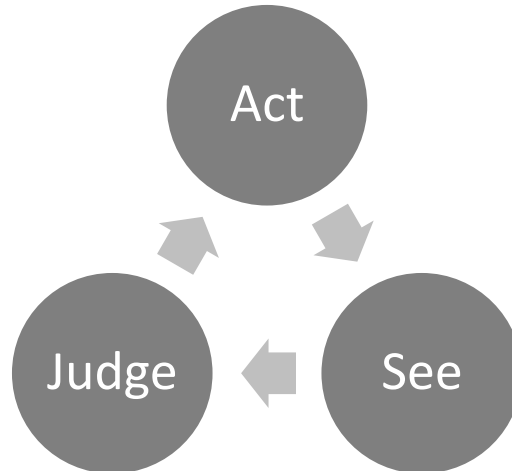


Process for Parish Consultation

One way of making decisions is to use a three point circle of decision making. The three points of the circle are: See, Judge and Act.



- The first stopping point on the circle is to see our reality. It involves looking at who we are, what we are doing, when and how we are doing it. In our situation it involves an accounting of what is involved in accomplishing the mission and ministry of Jesus in the Blessed John Paul II Area Faith Community and in each of its parishes.
- The second stopping point on the circle is to evaluate our reality in the light of our mission statement:

The Catholic faithful of the Blessed John Paul II Area Faith Community are called to share in Christ's priestly, prophetic and kingly ministries. Formed by the Eucharist and prayer we become heralds of the truth of Jesus Christ, and through our faithful service we transform the face of the earth.

And in the spirit of our philosophy statement:

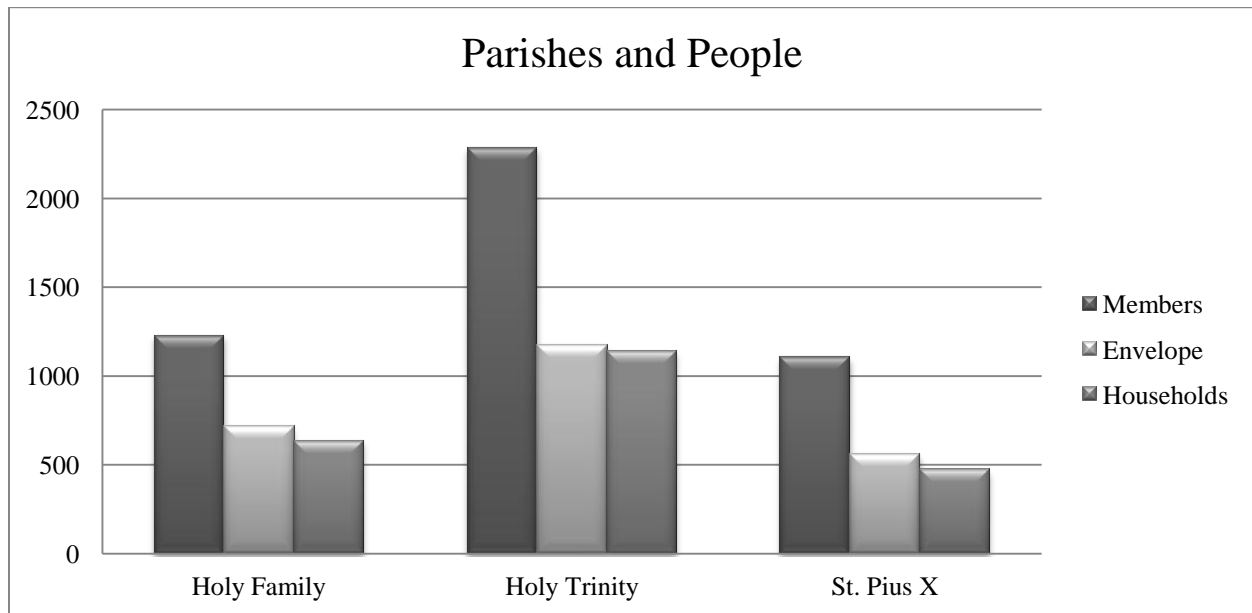
We share in Christ's priestly ministry through prayer, worship, and celebration of the sacraments, finding its clearest expression in the Holy Eucharist. Our active and conscious participation in the life of the Church conform us to the image Christ. Our share in Christ's prophetic ministry invites others to know and love God, to understand the treasures of our faith and to witness them as faithful disciples. Our dedication to the prophetic ministries of Jesus take concrete form in a commitment to catholic schools, religious education of our young people, and opportunities for people of all ages to grow in their understanding of the mysteries of faith. We share in Christ's kingly ministries through dedication to selfless service in his name. Charity, sacrifice, and self-discipline guide us in the paths of holiness and justice, and unite us in the sacrifice of Christ.

