

Q95 In a few sentences, tell about an experience you had in the church where you walked away feeling, "Now THAT'S what it means to be the church!"

Answered: 67 Skipped: 55

St. Martin in the Fields Episcopal Church, Keller, TX

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Feeling of welcoming everyone and always open	6/30/2020 3:52 PM
2	Ordination services where we are charged to go into the world and "be the change".	6/28/2020 2:51 PM
3	Participation as a teacher in vacation bible study	6/28/2020 12:46 PM
4	Marching with the Diocesan group in the Pride parade last October, passing out God loves you" bracelets and greeting people. It was fun, but also felt important.	6/27/2020 7:43 PM
5	Have not had this experience in a long time. I miss the energy I briefly felt when Fr. Christopher was an assistant. He energized the congregation.	6/25/2020 9:02 AM
6	When our son became upset during communion and Fr. Scot stopped what he was doing and came over to our son to provide him comfort and see how he could help. This has also happened with members of the congregation coming to comfort him	6/24/2020 8:07 PM
7	100% acceptance actions not just verbal	6/24/2020 3:31 PM
8	It's been a few years since experiencing anything like that at the church. Working on making sack lunches with my family was a highlight. We now participate in other food drives and community service.	6/24/2020 12:12 PM
9	I appreciate the support people give each other during the service, especially when someone has a health concern or a death in the family. I miss that closeness.	6/24/2020 11:37 AM
10	Silent night at Christmas. People linking arms, the lights going dim, singing. Our church felt so at peace, in solidarity, celebrating a miracle. It could only happen with deep spiritual and emotional connection throughout the congregation.	6/21/2020 10:22 PM
11	I've had that feeling while participating in and supporting activities aimed at the Union Gospel Mission.	6/21/2020 9:52 PM
12	Beautiful liturgical service, wonderful music and singing, Holy Eucharist, great Homily, all shared with church family!!!!	6/21/2020 5:52 PM
13	I have been impressed with the church opening their arms and enfolding us into it	6/21/2020 5:46 PM
14	The way we all clap together when donations have been collected for outreach projects. When we all show a welcoming atmosphere to everyone regardless of skin color, sexual orientation, and religious backgrounds.	6/21/2020 2:17 PM
15	In the last year, my participation in the choir has really helped me reconnect to my spirituality. I am blown away by the ability of the church to make one feel at home from the moment they enter through the red doors	6/21/2020 1:17 PM
16	no comment	6/19/2020 3:34 PM
17	Fr. Vernon Gotcher ended his sermon by declaring himself as leader that will not leave the Episcopal Church for the folly that our diocese was encouraging.	6/18/2020 11:44 PM
18	No one specific experience comes to mind.	6/18/2020 7:42 PM
19	having a large, diverse and enthusiastic group show up to help out at service sunday	6/17/2020 11:23 AM
20	Outreach and welcoming ministries	6/16/2020 9:28 PM
21	Maybe when we have the peace and everyone is in accord with their neighbors. Also, thankfulness when Fr. Scot left us!	6/16/2020 6:42 PM
22	For me, it's the shared memories of my children growing up in St. Martin's and the feel of extended family through this shared experience.	6/16/2020 1:42 PM
23	I truely loved the "Afternoon of Melanin" concert put on my DeShay. It was inspiring to hear music from another background than my own and to see so many members of our congregation be inspired by it.	6/16/2020 12:28 AM
24	Helping make 100+ meals for the homeless for UGM	6/15/2020 7:43 PM
25	Witnessing the installation of Paula to deacon of our church	6/15/2020 7:42 PM

