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Methodology

CARA transcribed Vatican data from the *Annuarium Statisticum Ecclesiae* (*ASE*) for 1980, 1990, 2000, 2010, and the most recent year available, 2012. Additionally, CARA referenced statistics in the Vatican's *Annuario Pontifico* (*AP*) when necessary. Where possible, CARA also provides projections for data into the future using statistical forecasting. CARA also references data from publicly available surveys including: The World Values Survey, The Comparative Study of Electoral Systems, The International Social Survey Programme, the regional "barometer series" (e.g., Eurobarometer, Latinobarometer), as well as recent research from the Pew Research Center on Global Christianity.

Global Overview

This first section of the report presents a global overview of trends in the Catholic Church. Although the world is rapidly evolving in a digital age, it is still the case that Catholicism, more often than not, takes place in brick and mortar. The sacramental focus of Catholicism—especially the regular reception of the Eucharist—means that much of the faith "happens" among Catholics in parishes with priests. One cannot go to confession online or be married at the beach. Arguably, the three most important indicators of "vitality" for the Catholic Church are the number of Catholics, the number of parishes, and the number of priests.

Catholic Population

Overall, the global Catholic population has grown by 57 percent since 1980. However, this growth differs by region, with Europe's Catholic population growing by just 6 percent while the number of Catholics in Africa grew by 238 percent. Differences between these two regions are largely attributable to differences in fertility rates over time.

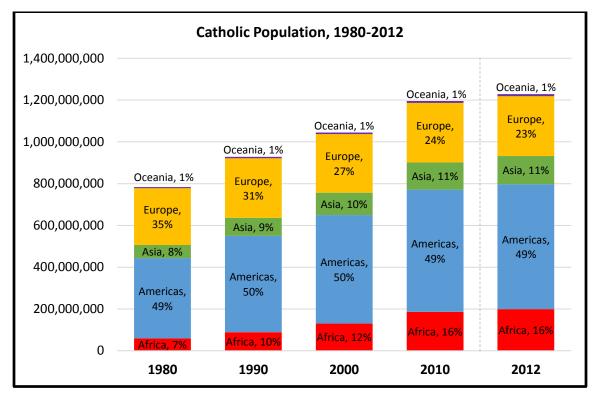
Catholic Population

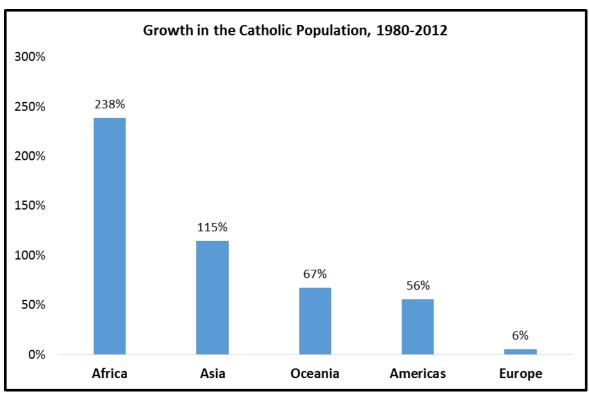
	1980	1990	2000	2010	2012
Africa	58,676,000	88,899,000	130,018,000	185,620,000	198,587,000
Americas	384,816,000	461,264,000	519,391,000	585,998,000	598,819,000
Asia	62,713,000	86,012,000	107,302,000	129,661,000	134,641,000
Europe	271,649,000	285,294,000	280,144,000	284,924,000	286,868,000
Oceania	5,806,000	7,031,000	8,202,000	9,468,000	9,706,000
World	783,660,000	928,500,000	1,045,057,000	1,195,671,000	1,228,621,000

In 1980, the European total fertility rate (TFR or average births per woman over her lifetime) was 2.16. This is just above the replacement rate of 2.1 where two parents are replacing themselves in the population accounting for infant and maternal mortality. By 2012, the European TFR had dropped well below replacement rates to 1.72. In many countries, such as Germany and Italy, the number of deaths in a given year are greater than the number of

¹ Various methods are employed including the simplest "if current trends continue" utilizing regressions or averages as well as population projections provided by the United Nations and the U.S. Census Bureau's International Data Base (IDB).

births. Many European countries only grow their populations through immigration—often from non-Catholic countries.





