

2000 U.S. Census Data - Report 3

Cluster: 63
Vicariate: Delaware

FS#: 2235

Parish: **Blessed Virgin Mary**

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 8,028 58.7%	Millennial	2000	< 1	199	107	92	
		1999	1	202	107	95	
		1998	2	196	105	91	
		1997	3	180	88	92	
		1996	4	214	111	103	
		1995	5	241	130	111	
		1994	6	230	124	106	
		1993	7	252	140	112	
		1992	8	263	133	130	
		1991	9	270	142	128	
		1990	10	257	126	131	
		1989	11	241	133	108	
		1988	12	286	147	139	
		1987	13	238	117	121	
		1986	14	204	114	90	
		1985	15	210	118	92	
		1984	16	205	97	108	
		1983	17	211	120	91	
1982	18	148	73	75			
Vatican II 3,119 22.8%	Gen. X	1981	19	163	82	81	
		1980	20	122	63	59	
		1979	21	139	68	71	
		1976-78	22-24	435	185	250	
		1971-75	25-29	812	360	452	
		1966-70	30-34	996	447	549	
Vatican II 3,706 27.1%	Boomer	1961-65	35-39	1,114	503	611	
		1956-60	40-44	1,046	484	562	
		1951-55	45-49	873	402	471	
		1946-50	50-54	673	288	385	
Pre-Vatican II 2,528 18.5%	Post War	1941-45	55-59	527	240	287	
		1939-40	60-61	180	92	88	
		1936-38	62-64	241	103	138	
		1934-35	65-66	147	65	82	
	G.I.	1931-33	67-69	238	104	134	
		1926-30	70-74	415	154	261	
		1921-25	75-79	443	166	277	
		1916-20	80-84	393	127	266	
Bef. 1916	85+	471	93	378			
13,675	100%	13,675	100%	TOTALS	13,675	6,258	7,417

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.

