## **DRAFT** ANALYSIS OF WRITTEN AND ORAL PARISHIONER RESPONSES 2018-09-10

Honor an assumed anonymity and read the responses with an eye for the needs that parishioners may express

- 1. Information/education—How many comments mention questions such as "Has anything changed with regards to reporting of abuse?" or "What does the Abp. of Baltimore do about priests accused of abuse?" or "how many bishops have \_\_\_\_"
- Can we stop paying the Church tax? 43
- Can we write letters? 43
- What can we do to voice out outrage? 39
- What can the Parish do to effectively bring reform? 39
- Must develop an effective message to the hierarchy 39
- What does St V's do when allegations are made against someone? 48
- Who is our Prophet? 55
- How to ensure contributions do not go to legal defence of abuse cases 62
- D any laity have input on the results of abuse cases 63
- What portion of our contributions are used for legal defense v work in our parish 65

#### 2. Action—

- What variety of actions do parishioners suggest we, as a parish, take, or say they plan to take, individually?
- Bind together 46
- Stay at St V's 45
- Stop using language associated with hierarchy 41
- Starve the beast by withholding the Archdiocesan tax 38
- Send our opinions to Bishops 38
- Create a group for those feeling disenfranchised and grief 37
- Stand together to confront Archdiocese 37
- Pray 35, 53
- Parish must take leadership role because hierarchy very obviously can't be trusted 48
- Letters about our spirituality, liturgies 51
- Vigil of reparation 53
- Be attentive 54
- Sign the Statement of Catholic Theologians calling for resignation of bishops 54-
- Have a workshop on forgiveness for survivors 54
- Help organize diocesan-wide response 56
- Facilitate parishioners' access to reform movement 56
- Challenge Church leadership/hierarchy to take effective steps 58
- Speak up as individuals as well as a Parish 58
- Read Death in the Church by Ilia Delio (28 August 2018) in the Omega Center 59
- Must pressure Church to bring justice to victims 61
- Need to learn "about how/from where comes the legalization" 60

- We should speak to PA Bishops and get them to make admissions of their role in abuse 67
- Nourish our Parishioners who were abused 05
- It is time for reform in our Church and I want to be involved 05
- Should have periodic sessions re abuse and how the Church is handling it 06

## — What actions do they want the Church to take, in whatever form they understand the Church?

- Abolish celibacy, marry 46, 34, 07, 08
- Change course from bottom up 46
- Demand Accountability and lay oversight 44, 08
- Reform Hierarchy 44, 56
- Remove hierarchy 08
- Reform entire institutional Church 34, 56
- Reclaim the Church as ours 44
- Tell the whole truth 42
- Stop hiding clergy 42
- Must be a reformation 41
- We the Church must changes 40
- Accept women as equals at all levels 34
- Ordain Women 62
- Open channels of communication for laity and listen 34
- Get rid of Pope and start over with house churches 47
- Bishops should give their resignations to pope 52
- Reform Church teaching on sex 56, 08
- Investigation should involve outside leadership/laity but No Church leaders 03
- Must hold accountable all those involved in the coverup, especially bishops 04
- All bishops were involved in the coverup by omission or commission 04
- Pope Francis must publicly address the situation- 06
- Church needs to be run by the people 07
- Need grass roots movement to demand change 08
- Send feedback to diocese and bishops 09

### — How many indicate they want to do something but aren't sure what that is?

- Will we look at this seriously 51
- Sign on as Parish to a more moderate call for reform 56
- Ask for "those involved in an way" to resign 57
- Can we take steps both passionate and reasoned 01
- Church must address celibacy 06

# 3. Impact—What is the impact (spiritually, emotionally, mentally) on parishioners of this latest round of revelations of abuse and lack of accountability?

- How could God allow this to happen 02
- Admire and appreciate the courage of the victims 02
- Disconcerting that the coverup continues 61
- Sad 46, 51, 57, 58, 07,
- Embarrassment 45
- Disappointment, especially at Bishops 03
- Agitated 40
- Distressed at dishonesty, discord and division in Church 58
- questioning my own membership and participation 39, 49
- Revisited abuse on me by Parishioner 50 years ago 38
- Promoted to consider whether they could be more spiritual without the Church 38
- Personal crisis as with a predator in family 37
- Energy laity, let them lead 37
- Can't forget hierarchy's failure to respond to cousin propositioned in seminary years ago 36
- Stunned that anyone is shocked at PA Report given that we have known forever 34
- Rage, Very Angry at Church 47, 49, 57
- Anger 66, 07
- Exhausting to explain why I remain Catholic 48
- Lack of trust in Church 49, 50, 64, 66, 07
- Devastating 54
- Believes that nothing will be done 55
- Surprised at how long this has taken to come to light 60
- Empathy with victims 01

### 4. Other—

## — What other categories are there that do not fit into the above?

- Investigate the Church, prosecute criminals, end Statute of limitations 42
- Cousin was smart priest who as part of his job reassigned abusive priests and would have known that they were re-offending - 61

## — What messages defy categorization (if any)?

- RC Church has always failed to project a mature sexuality 34
- Not about sex, rather about status and power 51
- Justice and mercy for all 53
- Pervasive sense of superiority has invaded the priesthood 64
- Abuse and coverup reveal hegemony of institutional Church 66