- The Final stopping point on our circle is to act in accord with the reality and judgment of that reality that we have made.



The John Paul II Area Faith Community, its Parishes and People

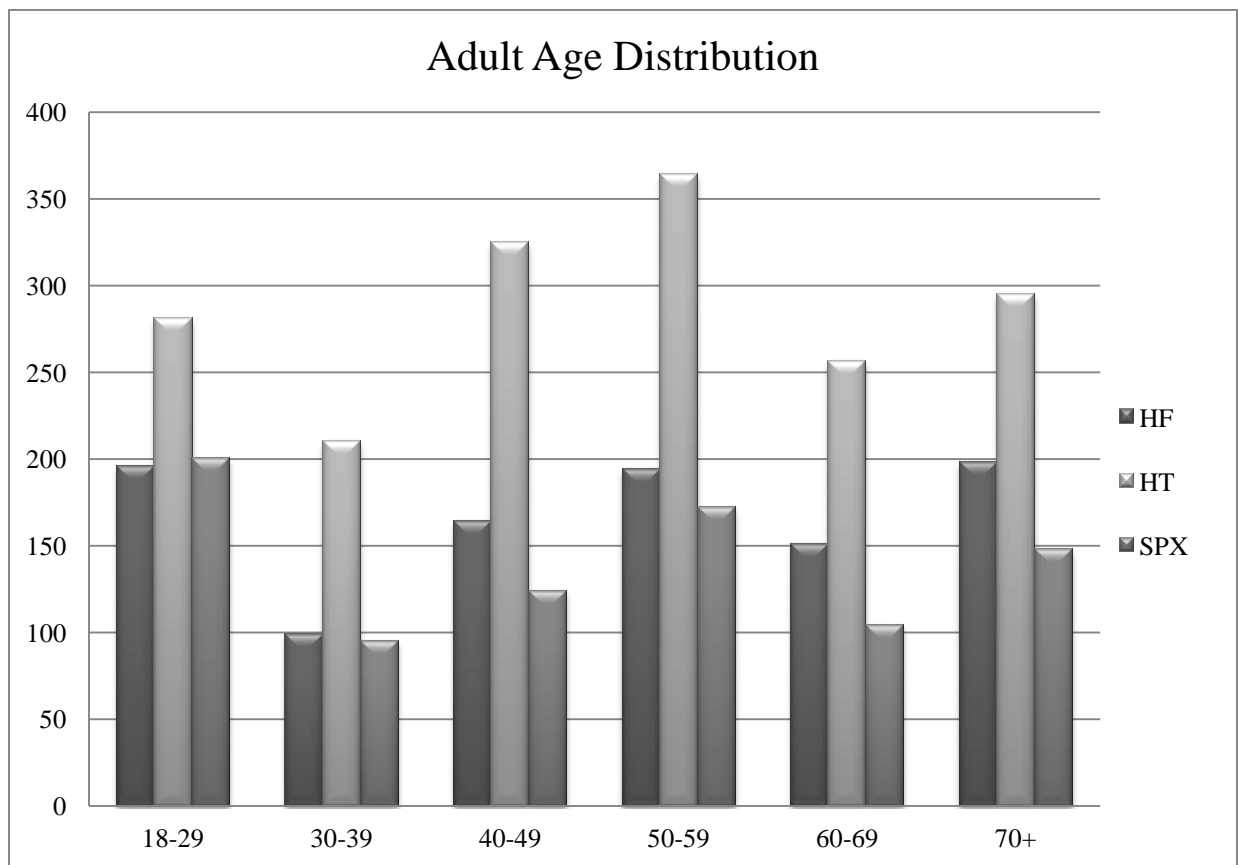
Parish	Members	Percent	Adult Envelope Holders	Households	Members Per Household
Holy Family	1225	26%	713	637	1.92
Holy Trinity	2284	50%	1176	1237	1.85
St. Pius X	1103	24%	558	470	2.35
Totals	4612	100%	2447	2432	1.90



These numbers do not include members who are inactive or other Catholics who are not registered as members of our parishes, but who are our responsibility. In discussions with the priests of our AFC, we believe that this number would probably include 1000 to 2000 more people. One large uncounted, unregistered but very active and organized part of our community is the Spanish-speaking members of St. Pius X.

