

# 2000 U.S. Census Data - Report 3

Cluster: 17  
Vicariate: Philadelphia - North

FS#: 1115

Parish: **St. Bridget**

## 1. Detailed Age Breakdown for ALL People Living Within Parish Boundaries

Church Trends	Generational/ Age Cohorts	Birth Year	Age	Population Count		
				Total	Male	Female
Post-Vatican II <b>8,379</b> 63.7%	Millennial	2000	< 1	134	73	61
		1999	1	105	55	50
		1998	2	100	53	47
		1997	3	113	55	58
		1996	4	121	68	53
		1995	5	121	48	73
		1994	6	118	64	54
		1993	7	122	50	72
		1992	8	133	60	73
		1991	9	138	78	60
		1990	10	144	74	70
		1989	11	148	73	75
		1988	12	150	74	76
		1987	13	154	75	79
		1986	14	125	70	55
		1985	15	117	59	58
		1984	16	106	42	64
		1983	17	122	59	63
1982	18	330	126	204		
Vatican II <b>2,938</b> 22.4%	Gen. X	1981	19	508	195	313
		1980	20	405	180	225
		1979	21	337	140	197
		1976-78	22-24	1,050	496	554
		1971-75	25-29	1,552	799	753
		1966-70	30-34	1,053	478	575
Vatican II <b>3,257</b> 24.8%	Boomer	1961-65	35-39	873	422	451
		1956-60	40-44	769	350	419
		1951-55	45-49	831	357	474
		1946-50	50-54	784	332	452
Pre-Vatican II <b>1,828</b> 13.9%	Post War	1941-45	55-59	554	249	305
		1939-40	60-61	158	61	97
		1936-38	62-64	267	116	151
		1934-35	65-66	156	68	88
	1931-33	67-69	233	99	134	
	1926-30	70-74	375	144	231	
	G.I.	1921-25	75-79	310	128	182
		1916-20	80-84	197	50	147
Bef. 1916		85+	132	41	91	
<b>13,145</b> 100%	<b>13,145</b> 100%	<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>13,145</b>	<b>5,961</b>	<b>7,184</b>

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; 2000 Census of Population and Housing, Summary File 1; (August 2001).

**Notes:**

- (a) Data are calculated by assigning each census block to a geography and aggregating all data for that geography.
- (b) Percentages may not total to 100% due to rounding.
- (c) Age reported as of April 1, 2000; Birth Year calculated by approximation.

