

2000 U.S. Census Data - Report 3

Cluster: 41
Vicariate: Chester

FS#: 2585

Parish: **Sacred Heart**

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 12,476 62.1%	Millennial 6,000 29.9%	2000	< 1	340	174	166		
		1999	1	324	175	149		
		1998	2	290	166	124		
		1997	3	300	163	137		
		1996	4	284	149	135		
		1995	5	296	149	147		
		1994	6	337	173	164		
		1993	7	318	158	160		
		1992	8	328	183	145		
		1991	9	341	167	174		
		1990	10	320	169	151		
		1989	11	313	172	141		
		1988	12	341	208	133		
		1987	13	282	142	140		
		1986	14	295	143	152		
		1985	15	272	144	128		
		1984	16	279	141	138		
		1983	17	315	154	161		
1982	18	425	195	230				
Vatican II 4,802 23.9%	Gen. X 4,823 24.0%	1981	19	515	226	289		
		1980	20	438	194	244		
		1979	21	525	267	258		
		1976-78	22-24	748	364	384		
		1971-75	25-29	1,117	558	559		
		1966-70	30-34	1,480	717	763		
Vatican II 5,555 27.7%	Boomer 5,555 27.7%	1961-65	35-39	1,653	846	807		
		1956-60	40-44	1,525	787	738		
		1951-55	45-49	1,284	623	661		
		1946-50	50-54	1,093	542	551		
Pre-Vatican II 2,804 14.0%	Post War 2,684 13.4%	1941-45	55-59	900	471	429		
		1939-40	60-61	290	151	139		
		1936-38	62-64	394	191	203		
		1934-35	65-66	226	107	119		
		1931-33	67-69	372	160	212		
		1926-30	70-74	502	232	270		
		Pre-Vatican II 1,020 5.1%	G.I. 1,020 5.1%	1921-25	75-79	444	176	268
				1916-20	80-84	306	108	198
Bef. 1916	85+			270	68	202		
20,082	100%	20,082	100%	TOTALS	20,082	9,913	10,169	

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.

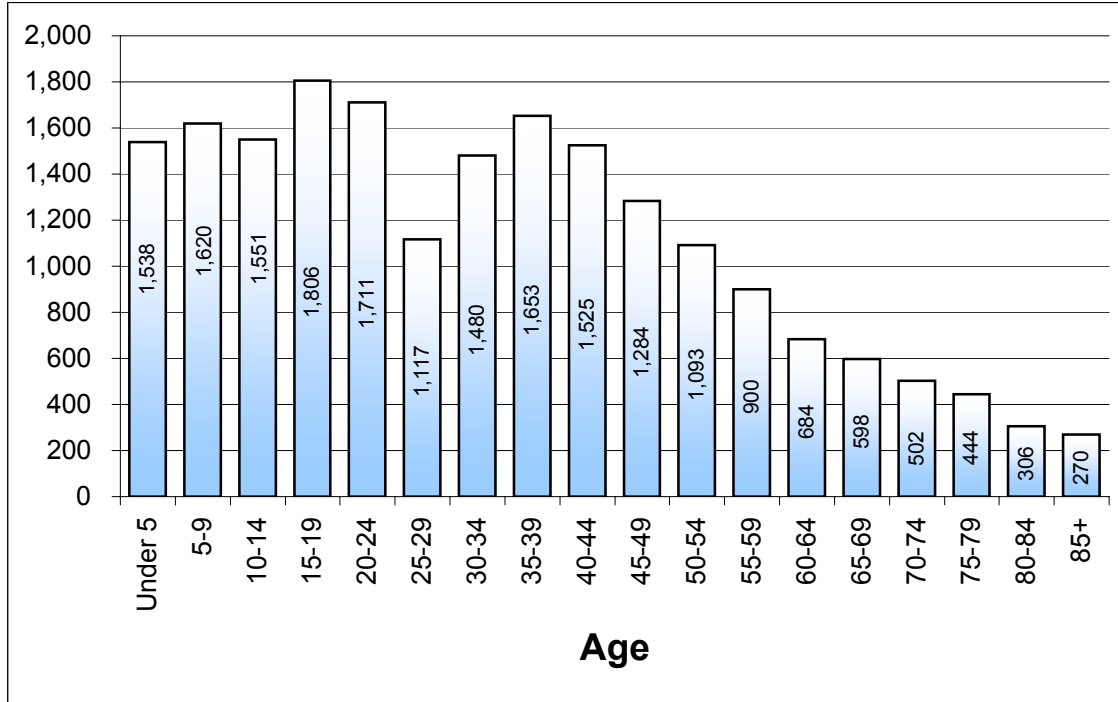
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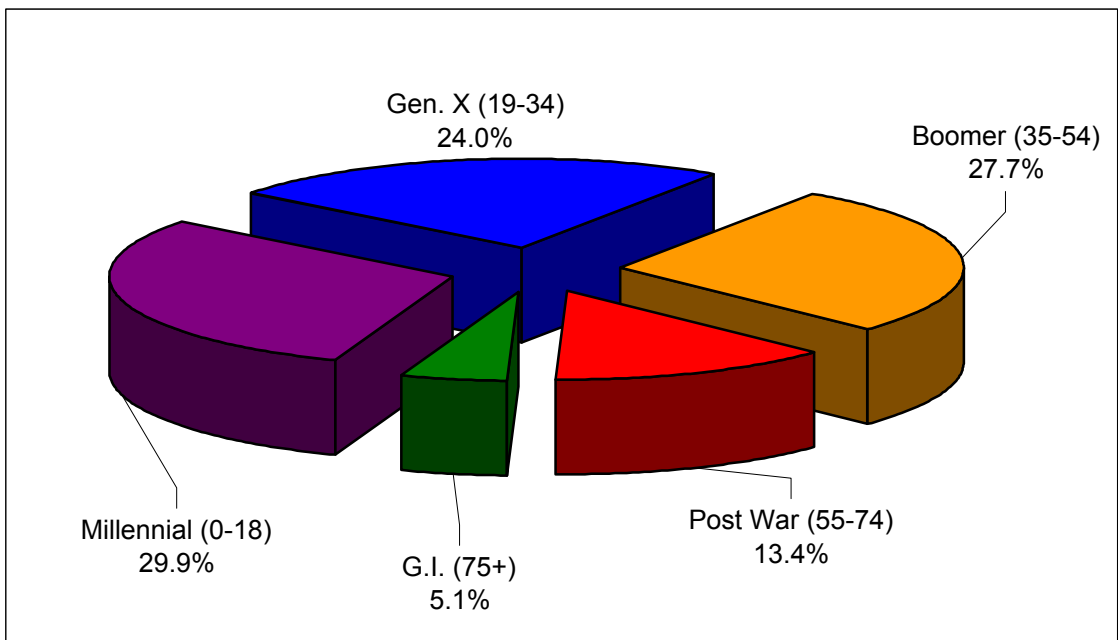
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Parish: **Sacred Heart**

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



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



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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:

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