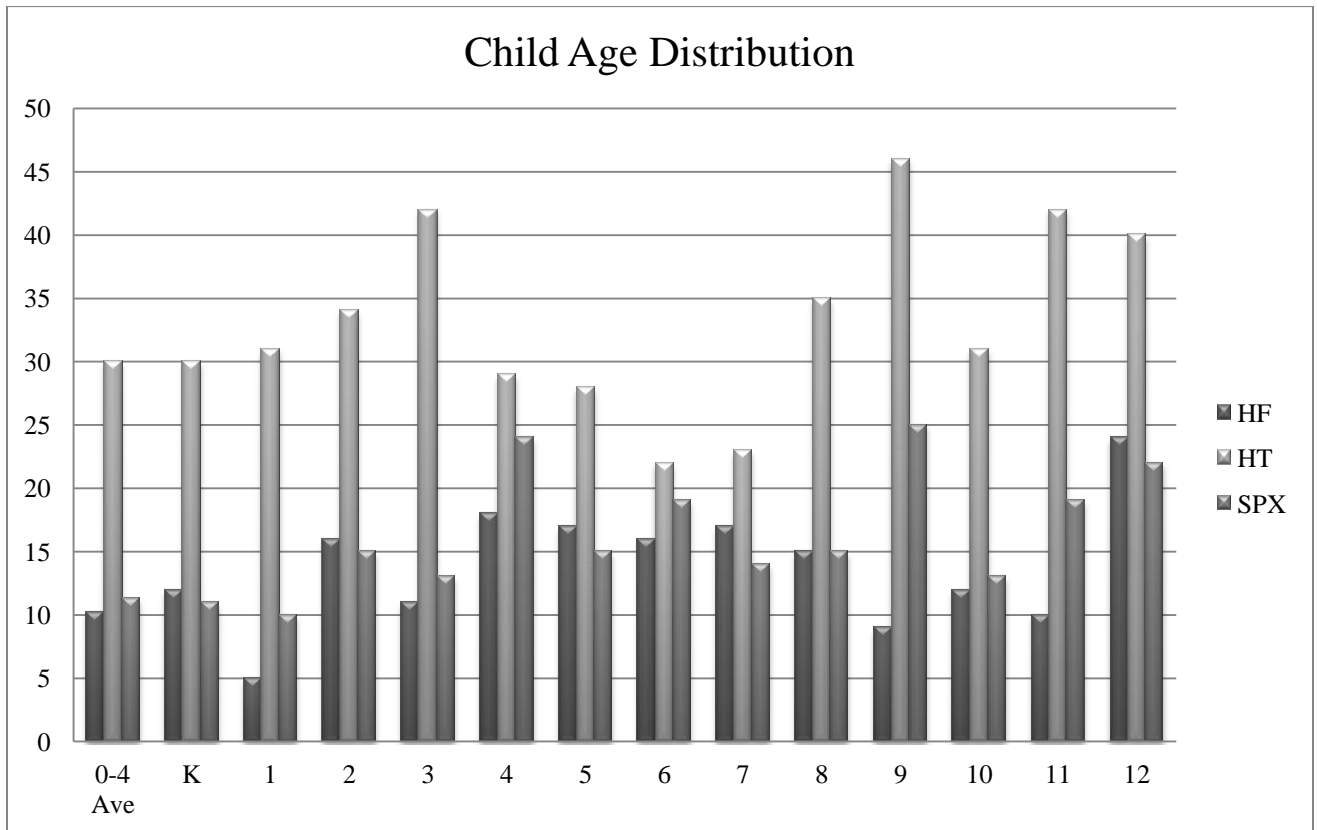
Adult Age Distribution

Parish	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70+
Holy Family	196	99	164	194	151	198
Holy Trinity	281	210	325	364	256	295
St. Pius X	200	95	124	172	104	148
Totals	677	404	613	730	511	641



Child Age Distribution

Parish	0-P	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Holy Family	41	12	5	16	11	18	17	16	17	15	9	12	10	24
Holy Trinity	120	30	31	34	42	29	28	22	23	35	46	31	42	40
St. Pius X	45	11	10	15	13	24	15	19	14	15	25	13	19	22