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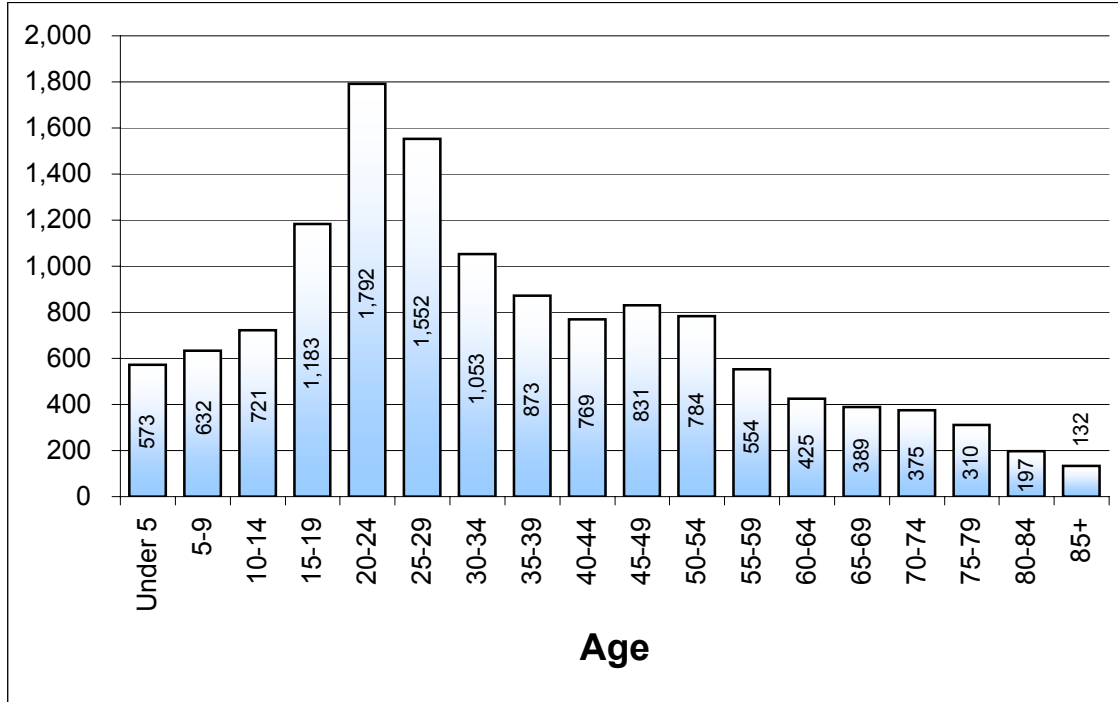
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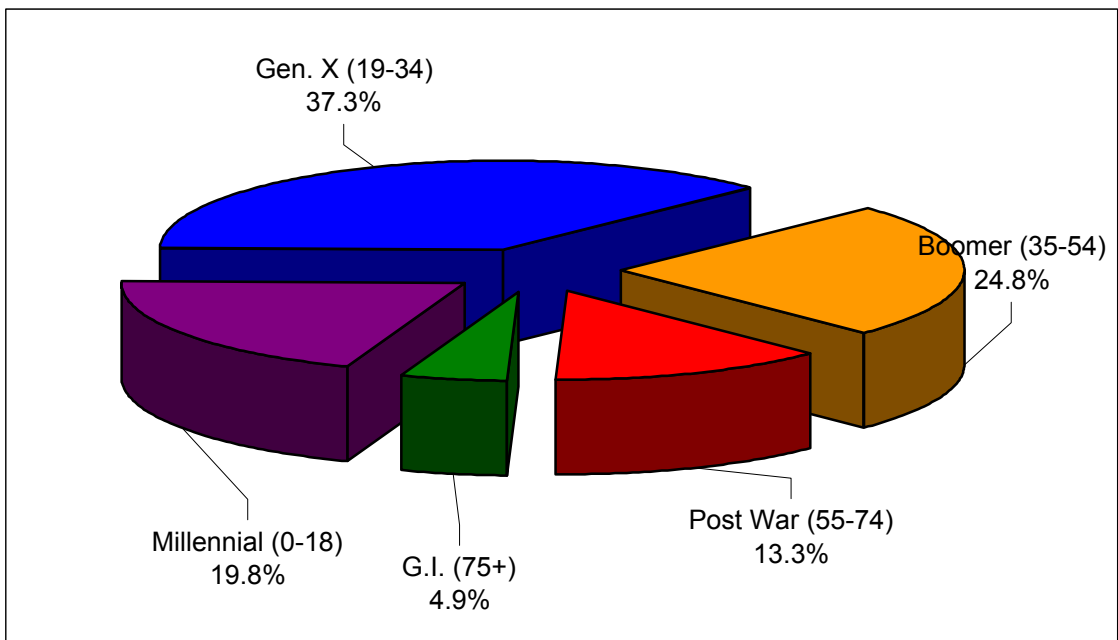
Parish:

**St. Bridget**

## 2. Five-Year Age Categories for ALL People Living Within Parish Boundaries



## 3. Generational Cohorts (Age) for ALL People Living Within Parish Boundaries



# 2000 U.S. CENSUS DATA - REPORT 3

Pastoral leaders need to help people of every age and generation understand and appreciate the different gifts that each of them brings to the life of the parish. Age affects the way people think and act in two ways:

First, there is a **“life cycle experience”** of doing similar things at similar ages. We start out as children, we go to school, start working, leave home and frequently get married, have children, get older, retire, and die.