By comparison, in Sub-Saharan Africa the TFR in 1980 was 6.76. Here too, as nearly everywhere else in recent decades, fertility rates have declined. The most recent estimate in 2012 for Sub-Saharan Africa was a TFR of 5.15—still well above replacement. Thus, strong growth in the number of Catholics in Africa relative to in Europe is more a phenomenon of differential fertility than immigration or evangelization.

Latin America and the Caribbean have historically also had higher levels of fertility than Europe and North America, leading to strong growth in the number of Catholics in this region. In 1980 the TFR for Latin America and the Caribbean was 4.2. By 2012, this had declined to 2.18—where Europe was in 1980. Population growth in Latin America and the Caribbean will also soon stall as its TFR will likely fall below the replacement rate in the coming decades.

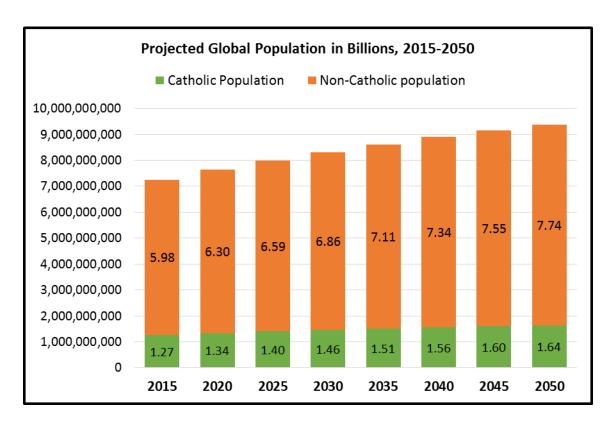
Over the last 50 years the proportion of the global population who are Catholic has remained remarkably steady at about 17.5 percent. Most demographers anticipate a global population exceeding 10 billion by 2100, up from 7.3 billion now. The "engine" of population growth is no longer increasing numbers of children—it is extending life expectancies. The U.S. Census Bureau expects the global senior population (ages 65 and older) to increase from about 617,097,000 now to 1,565,844,000 in 2050. That is growth of 154 percent in just 35 years. The annual number of births worldwide is actually expected to decline during this period by 2 percent, numbering just over 130,000,000 each year. In 2000, the world reached an important milestone: "peak childhood." From then to now and into the future we can expect there to be about 1.9 billion children (under age 15) around the world at any time.

Some demographers do not expect that the global population will ever reach 10 billion. As Joseph Chamie, former director of the United Nations Population Division, has indicated, "The demographic patterns observed throughout Europe, East Asia and numerous other places during the past half century as well as the continuing decline in birth rates in other nations strongly points to one conclusion: The downward global trend in fertility may likely converge to below-replacement levels during this century. The implications of such a change in the assumptions regarding future fertility, affecting as it will consumption of food and energy, would be far reaching for climate change, biodiversity, the environment, water supplies and international migration. Most notably, the world population could peak sooner and begin declining well below the 10 billion currently projected for the close of the 21st century."²

If current trends continue, we can expect the global Catholic population to increase by about 372 million from 2015 to 2050. This would represent 29 percent growth during this period and result in the 2050 Catholic population numbering 1.64 billion.

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² Chamie, Joseph. "Global Population of 10 Billion by 2100? – Not So Fast" in Yale Global, 26 October 2011.