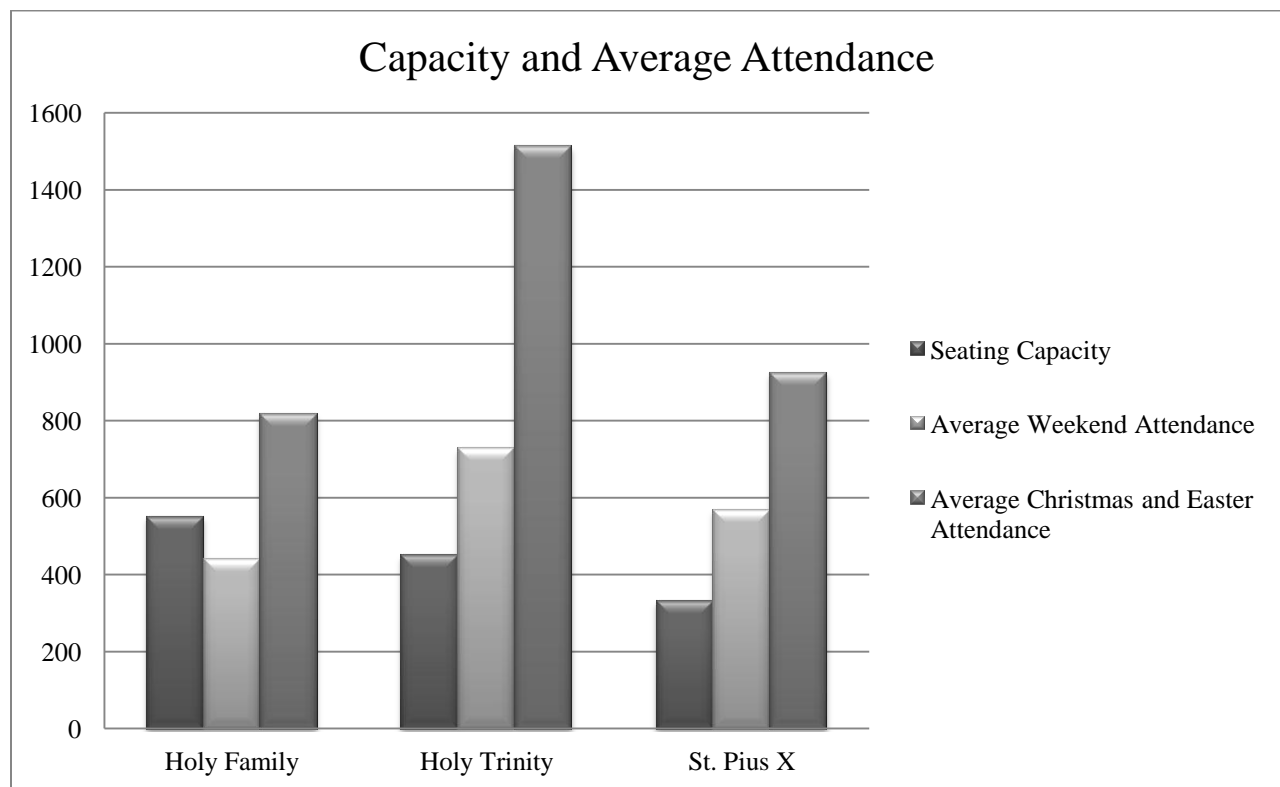


Church Seating Capacity and Average Attendance

Our three parishes are blessed with beautiful and well-maintained churches. At this time all three parishes' worship spaces are completely accessible to people with physical limitations. Holy Family and St. Pius X are completely accessible at all levels, and Holy Trinity is very near to completing a project that will make all levels of the church accessible.

The churches of our AFC vary in size and seating capacity. We calculate the seating capacity of each church as follows:

Parish	Seating Capacity	Average Weekend Attendance without Easter and Christmas	Average Christmas and Easter Attendance
Holy Family	550	441	818
Holy Trinity	450	728	1512
St. Pius X	330	568	925

