Social Fest 2021 – Survey results, and suggestions for moving forward.

Greetings to all parish members and school families!

Thanks to all of you who responded to the survey. We had 101 responses, with a great amount of input and suggestions. We truly appreciate your input.

An overview of incoming answers is provided below.

*Have you attended Social Fest in the past?* **Yes 83%, No 17%**

*Assuming continued diminished COVID implications, would you be likely to attend this year?*

 **Yes 89%, No 11%**

*Social Fest has always been an evening event for adults only. Would you prefer this format, or more family oriented?* ****Adults only 73% Family oriented (kids included) 27%**

*Does the current price of $25 to $35 per person affect your decision to attend*? **Yes 10% No 90%**

*Do you enjoy the silent auction?* **Yes 94% No 6%**

*Do you enjoy the voice auction?* **Yes 87% No 13%**

*Do you enjoy the raffles?* **Yes 98% No 2%**

*Do you enjoy the games?* **Yes 84% No 16%**

*Would you prefer the more structured dinner format we currently have or something more casual, such as traditional picnic food?* **Structured Dinner 58% Casual/Picnic Food 42%**

*Would you prefer to pay for food and beverages as part of your admission, or a concessions type approach?* **Included with admission ticket 82% Concessions with food options 18%**

*Would you be more likely to attend if this was a Fall event, when school is back in session? (As opposed to the traditional last Saturday in August)*  **Yes 26% No 74%**

*The success of Social Fest is largely due to the help of volunteers. We are looking for team leaders in the areas of logistics, donations, food prep and serving, promotion and advertising, on-line activities, games, auctions, etc. Time requirements start in the March/April timeframe, generally a few hours per month, and then the day of the event. Would you consider being a team leader?*  **Yes 12% No 88%**

*Would you consider volunteering the day of the event in any of the areas mentioned above?*

**Yes 50% No 50%**

In reviewing the responses, we first see that we have many, many attendees who come year after year, with many, many positive messages about the event. Thank you! We appreciate your support and contributions. We hope this survey represents the perspectives of the majority of our attendees. We work hard at every event to improve your experience.

88% of our respondents support having an event this year, and in general, approximately 70% or more support leaving the event as is, as an adults-only event, with a single entry fee. We also had several suggestions to add casual food as an option.

Regarding the location of the event, many responses were that the location didn’t matter, and for those who voiced opinion on location, we saw roughly a 50/50 split of those who preferred indoors/outdoors. Several commented that having an indoor option provided good protection against unpredictable weather.

We also received a good amount of input regarding an adults-only event as compared to a family event. 73% of the respondents preferred an adults-only event, but we received some great input on family-oriented events. Our group has discussed options for a family-oriented event, completely separate from Social Fest. Perhaps we can get others to lead this effort. We expect there would be good support from the Parish.

Finally, we also considered other dates. We didn’t feel it was prudent to move it earlier in the year. When considering moving into Fall, we quickly encounter scheduling conflicts with other events.

With all of this input, and still pending COVID status, we plan to proceed with our traditional Social Fest event, held at Holy Trinity, with our traditional date of the 4th Saturday in August, which is August 28th this year. We will work to reach out to those of you who offered to volunteer. We also expect to make a few changes, including using a smart-phone based app for the silent auction, starting the on-line silent auction the week before, on-line checkout for the auctions, a compressed voice auction, more variety in the music, having some casual food options, and possibly starting and ending the event earlier, such as 3:00 to 10:00.

We’ll continue to communicate updates as we have them. THANK YOU!!!