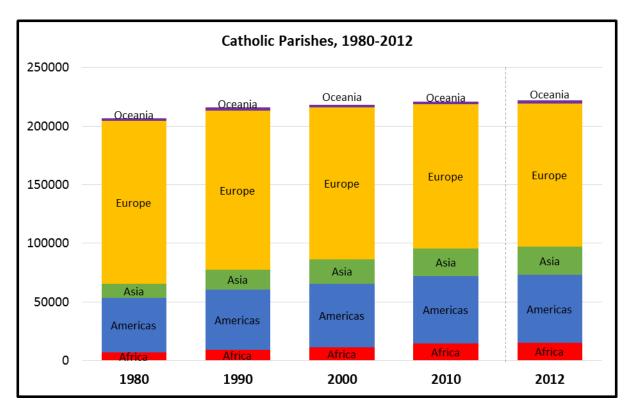
Parishes

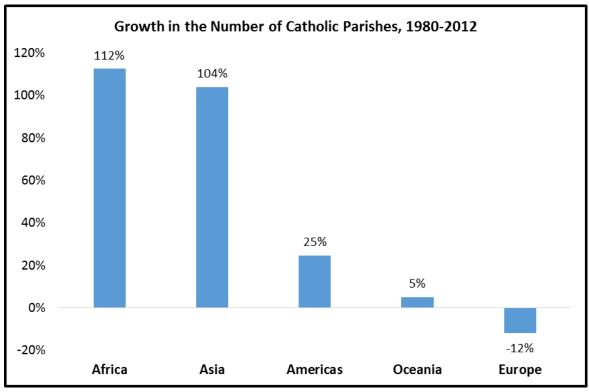
Since 1980, the Church has had a net gain of more than 15,200 parishes representing 7 percent growth. However, with the population growing by 57 percent during this period there has been a lag in constructing the brick and mortar of the Church. In 1980 there were 3,759 Catholics per parish in the world. This figure now stands at 5,541 Catholics per parish.

Catholic Parishes

	1980	1990	2000	2010	2012
Africa	7,162	8,967	11,022	14,401	15,217
Americas	46,351	51,543	54,682	57,683	57,769
Asia	11,854	16,734	20,543	23,675	24,169
Europe	138,828	136,178	129,565	122,881	122,159
Oceania	2,308	2,383	2,384	2,415	2,426
World	206,503	215,805	218,196	221,055	221,740

Underlying the aggregate numbers, there are significant changes within regions. In Asia and Africa, where the fastest growth in the Catholic population has occurred, the number of parishes had doubled since 1980. In the Americas, the number of parishes has increased by 25 percent and in Oceania they have ticked up by 5 percent. In Europe, the number of parishes has declined by 12 percent with a net loss of 16,669 parishes since 1980.





The Church is currently undergoing a dramatic realignment due largely to these differential growth patterns. The parishes that served the Church for hundreds and hundreds of years are no longer closely aligned with the world's Catholic population and certainly not its most

frequently Mass attending populations. However, there is no giant crane that can pick up a parish from Europe and relocate it to Africa. The process of realignment is slow given the autonomy of the Church's diocesan and parish structures. Bishops and pastors do not always have the most current information globally on the changes in their population. Nor does closing parishes in one diocese present a "savings" to another diocese so that a new parish can be built. The Church does not function like a multinational corporation.

To maintain the current ratio for Catholics per parish in 2050, the Church will need to increase its total number of global parishes by about 75,000 to approximately 300,000.

Priests

One of the limitations on the construction of a new parish is the availability of priests to pastor these new communities. Globally, the Church had only 713 more priests, diocesan and religious combined, in 2012 than it did in 1980. The most serious decline was in Europe, which had a net loss of 56,830 priests during this period, representing a 23 percent decline in this population.³