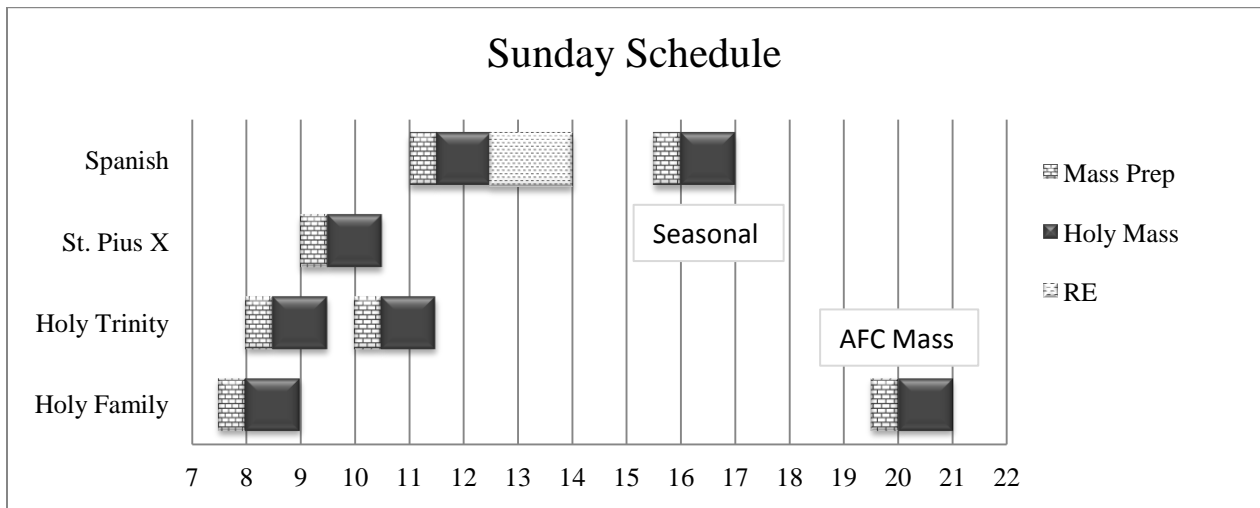
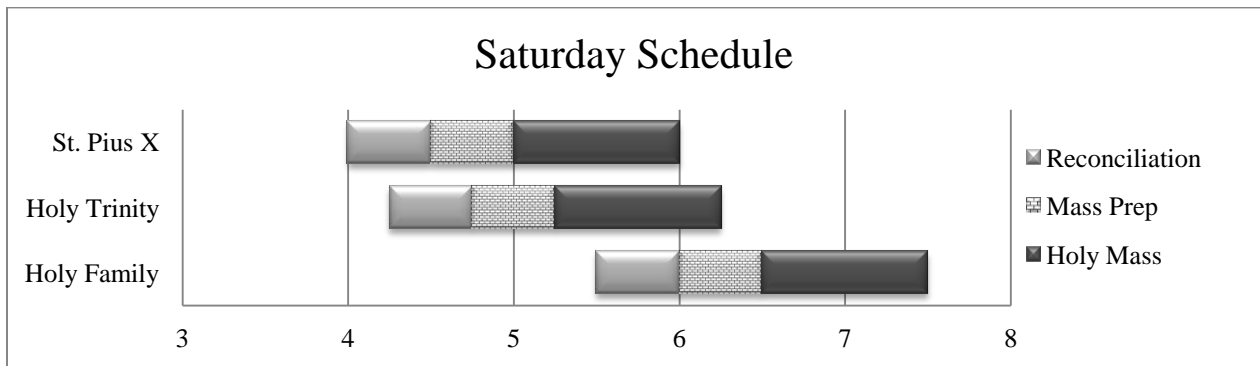


Current Mass Schedule

At the present time our parishes celebrate the Eucharist 9 times each weekend. There is one Saturday evening Mass at each parish, one Sunday morning Mass at Holy Family, two morning Masses at Holy Trinity and one Mass in English and one Mass in Spanish at St. Pius X. There is also on Sunday night Mass for the area faith community at Holy Family, and one Mass in Spanish celebrated for migrant workers at Seneca/Green Giant on Sunday afternoons in August, September and part of October.

The Sunday night Mass was added to our schedule to accommodate the needs of farmers with chores, people doing shift work, and families with weekend activities that make it difficult to attend Mass any other time.

