



Key Facts about the Archdiocese Archdiocesan Planning Process

Dear Friends in Christ,

In your parish bulletin this month we would like to share with you the current state of our Archdiocese, from the growth we are experiencing as a church, to the state of parishes, clergy and Catholic education. It is our hope that you find these facts informative as we go forward in this planning process.

Sincerely,

Fr. John Bauer Fr. Peter Laird
Strategic Planning Task Force
Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis

The Archdiocese is Growing

- The number of households of registered parishioners is approximately 215,000. Based on historical records, the number of households in the Archdiocese will grow by about 7.5% in five years, so that by 2014 the number of households will be approximately 248,000.
- The total number of Catholics registered at parishes is estimated to be 650,000. The historical growth rate for registered Catholics is approximately 7.0%. By 2016 the number of Catholics registered at parishes will be approximately 695,000.
- The growing diversity of the Catholic population is creating an increasing number of parishioners who do not register at a parish, but who regularly attend Mass in their parish of choice.
- Growth is being fueled almost exclusively by immigration.
- Growth is unevenly distributed across the Archdiocese, with concentrations of growth in the exurban areas (between suburban and rural areas).
- Immigrant Catholics are now spread throughout all parishes. They are not just concentrated in the core cities.
- Current Mass attendance is reported to be estimated on Saturday evening and Sundays to average a total of 223,275 people in this Archdiocese. This represents 34% of registered Catholics. This Archdiocese is aligned with the national estimate.

The Socio-economic and Ethnic Diversity of the Catholic Population is Growing and Changing

Socio-economic Diversity and Disparity is growing in the Archdiocese

- In the past, there was an assumption that the socio-economic make up of parishes was a normal distribution. This has changed over the last ten years. The socio-economic distribution of parishes at each end of the scale is growing, while the middle is declining.

The Archdiocesan Population is Aging

- From 2005 to 2015 the fastest growing age group within the Twin Cities is 55 to 69 years of age.
- Between 2009 and 2020 the number of persons aged over 65 will dramatically rise in the Twin Cities
- Public, private and Catholic school enrollment accurately reflects change in the age structure of the Twin Cities population with a minimal rise in secondary enrollments and a fall in elementary school enrolments between 2009 and 2015.

Ethnic Diversity is growing in the Archdiocese

- Mass is regularly celebrated in Spanish, Korean, Vietnamese, Filipino, French and Hmong in this Archdiocese.
- There are currently 16,500 Latino people attending Spanish-speaking Mass on any given Sunday.
- 23 parishes are currently identified as centers of Latino ministry in the Archdiocese.
- The distribution of Latino Catholics has changed in the last ten years. There are now significant numbers of Latino people within five minutes drive of every parish in the Archdiocese.
- There is one Korean parish, two Vietnamese parishes, one Hmong parish and Mass is offered in French each Sunday for West African parishioners. Two priests serve approximately 10,000 Filipino Catholics spread across the Archdiocese.

PARISHES

The number of parishes has already changed:

- There are currently 217 parishes in the Archdiocese
- The Archdiocese now has ten less parishes than it had ten years ago.
- There are currently 51 parishes in 23 cluster arrangements, including seven mergers in the last ten years
- Parish membership is less defined by geography than in the past. The average number of zip codes represented in a parish of this Archdiocese is 36.
- Destination parishes defined by personal preference, a specific pastor or by convenience are becoming more common.

CLERGY

The estimated number of pastors will decline:

- There are currently 182 priests eligible to be pastor and there will be a total of 163 priests eligible to be pastors in ten years time: a drop of 19 pastors.
- The number of parochial vicars will decline from 44 today to 37 in ten years time
- Priests doing special ministries, such as hospital and jail chaplains, as well as working in seminaries will decline from 34 today to 27 in ten years time

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Parish and School Finances: Living Beyond Our Means

Many parishes have been living beyond their means:

- In fiscal year (FY) 2006 cash to debt ratio was 0.7; meaning that for every dollar of debt, there was seventy cents of cash.
- Parish debt per registered parish household in 2006 was approximately \$999.
- In FY 2009 there are 55 parishes being monitored by the Archdiocese because of debt and operational budget issues. In 2003, there were 33 parishes being monitored.

The distribution of debt and operating loss among parishes and schools is not evenly spread within the Archdiocese

- The financial condition of the Archdiocese as described existed prior to the current general economic downturn. The downturn exacerbated and exposed the existing problem.
- Very few individual parishes can comfortably support a Catholic school on their own.
- Parishes with Catholic school connection invest more in parish Faith Formation and other parish educational programs than those that do not have a Catholic school connection.