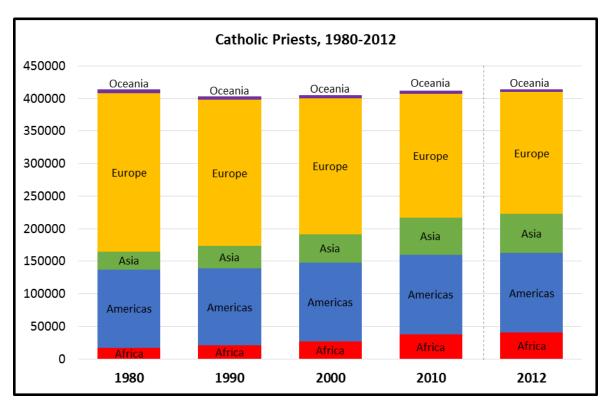
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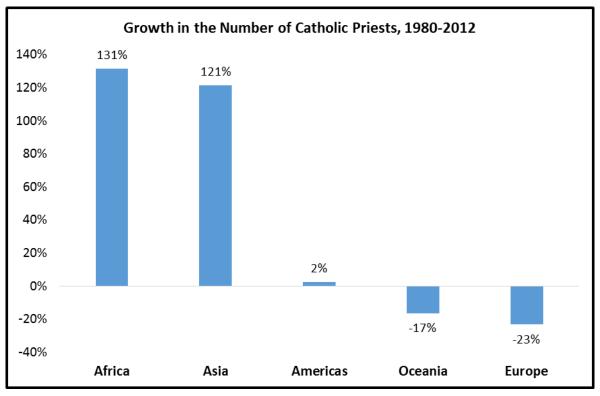
	1980	1990	2000	2010	2012
Africa	17,346	20,399	27,165	37,527	40,133
Americas	120,132	118,882	120,841	122,607	122,924
Asia	27,136	33,855	43,566	57,136	60,042
Europe	243,319	224,606	208,659	190,150	186,489
Oceania	5,667	5,431	4,947	4,816	4,725
World	413,600	403,173	405,178	412,236	414,313

Where the Catholic population is growing, so are the numbers of priests. The number of priests more than doubled in Africa (adding 22,787 priest for a 131 percent increase) and Asia (adding 32,906 priests for a 121 percent increase) between 1980 and 2012. A growing phenomenon within the Church is the use of African and Asian priests in the United States, Europe, and elsewhere where there are too few native priests to staff parishes. Globally, the ratio of Catholics per priest worsened, as the number of Catholics per priest increased from 1,895 in 1980 to 2,965 in 2012.

Given the prevailing trends for population, parishes, and priests, the Church is likely to continue to realign in the coming decades. In 2012, Europe was home to less than one in four Catholics (23 percent). Yet this region still has 55 percent of all Catholic parishes and 45 percent of all Catholic priests. It is likely that Europe faces a future of fewer priests and more parish closures while growth in priests and parishes is likely to continue in Asia and Africa.

³ A previous version of this report incorrectly tallied the number of priests in Europe in 2012 at 165,229 when this was actually 186,489 as noted correctly above.





Other Major Findings

Some of the additional major findings from analysis of the ASE database include:

- The Catholic population of Europe in 2050 is expected to be about 5 percent smaller than it is today, due to sub-replacement rate fertility and immigration adding few Catholics to the overall population. Even with fewer Catholics and relatively low levels of weekly Mass attendance, the Church in Europe will struggle in the future to provide access to Masses and sacraments in its many parishes given its rapidly declining population of priests. This will likely negatively impact levels of sacramental practice that have already been ebbing in recent years.
- Diocesan bishops, priests, and deacons are increasing in number in the Americas as
 the number of religious priests, brothers, and sisters decline. The Catholic
 population of this region is expected to grow from 598.8 million now to 690.1 million
 in 2040. This region is in need of many new parishes, with the ratio of Catholics per
 parish currently exceeding 10,000. Sacramental practice in the Americas has been
 waning and some of this may be related to issues of access to nearby parishes with
 available priests.
- The strongest growth in the Church—across almost every indicator—is occurring in Africa and Asia.
- In Africa, high fertility rates and expanding life expectancies will dramatically increase the number of Catholics from 198.6 million now to 460.4 million in 2040.
 Although the number of priests, religious sisters, and parishes are expanding quickly here, these will undoubtedly lag behind population growth. More parishes are needed as weekly Mass attendance levels among African Catholics averages 70 percent. The numbers of baptisms and first communions in Africa are rising annually but numbers of confirmations and marriages have recently leveled off.
- In Asia, the Catholic population is expected to grow from 134.6 million now to 192.6 million in 2040. Here, a slight majority of Catholics, on average, report attending Mass every week and there is no evidence of decline in Mass attendance rates in recent years. There is strong growth in Asia in the numbers of religious priests, brothers, and sisters, as well as diocesan priests. New parishes are also increasing in number. Unlike most other regions, the Church in Asia has experienced growing numbers of marriages in the Church. In 1980 there were about 381,700 marriages celebrated in Asian parishes. In 2012, 626,380 marriages were celebrated here.
- Trends in the Church in Oceania tend to fall between those of Europe and the Americas. Relative stability is expected here in the coming decades.

