**SUMMARY of the EQUALITY of WOMEN in the CHURCH SURVEY 2020**

Despite COVID-19 pandemic inhibiting our physical gathering, the Equality for Women in the Church Steering Committee decided to move forward in their commitment to securing equality for women in both leadership and ministry in the church.

We sent a Google survey to the full list of 67 EWC members to determine the direction/priorities of the group. Twenty five responses were returned after two weeks. The survey focused on 4 specific areas and will assist the steering committee in prioritizing our next steps moving forward. Below are the four focus areas and the percentages of members who agreed strongly or did not agree about the importance of each issue.

**Focus I:**  Do you agree to have women as regular homilists in parish Masses?

**92% Strongly agree      8% Agree       0% Do not agree**

**Focus III:**  Do you feel that inclusive language be reincorporated into our liturgies?

**88% Strongly agree         12% Agree**

**Focus IV:**  Would you participate in inclusive liturgical rituals planned, created and led by women and men?

**84% Yes 16%   I am not sure but would like more information about these opportunities.**

**Focus II:**  Do you feel this committee should pursue continued dialogue with the hierarchy regarding women's full participation in all levels of decision making and ministry?

**58.3% Strongly agree     33.3% Agree 8.3% Do not agree**  (Those who did not agree indicated in their comments that they had lost hope in working with the hierarchy.)

The question was asked if seeing ​women ordained to the priesthood​ in your lifetime is a priority.

**76% Yes         24% No** (Some who said “no” indicated they were too old to expect ordained women.  Also, some indicated they did not want women ordained to a priesthood as it now exists.)

When asked to rank the two most important focus areas respondents indicated:

* Women’s full participation in all areas of decision making and ministry with 84% of all responses and
* Women as regular homilists with 60%.

21 out of 25 respondents signed up to work with others in one or more areas.