Second, there is a **“generational cohort effect”** which causes a group of people who have grown up (turned 18) around the same time to think and behave in ways that are different than their parents or their children.

Because of their ages, people differ not only in life cycle experience (some are buying houses and having babies while others are retiring and selling their houses), but also in the characteristics of their generation (some are attracted by institutions and are interested in preserving order; some are more interested in the individual and developing their own support networks).

This report describes the age of *all* the people living within the geographical territory, not just the Catholic people. It also associates the age of the people with their generation.

## Characteristics of Generational Cohorts in the U.S. in 2000

**G. I. Generation (age 75+)** - Born 1901-1925. Age 18 between 1919-1943. *Heros*

Z Civic Values and Building	Z Institutions Over Individuals
Z Expanding Affluence	Z Conserving Values

This “building generation” survived the Depression and fought World War II. They then created many of the social and religious institutions of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

**Post War Generation (age 55-74)** - Born 1926-1945. Age 18 between 1944-1963. *Artisans*

Z Loyalty to Order and Establishment	Z Avoid Risk
Z Negotiators, Adaptive	Z Fine-tune change
Z Compromise	Z Preserve Values

Sometimes called the “Silent Generation” because they conformed to the world that their elder GI’s built.

Those born before 1940 can also be seen as the **“pre Vatican II Council” generations**. The Catholic people were frequently city dwellers who experienced many forms of anti Catholicism which they combated by forming into “Catholic ghetto(s) comprised of Catholic neighborhoods, schools, hospitals, newspapers and social groups . . . Pre Vatican II Catholics grew up with Latin Masses, novenas, Benedictions, priests facing the altar (not the people) and Gregorian chant.”

**Boomer Generation (age 35-54)** - Born 1946-1965. Age 18 between 1964 -1983. *Prophets*

Z Focused on Individual Development	Z Individuals Over Institutions
Z Idealism	Z Liberal Values
Z Start Change & Break From Past	Z Risk Takers

This generation grew up in the turbulent 1960's and 1970's and rebelled against most things established by the GI generation.

Those born between 1941 and 1960 are also known as the “**Vatican II generation.**” They grew up in the pre Vatican II Church but, in their childhood through early adult years, the changes called for in Vatican II were implemented in their parishes just as the social movements of the 1960's plunged society into turmoil. This generation is most likely to have mixed feeling about authority (vs. making up their own mind) and institutional commitment (vs. personal spirituality).

**Generation X (age 19-34)** - Born 1966-1981. Age 18 between 1984 -1999. *Nomads*

Z	Emphasis on Autonomy	Z	Reactive, Pragmatic and Creative
Z	Sustaining Values	Z	Self-forming Networks

This generation grew up during a period of high divorce rates, relatively low value placed on children, and serious social problems. This pragmatic group is pessimistic and interested in issues of identity. They are less likely to make long term commitments.

**Millennial Generation (age 18 and younger)** - Born 1982-present. Age 18 between 2000 - ? .

Identified by some authors as the next “GI” type generation. They may be expected to be a confident, achievement oriented group, more interested in building community and institutions than the generations immediately before them.

Those born since 1961 can also be recognized as “**post Vatican II Council**” generations. They have always had Mass in the language of the people. Their religious education was more likely to be conducted by lay persons, not priests or sisters. They have been encouraged to take responsibility for their own faith journeys. They are least likely to depend on Church authority and most likely to think of their faith in personal, not institutional, terms.

Note: The dividing lines between generations are rough approximations. The divisions in this report have been selected to accommodate the Census data available and approximate generational groups identified by various authors.

References:

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D’Antonio, William V. , James D. Davidson, Dean R. Hoge and Katherine Meyer. **American Catholics: Gender, Generation and Commitment** (Walnut Creek: Alta Mira Press), 2001.

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