Regional Analyses

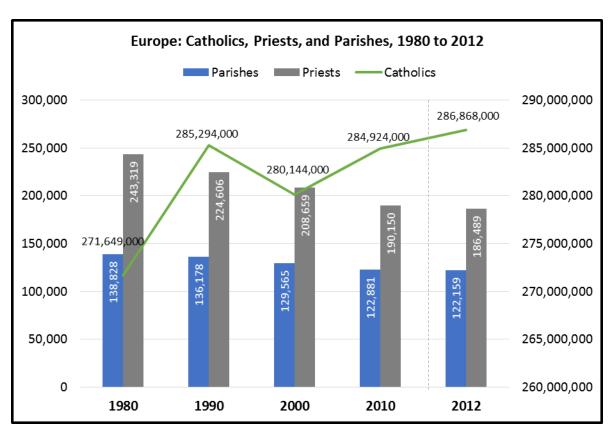
This section of the report presents profiles of the Church based on Vatican statistics within five regions: Europe, The Americas, Africa, Asia, and Oceania.

Europe

As previously noted in the global overview, the numbers of parishes and priests in Europe are declining as the number of Catholics in this region continues to grow slowly. Between 2014 and 2050 the total population of Europe is expected to decline by 5 percent, losing 36 million. This loss is primarily due to low fertility rates. The Catholic share of this population is expected to decline as well, with immigration reducing the share of the population affiliating with the faith and secularizing trends creating more "Nones" (those who are unaffiliated with any religion) in the population.

Europe: Catholics, Population, and Parishes

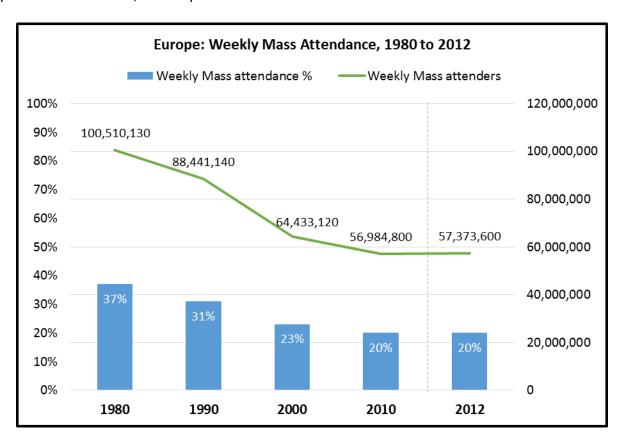
	1980	1990	2000	2010	2012
Parishes	138,828	136,178	129,565	122,881	122,159
Catholic population	271,649,000	285,294,000	280,144,000	284,924,000	286,868,000
Total population	680,490,000	713,908,000	702,661,000	713,397,000	718,706,000
% Catholic	40%	40%	40%	40%	40%
Catholics per parish	1,957	2,095	2,162	2,319	2,348



From 1980 to 2012, Catholics represented 40 percent of the European population. If Catholics continue to be 40 percent of the European population in 2040 the expected Catholic population in the region would be 291.5 million. By 2050, it is expected fall below the level of 2010, at 283.2 million, due to overall population decline in Europe.

Perhaps the most challenging aspect for the Catholic Church in Europe is maintaining a sufficient number of clergy to staff its parishes and still serve a sizeable and historic Catholic population. Europe may need to increasingly rely on international priests from Africa and Asia in the future.

CARA compiled weekly Mass attendance percentages in 629 national surveys conducted in Europe between 1980 and 2013. The average percentage of a European country's Catholics saying they attend Mass every week was 37 percent in the 1980s, 31 percent in the 1990s, 23 percent in the 2000s, and 20 percent since 2010.