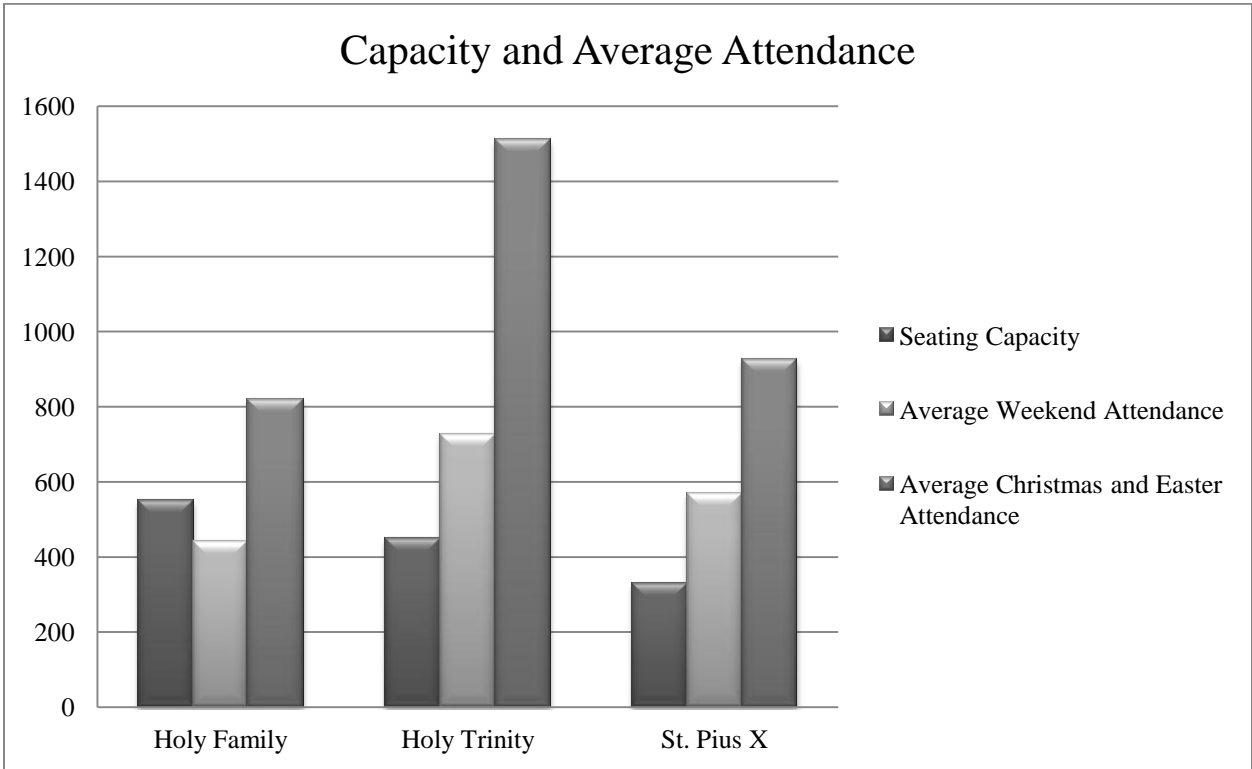
Parish	Reconciliation	Saturday Mass	Sunday Mass	
Holy Family	5:30 p.m.	6:30 p.m.	8:00 a.m.	8:00 p.m. (AFC)
Holy Trinity	4:15 p.m.	5:15 p.m.	8:30 a.m.	10:30 a.m.
St. Pius X	4:00 p.m.	5:00 p.m.	9:30 a.m.	
Spanish			11:30 a.m.	4:30 p.m. (Seasonal)



- The Masses in Spanish meet the specific need of people to pray in the language they most understand and are most comfortable in. After Mass in Spanish we also offer a religious education program for all ages, including adults, in Spanish. The Spanish-speaking community which worships at St. Pius X includes people from well without our AFC boundaries, including Arlington, Winthrop, Gaylord, Hutchinson, Cokato, Stewart, Buffalo Lake and Hector. Committee meetings for this portion of our community also happen on Sunday afternoons.
- Our present schedule relies on the presence of three priests. The schedule was designed to be manageable for two priests as occasionally necessary. With the addition of the help we are giving to the Hutchinson – Stewart Area Faith Community, various commitments and vacations of our priests on weekends, the two priest schedule is becoming more the rule than the exception. When two priests are handling the Masses for a weekend several things happen.
 - One priest covers both the 5:00 p.m. Mass at St. Pius X and the 6:30 p.m. Mass at Holy Family, leaving only about half an hour to get from one parish to the other and one priest covers all the Masses at Winsted.
 - In this schedule there is no opportunity to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation at Holy Family.
 - One priest covers both the 8:00 a.m. Mass at Holy Family and the 9:30 a.m. Mass at St. Pius X, again leaving only half an hour to get from one parish to the other.
 - The addition of special blessings, Baptisms or longer readings reduces the time to travel from one parish to the other.
 - The priest more often than not is not able to stay and greet people and talk to them after Mass.
 - The priests are in effect doing double schedules for the whole weekend.
 - With this schedule of Mass we find it difficult to find weekend replacement priests willing to help except at one parish, most often at Holy Trinity in Winsted.
- Travel time from Holy Family to St. Pius X is about 20 minutes. From Holy Family to Holy Trinity is about 15 minutes. Travel time from St. Pius X to Holy Trinity is about 25 minutes.
- Canon law allows any one priest to celebrate two Masses on any given day, and for grave pastoral reason he may celebrate three Masses.