A Vibrant Catholic Education is Increasingly a Challenge to Grow and Maintain

Faith Formation enrollments have continued to decline

- The number of children reported as enrolled in parish Faith Formation programs in the 2004-2005 school year was 52,451. In 2008-09 it is reported as 47,523.
- There continues to be a precipitous drop in parish religious education enrollment between grades 10-11. In the 2008-09 school year the enrollment in grade 9 was 3,881, in grade 10 it was 3,253 and grade 11 it was 297.

The number of children in NO Catholic formation program is increasing

- According to baptismal records, there were 82,948 infants baptized between 1993 through 1999. In 2004-05 most of these children should have been enrolled in Kindergarten through Grace 6 programs. Roughly 38% of those baptized between 1993 and 1999 are not served by any religious

education program or Catholic school in the Archdiocese during this year of 2008-09.

- In 2008-09 most of these same (baptized 1993-1999) children should have been enrolled in Grades 4 through 10. Roughly 41% of the same group was not served by any religious education program in the Archdiocese during this year.
- The peaks of enrollment in parish Faith Formation programs align with First Communion and Confirmation.
- Parishes reported approximately 6,700 catechists in 2004-05 and approximately 6,300 catechists in 2008-09.
- In 2008-09 two thirds of parishes reported offering some form of adult Faith Formation. A wide variety of offerings were reported with bible studies and season retreats (Advent and Lent) being the most frequently identified.

Catholic Schools Have Been Constantly Changing

The number of Catholic schools has changed

- There are 93 Catholic elementary schools and 14 Catholic high schools in the Archdiocese
- 122 parishes sponsor either single parish or consolidated schools.
- 10 schools are sponsored by more than one parish.
- 8 Catholic schools have opened since 2000: 4 elementary schools, 1 middle school and 2 high schools.
- 4 elementary schools have closed and 2 multi-parish schools have deconsolidated since 2000.

Enrollment in Catholic schools has changed

- In 2003-04 enrollment in Catholic Schools in the Archdiocese was 38,186. In 2008-09 enrollment was only 5% less, at 35,335. This is consistent with changes in public school district enrollment change, and accurately reflects changes to the age structure of the population in the Twin Cities area.

Distribution of growth and decline in enrollments is uneven

- Catholic high schools have increased enrollment in the last five years 5.4% from 7,420 to 7,820.
- Catholic elementary school enrollment in the last five years has declined 11.4% from 28,704 to 25,418.
- Catholic pre-school enrollment has fluctuated in the last five years, increasing over that time from 2,063 to 2,907.
- In the last five years 60 elementary schools lost 5% or more of their enrollment.
- In the last five years 32 elementary schools lost 20% or more of their enrollment.
- Growth in enrollment has been in new Catholic schools, schools targeted at niche populations and in suburban areas where there is significant population growth.

School personnel are largely not priests or religious

- 2.4% of school personnel are priests or religious.
- 97.6% of school personnel are lay people (not priests or religious).

Ethnic and socio-economic diversity is slowly increasing in Catholic Schools

- From 2004-09 Caucasians in Catholic elementary schools fell from 89.3% to 84.9% of the student enrollment.
- African-Americans were the fastest growing group, up from 1.8% to 3.8% of the elementary school student enrollment.
- Multi-racial students went from 2.0% to 3.6% of the enrollment.
- Latinos went from 3.2% to 4.6% of the elementary student enrollment.
- Students eligible to receive free and reduced priced lunch represented 6% of the enrollment five years ago and are 9% of the total elementary school enrollment today (Although the enrollment overall has decreased in that time period, the number of students eligible for free and reduced lunch has increased).
- The distribution of poverty among Catholic elementary school students is very biased toward core city and rural schools.

The Catholicity of students in the elementary school has been relatively stable

- The percentage of Catholic students in the elementary schools has decreased slightly in the last five years, from 92.7% to 91.8%.

School finance is increasingly problematic for parents and parishes

- Tuition has increased 36% since 2003-04. The average tuition has gone from \$2,251 in 2003 to \$3,063 in 2008 for the first child in parish-sponsored Catholic elementary schools.
- Tuition for non-parishioners has increased 25% in five years from \$3,175 to \$3,975.
- 32% of parishes that subsidize schools contribute at least 30% or more of their total parish revenue to their school. This number increases when including parish underwriting of school deficits and pay for such costs as maintenance and utilities that are often not counted as subsidy.