As shown on the next page, it is very uncommon for a parish to be entrusted to a non-priest in Europe (i.e., Canon 517.2). Sixty-two percent of parishes in Europe in 2012 were administered by a resident diocesan priest. Seven percent were administered by a resident religious priest, and 29 percent by a non-resident priest. Less than 2 percent are entrusted to someone other than a priest or are vacant. However, about a third of parishes have been without a *resident* priest pastor since 1980.

Europe: Parish Administration

	1980	1990	2000	2010	2012
Resident Diocesan priest	86,907	80,588	77,407	76,731	76,168
Resident Religious priest	8,428	8,790	8,808	8,083	8,046
Administered by non-resident priest	42,123	45,434	40,637	35,955	35,934
Administered by a deacon	39	101	280	258	237
Administered by a religious brother	28	28	105	122	149
Administered by a religious sister	87	183	112	53	124
Administered by lay people	50	608	922	713	621
Vacant parishes	1,166	446	1294	966	880
Parishes without a resident priest pastor	31.3%	34.4%	33.5%	31.0%	31.1%

The only segments of the clergy and vowed religious workforce of the Church in Europe that have grown since 1980 are bishops and permanent deacons. There are 357 more bishops in Europe in 2012 than in 1980 (28 percent growth) and there are 12,153 more permanent deacons (879 percent growth). The number of diocesan priests has decreased by 22 percent from 168,908 in 1980 to 131,742 in 2012.⁴ There are 9,583 more diocesan priests than parishes in Europe. The numbers of religious priests, brothers, and religious sisters have also all decreased. In total, the workforce of the Church in terms of its clergy and vowed religious in Europe has declined by 40 percent since 1980. There are 320,366 fewer clergy and vowed religious in Europe now than in 1980.

Europe: Workforce of the Church

	1980	1990	2000	2010	2012
Bishops	1,255	1,435	1,497	1,606	1,612
Diocesan priests	168,908	156,312	145,268	133,537	131,742
Religious priests	74,411	68,294	63,391	56,613	54,747
Permanent Deacons	1,382	4,311	8,541	12,857	13,535
Religious brothers	35,445	28,525	21,691	17,669	17,574
Religious sisters	527,707	448,348	366,326	286,042	269,532
Workforce of the Church (total)	809,108	707,225	606,714	508,324	488,742

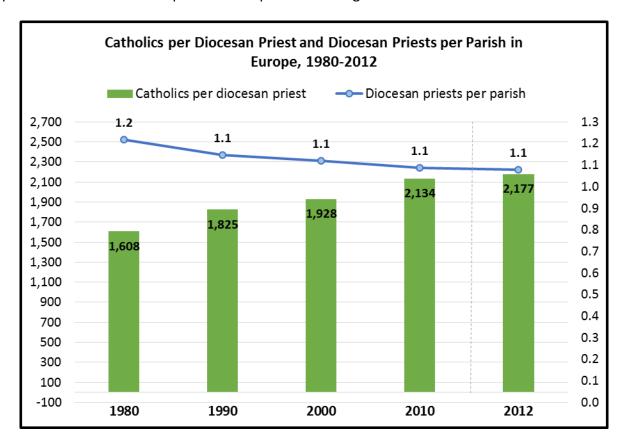
As shown in the table on the next page, dioceses report on several populations of lay persons including those in secular institutes, lay missionaries, and lay catechists. However, the way in which dioceses have estimated these numbers appears to have changed over time. Disaggregating trends for this group is challenging, likely due to a shift in the definitions used. Since 2000, there have been more than 500,000 lay catechists in Europe. The number of lay missionaries has grown from 1,858 in 2000 to 6,456 in 2012. Fewer lay men and women are in secular institutes over time.

⁴ Note that this total includes retired diocesan priests—some of whom may remain in ministry part-time.