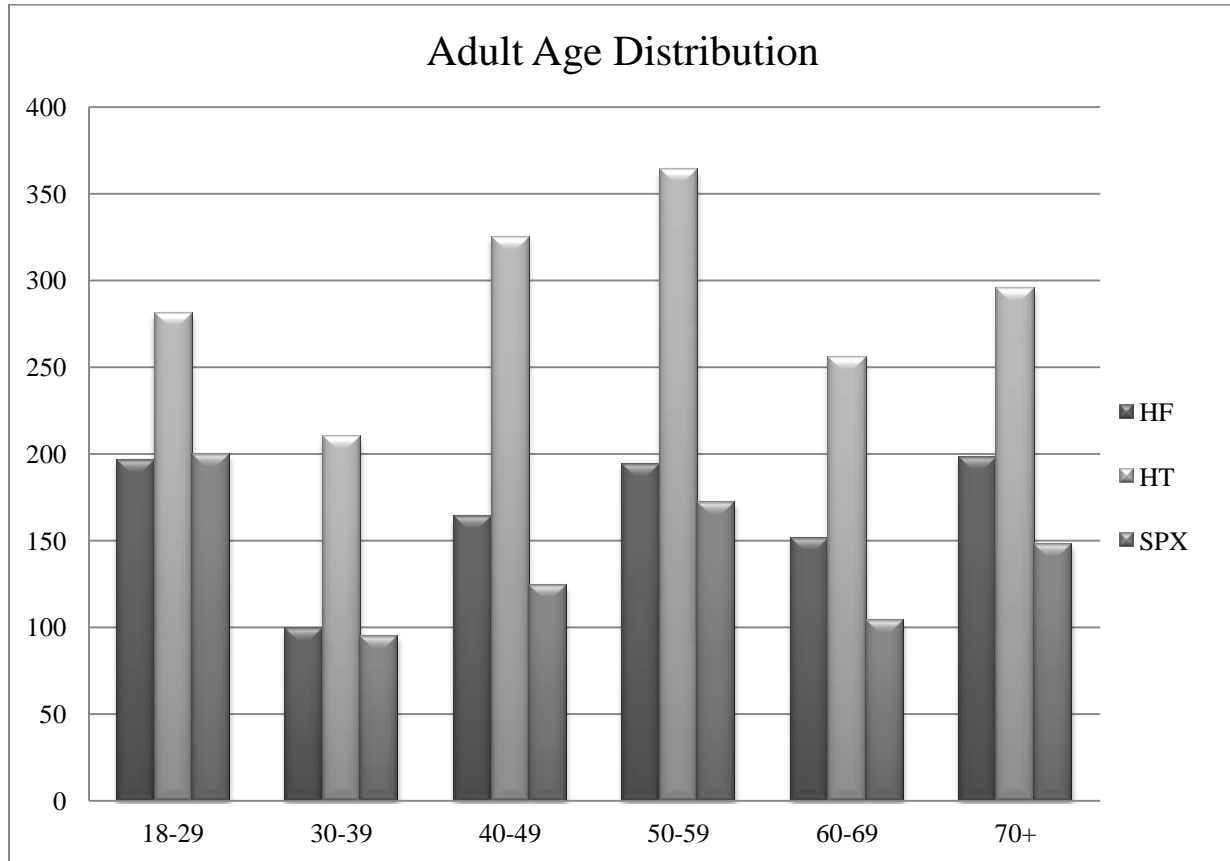


Parish	Seating Capacity	Average Weekend Attendance without Easter and Christmas	Average Christmas and Easter Attendance
Holy Family	550	441	818
Holy Trinity	450	728	1512
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What does our average attendance in comparison to the seating capacity of our churches say about the number of Masses we need each weekend?

Parish	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70+
Holy Family	196	99	164	194	151	198
Holy Trinity	281	210	325	364	256	295
St. Pius X	200	95	124	172	104	148
Totals	677	404	613	730	511	641

