcoming parish; Welcoming Culture: We have a steady stream of new people who wander in for the liturgy on Sunday morning and who stay for coffee hour afterward, and we do a pretty good job of welcoming them and being genuinely friendly and interested in them. Shane Rivers, Brittany Beckett, and Martin Ross deserve particular call-outs for doing an outstanding job in this regard. Because we are friendly and welcoming to newcomers, many of them return, and several of them have been baptized and/or chrismated and/or have joined our parish; Friendly and welcoming community- we've made large strides with the Welcome Ministry in providing a good welcome to visitors, as evidenced by testimony I've heard from many visitors; Our congregation is welcoming to visitors; welcoming community; Our congregation feels like family; Our church has truly worked to grow and support the youth programs for our children. Matthew has done a wonderful job developing the Sunday School program. Likewise, Michael James has been a fantastic role model for the boys serving in the Altar and we hope that whoever takes his place as lead in the Altar continues to do this as well. It is also refreshing to see that the young girls in our church have been welcomed and included to participate in serving during Liturgy as well; Our church continues to welcome new parishioners to the community and the greeters in the Narthex consistently help them to feel at ease during the Liturgy. Likewise, Father Sarantis is very welcoming to visitors and makes a point of recognizing them and speaking with them following the Liturgy; New attendees are warmly welcomed at the end of service; We are very welcoming to visitors in our community. Many people will approach new people at coffee hour and we also allow new children to visit our Sunday School classes when they are in attendance; Very welcoming and hospitable community; friendly welcoming community; Great feedback about how welcoming the parish is and they are trying to improve; The Narthex Committee is also wonderful. It's so nice to be greeted with a warm smile as you enter church.

9 - YOUTH MINISTRIES - Very active youth ministry/program (and growing); Sr. altar team guiding altar boys; Strong youth director; Many children: Our parish is blessed with many children, in a wide distribution of ages from older teenagers to infants. They are our future; Recently, cleaning crew personnel exposed to our youth during dance practice smelled of marijuana; Our youth program has grown tremendously in the past few years and provides opportunities through Sunday School, Greek Dance, GOYA, youth events, etc. for the children to form relationships and be involved in the life of the church; Senior acolytes and altar boy team are good mentors for young one; Strong Sunday school participation; Amount of young children in church and Sunday school; strong Sunday school participation;

8 - DIVERSE COMMUNITY & CULTURE - Pan Orthodox community; We are a community of seekers wanting to learn more and grow; Close-knit community with strong cultural heritage; Parish is rooted with some of the original families; Parish has strong connection to the area; Very ethnically diverse parish; Large convert presence in church know; very diverse community culturally and ethnically;

6 - ORTHODOXY - Rich liturgical tradition (Christ-centered); Our Liturgy isn't overly long: Don't laugh, we've been to Orthodox liturgies where nothing is abbreviated and it just goes on and on. Ours is better; Faithfulness: We have a solid core of faithful parishioners who come to the divine liturgy every Sunday and who faithfully participate in the major fasts and feasts. We also have a core of parishioners who repeatedly donate their time, talent, and treasure to evangelism and almsgiving; Has the truth and body of Christ; More spiritual growth through shared faith and practices; Strong faith and Orthodox traditions are maintained.

6 - DEDICATED PARISHIONERS & VOLUNTEERS - Dedicated parishioners – we have parishioners that have dedicated blood (sometimes literally), sweat, and likely even tears to serve our Parish. Whether it be helping for events, assisting with maintenance around the church, etc. We need more parishioners like these people (as addressed in weaknesses); Everyone works so hard; Parishioners are dedicated and volunteer their time generously; Very hard working people; Really good and genuine loving people at the parish; dedicated and hard working parishioners who put in a lot of blood sweat and tears;

4 - PHILANTHROPY & OUTREACH - Community outreach/engagement; Philanthropy activities; The Ladies Philoptochos consistently strives to assist those in our community through their numerous ministry projects. Their philanthropic dedication is truly admirable; We have an excellent

INTERNAL STRENGTHS

Philoptochos President, board, and members. They all work hard to serve our church and the community with needs (food, money for charities, school supplies, etc.).

3 – CLERGY LEADERSHIP - Father Sarantis; good priest; great priest;

3 – LAY LEADERSHIP - Leadership; We have a wonderful Parish Council team; make quick decision on big questions at times;

2 – USE OF ENGLISH - high percentage use of English in divine liturgy; English language usage who can understand;

ONEOFFS

- Communications, love each other, know each other, help each other meet new parishioners;
- A lot of improvements through all key aspects;
- Lot of historical knowledge in parishioners;
- Great physical location in the city;
- Good men's group active and well attended at least monthly;
- Increased costs for repairs, replacement equipment, and labor;