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26	A crowded Sunday service with a full choir giving the congregation wonderful music. Watching the acolytes move toward the alter filled with deacons and priest of both genders.	6/15/2020 3:14 PM
27	This is easy. I so appreciate hugs from greeters, time spent greeting members in "peace" during the service, hands-on prayers for those in need at the altar after communion.	6/15/2020 2:05 PM
28	Positive response to newcomers	6/14/2020 3:32 PM
29	Serving on a Cursillo team several times and seeing the change of heart some people experience, then seeing them live out that change in their spiritual life.	6/14/2020 12:35 PM
30	When we first started making lunches for Union Gospel mission, it was important to make sure we reached the goal number of lunches whether it was 100 or 200 sack lunches, no lunch was missed. That was great. Lately since Corrie Cabes left, those running it are ok if we miss by a few lunches, it doesn't feel as important to reach the goal...truly not the same feeling it used to have. It's been a while since I've had the 'Now THAT'S what it means to be in the church' feeling!	6/14/2020 8:44 AM
31	The Easter Vigil in 2019 helped me to realize I have a family at St. Martin in the Fields. We started in darkness and left in abundant light in faith and hope.	6/13/2020 4:19 PM
32	People (even one we don't know well) asking about Shawn's health and asking how I am coping with being the caregiver.	6/13/2020 12:22 PM
33	The joy and connected worshipful people at ordinations and celebrations, and then the same connectedness of the whole people in times of great sorrow supporting each other in gatherings and worship for funerals or memorial services.	6/12/2020 10:48 PM
34	Cannot relate any specific incident	6/12/2020 5:46 PM
35	I haven't had this feeling in a long, long time. It's to the point where I'm ready to walk away and find a different church. I think we are so focused on pushing a homosexual agenda that we are blinded by everything else. Paul preached to and loved pagans and people who were not already Christians and therefore we should love people who do not have a right understanding of doctrine (what is right and wrong). The Bible is the unerrant word of God and He says that homosexuality is wrong. We should love not hate those that practice it, but we should not encourage it. Encouraging and supporting such a lifestyle (or supporting divorce or any other non-biblical practice) only causes us to drift farther from God and the gifts He wants to give us. We shouldn't be surprised if we are slowly dying if we are not plugging into Him.	6/12/2020 2:01 PM
36	When leaving the Church after a grubby Sunday where I worked with my friends to make the Church better, I always feel that's what it means to be a church.	6/12/2020 12:18 PM
37	I love when we have great music and a very traditional service. I love all of the pomp and circumstance of the services.	6/12/2020 11:38 AM
38	Happy conversations after a service and action by the congregation when someone is in need.	6/12/2020 10:12 AM
39	We had such a tough time finding a church that was the right fit for us that we gave up for years. After a lot of research, what appealed to me about St. Martin's were all the opportunities to participate in the varied ministries. My oldest daughter and I decided to attend and were welcomed with a gift bag and greeted warmly and sincerely by the most diverse congregation that I had ever worshiped with. The sermon was about the difference between faith and belief. My daughter and I looked at each other and knew 'this is the place'.	6/12/2020 9:24 AM
40	Working with the stewardship committee. Donating to special projects, I.e. Union Gospel Mission, Food for the Poor, The Bridge, Red Cross, Salvatemi Army, Episcopal Relief & Development.	6/12/2020 9:18 AM
41	My first visit. I was welcomed by, literally, everyone at the service. The hospitality was amazing. Receiving banana bread and a 'goodie' bag to my home that evening, I knew I belonged!	6/12/2020 9:11 AM
42	The rummage sale. With amazing leadership from Brandy, we worked so well together	6/11/2020 10:09 PM
43	The members greeting me for the first time.	6/11/2020 8:31 PM
44	Going on mission trips to union gospel mission.	6/11/2020 8:31 PM
45	Too new to respond with honesty	6/11/2020 8:27 PM
46	When I greet and feel I have spurred interest in a newbie.	6/11/2020 7:39 PM

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47	Some of Father Scott's sermons seemed like they were taken from what I was experiencing at the time.	6/11/2020 6:36 PM
48	A sermon that demonstrated how Chicago Cubs player Ernie Banks helped a blind girl after a game at Wrigley Field. Best example of being a Christian I have heard.	6/11/2020 4:13 PM
49	A church that embraces educating everyone in Christian formation - where we have an accountability group or sorts. I am often jealous of my "non-denom" friends who have small group every so often and that is one of the most important things in their lives -- having peers to support them.	6/11/2020 2:34 PM
50	I FEEL GOOD ABOUT THE CHURCH WHEN I DEPART FEELING THAT I AM A STRONGER CHRISTIAN AND ABLE TO CONTRIBUTE TO MAKING MY CONTACTS APPRECIATE MY LOVE AND CARING FOR THEM!	6/10/2020 7:09 PM
51	Being supported when help is needed. Feeding homeless people.	6/10/2020 12:58 PM
52	Never really had that feeling	6/10/2020 12:45 PM
53	News of strong response to an outreach opportunity. Hearing how many ways church members cared for someone in a time of need. Seeing how newcomers are welcomed and invited to participate. Hearing from someone who is excited to find such an inclusive church and finding the truth on the website verified in experience when visiting.	6/10/2020 12:05 PM
54	Several discussions with Fr. Ron!	6/10/2020 10:54 AM
55	As a member of a discernment committee, I felt a great deal of accomplishment from the activity, as well as a bond to the person seeking discernment.	6/10/2020 10:06 AM
56	A Saturday effort by congregation members to prepare 300 nutritious meal packages to be shipped to disaster zones - Rise Against Hunger Program	6/9/2020 4:51 PM
57	Loving acceptance and inclusion of all who enter our doors	6/9/2020 4:34 PM
58	Service Sunday, walking in together in the Pride Parade	6/9/2020 2:14 PM
59	Service Sundays epitomizes what I believe a church should be.	6/9/2020 2:12 PM
60	I love St. Martin's Animal blessing services. I wish we could have it when a bit cooler and more time to visit. It is usually just so hot.	6/9/2020 1:37 PM
61	I'm waiting and hoping, looking for that.	6/9/2020 1:13 PM
62	In a small group, going around in a circle, where each person made a sign of the cross on the forehead of another person and said, "May the Jesus in me bless the Jesus in you."	6/9/2020 12:26 PM
63	Listening to our rector preach and not bring politics into it.	6/8/2020 7:33 PM
64	Folks from all walks of life and with diversity come together in faithful worship and clearly demonstrated love and acceptance for one another.	6/8/2020 7:27 PM
65	Seeing the diversity in church members	6/8/2020 6:47 PM
66	The people are welcoming and the liturgy.	6/8/2020 5:40 PM
67	None to share	6/8/2020 4:50 PM