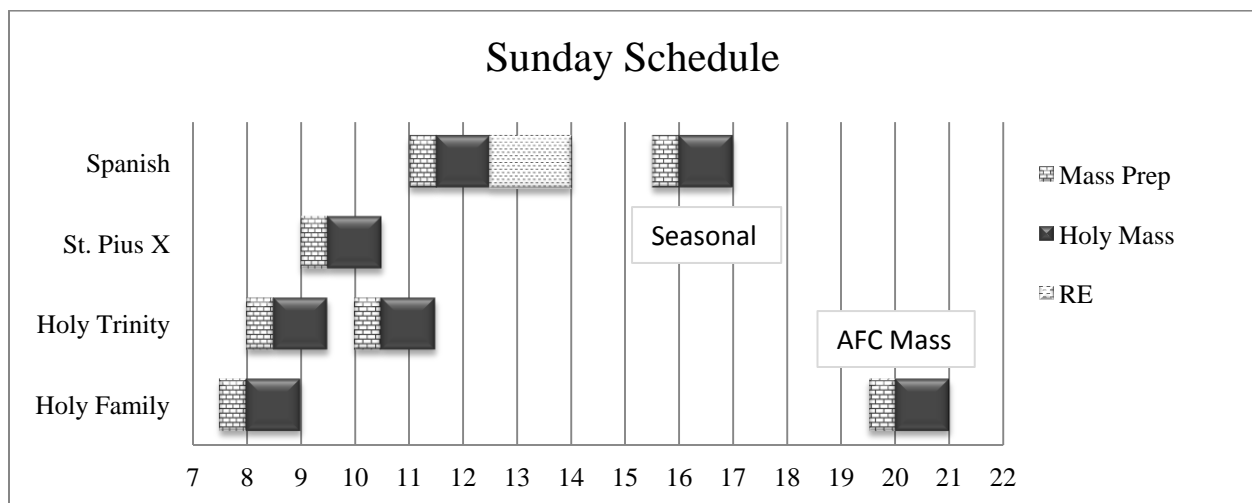
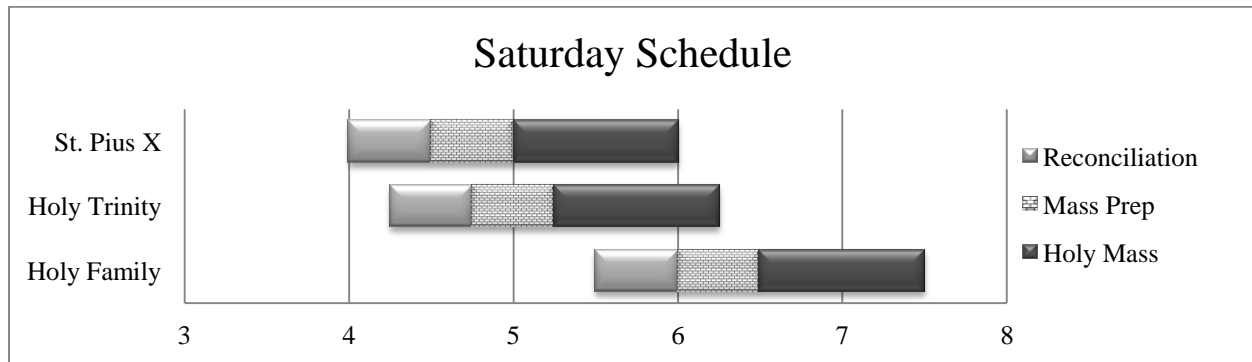


What does the age of our communities' members say about when Masses are scheduled?

You notice that in each parish's statistics there is a rather large spike of people in the high school – 29 year old age group. How would you explain that spike?

What role does mobility play in the scheduling of Masses?

Parish	Reconciliation	Saturday Mass	Sunday Mass	
Holy Family	5:30 p.m.	6:30 p.m.	8:00 a.m.	8:00 p.m. (AFC)
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Spanish			11:30 a.m.	4:30 p.m. (Seasonal)



How do the increasing use of the two-priest schedule, and the increasingly probable situation of having only two priests serving our AFC affect the scheduling of Masses?

How important is it for the priest to be able to stay and greet people, to deal with questions and visit after Mass?

How can we assure that the people in each parish have adequate and reasonable access to the Sacrament of Reconciliation?

If we are to work outside the strictures of Canon Law on the number of Masses a priest would celebrate, what case would we make for the exception?

How do the reasons for a Mass in Spanish and an 8:00 p.m. Sunday Mass affect the number and scheduling of Masses each weekend?

How does the need for religious education and committee meetings for Spanish-speaking people affect the scheduling of the Mass in Spanish?

What difficulties do people's preferences for Mass times present in scheduling Masses at our three parishes?

How does commitment to the celebration of the Eucharist in your own parish community affect the scheduling of Masses?

How does the convenience of fulfilling your Sunday obligation to attend Mass at any available parish affect the scheduling of Masses?

Is there a difference between fulfilling your Sunday obligation and celebrating with your parish community? Is this difference important?



Let us assume that we will have only two priests to serve us.

Is it a value we hold as important to have a Saturday evening Mass at each parish?

Taking into account the size of the churches and average attendance, how many Sunday morning Masses in English do we need at each parish?

How do we assure that each parish has ample opportunity to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation? Is it necessary that the Sacrament of Reconciliation be celebrated on Saturday evening before Mass?

Is it a value we hold as important for our priests to have time to greet people after Mass and to attend after Mass events?

Besides the travel time from one parish to another, is it important for the priest to have some time to gather his thoughts and get ready to celebrate Mass at a second parish? How much time would be necessary?

Is it a value we hold as important to continue to provide a Sunday night Mass?

Taking into account that the Spanish-speaking community comes from a wide area, that many people stay anywhere from an hour to 90 minutes after Mass for religious education and meetings, how late is too late for the beginning of Mass in Spanish?

How important is it to offer a variety of different times for the celebration of the Eucharist across the area faith community?

The Outcome

Taking into account our evaluation of our situation and our values, we will design a Mass schedule for the weekends in our Area Faith Community. That proposed schedule will be reviewed by the Area Worship Committee, local Worship Committees, the Area Pastoral Council and Parish Administrative Councils before it is adopted and implemented.