2000 U.S. Census Data - Report 3

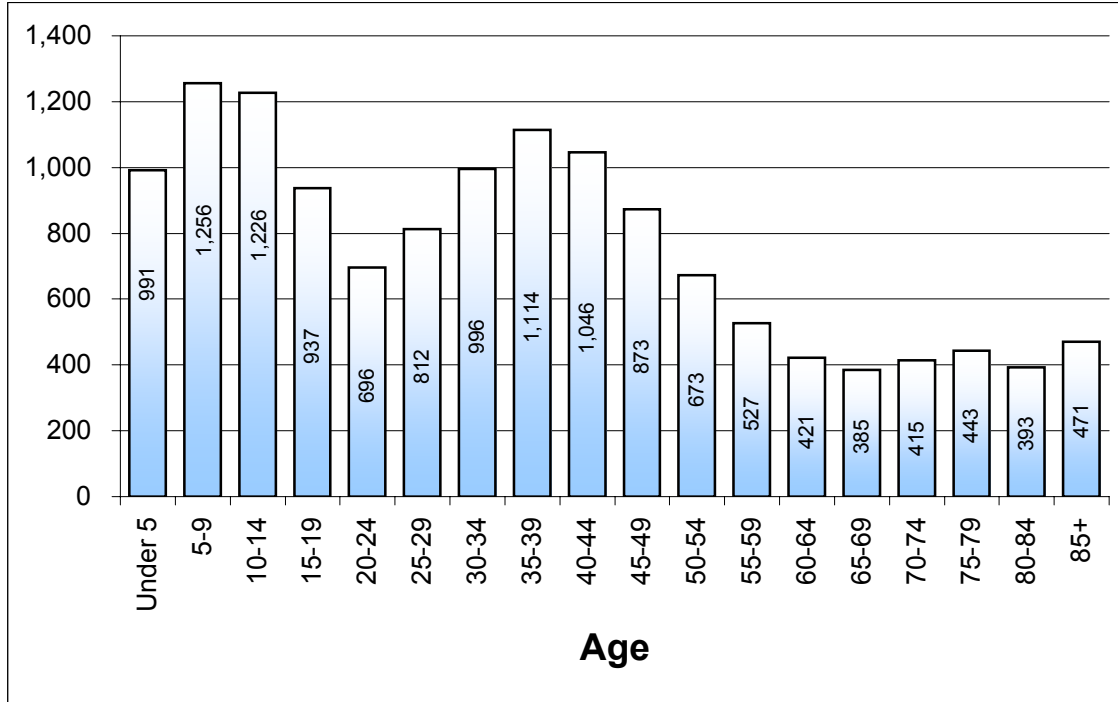
Cluster: 63
Vicariate: Delaware

FS#: 2235 #

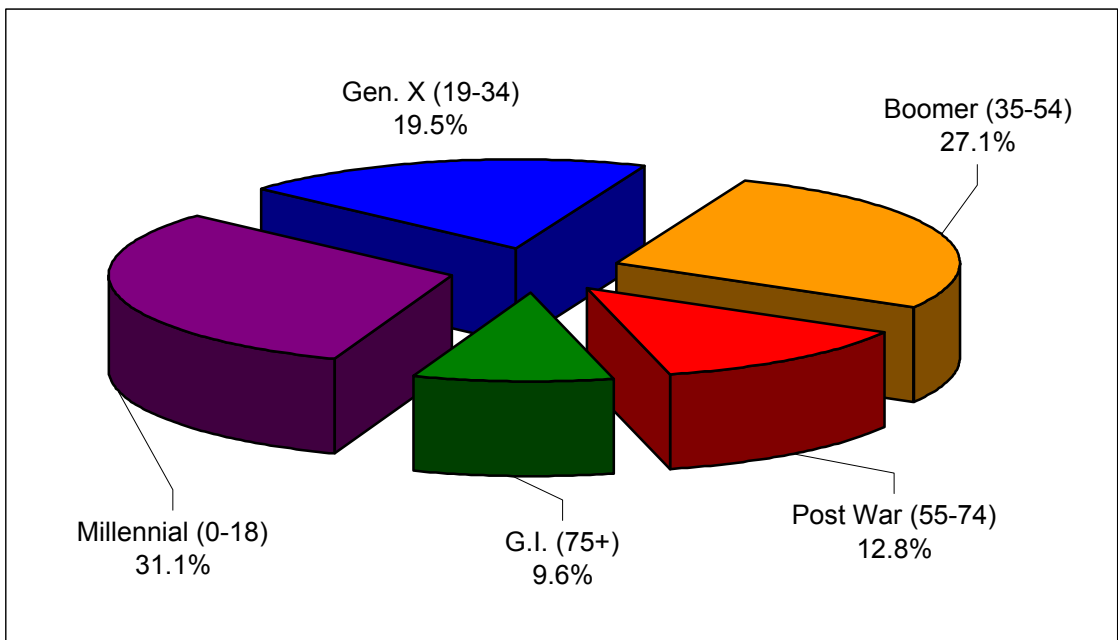
Parish:

Blessed Virgin Mary

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 20th 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:

Bedyna, Mary E. RSM and Paul M. Perl. **Young Catholics in the Context of Other Catholic Generations: Living With Diversity, Seeking Service , Waiting to be Welcomed**, CARA Working Paper Number 1 (Washington: CARA), 2000.

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.

Mannheim, Karl. 1952. “The Problem of Generations” In Melissa Hardy (ed.) **Studying Aging and Social Change : Conceptual and Methodological Issues. Chapter 2.** (London: Sage Publications, Inc), 1977.

Ryder, Norman B.1965. “The Cohort as a Concept in the Study of Social Change.” In Melissa Hardy (ed.) **Studying Aging and Social Change : Conceptual and Methodological Issues. Chapter 2.** (London: Sage Publications, Inc), 1977.

Strauss, William and Neil Howe. **Generations: The History of America’s Future, 1584 to 2069** (New York: William Morrow and Co. Inc.), 1991.