Europe: Laity in Ministry

	1980	1990	2000	2010	2012
Lay males in secular institutes	no data	438	421	377	367
Lay women in secular institutes	no data	24,834	22,540	17,560	15,993
Lay missionaries	no data	0	1,857	6,334	6,456
Catechists (lay persons)	209	334	502,352	556,528	549,878

Relative to its number of parishes, Europe has just more than one diocesan priest per parish. Ratios of Catholics per diocesan priest are rising over time.



One of the reasons the Church in Europe has had a declining number of diocesan priests is that it consistently ordains too few men each year compared to the total it loses to mortality and defection. Although in a better situation now then in 1980, the Church in Europe would need to ordain about 1,500 more diocesan priests each year to have stability in this population moving forward.

Europe: Components of Change in the Number of Diocesan Priests

	1980	1990	2000	2010	2012
Ordinations of diocesan priests	1,682	2,456	2,321	1,727	1,717
Deaths of diocesan priests	3,151	3,350	3,291	2,992	3,034
Defections of diocesan priests	471	186	209	258	222
Net change in diocesan priests	-1940	-1080	-1179	-1523	-1,539

As shown below, the number of centers of formation for priests has decreased overall by 38 percent since 1980. In 2012, 18 percent of these centers were diocesan secondary school centers and 34 percent were philosophy and theology centers.

Europe: Centers of Priest Formation

	1980	1990	2000	2010	2012
Diocesan secondary schools	425	370	245	207	197
Diocesan philosophy and theology	347	390	393	394	382
Religious secondary schools	556	148	213	103	89
Religious philosophy and theology	471	169	533	468	445
Total centers of formation	1,799	1,077	1,384	1,172	1,113

The numbers of men in formation in secondary school centers and those studying in philosophy or theology centers has also decreased. In 2012, a total of 19,928 men were in formation for the priesthood at a philosophy or theology center. In that same year, 808 men left these centers. This represents 4.1 percent of those enrolled and is similar to the percentages leaving in years past.

Europe: Men in Formation

	1980	1990	2000	2010	2012
Secondary students in formation	54,704	34,940	14,967	10,968	10,353
Philosophy students in formation	9,816	10,064	10,196	7,669	7,780
Theology students in formation	13,850	18,597	16,683	12,895	12,148
Total students in formation for the					
priesthood	78,370	63,601	41,846	31,532	30,281
Philosophy students leaving the					
seminary	653	638	495	400	383
Theology students leaving the seminary	524	699	614	472	425
Theology and philosophy students					
leaving the seminary	1,177	1,337	1,109	872	808
Theology and philosophy students					
leaving as a % of those enrolled	5.0%	4.7%	4.1%	4.2%	4.1%

As shown in the table on the next page, the number of students enrolled in Catholic institutions of higher learning has more than doubled in Europe since 1980. The numbers of Catholic primary schools and students enrolled in these institutions declined by 26 percent (5,489 fewer schools and more than 1 million fewer students) during this same period. At the same time the number of students enrolled in kindergartens and secondary schools have expanded somewhat (20 percent and 7 percent, respectively).

Europe: Catholic Educational Institutions

	1980	1990	2000	2010	2012
Kindergartens	22,771	23,481	23,528	23,963	23,959
Students in kindergarten	1,634,387	1,845,123	1,681,039	1,923,441	1,954,799
Primary schools	21,373	18,422	18,006	15,812	15,884
Students in primary schools	3,978,952	3,569,204	3,099,393	2,845,993	2,939,700
Secondary schools	10,844	9,933	10,226	9,750	9,633
Students in secondary schools	3,435,984	3,358,318	3,593,830	3,666,414	3,660,559
Students in colleges and universities	243,459	359,931	610,284	903,090	623,087
Total students in Catholic institutions	9,292,782	9,132,576	8,984,546	9,338,938	9,178,145

There were more than 1.5 million fewer infant and child baptisms (under age 7) celebrated in Europe in 2012 than in 1980. These have declined by 43 percent during this period. At the same time, the number of baptisms for those ages 7 and older have increased by 273 percent. However, the number of these celebrations still only make up 4 percent of all baptisms in Europe. The number of first communions and confirmations have also been in decline since 1990 (33 percent and 27 percent, respectively). There were 900,000 fewer marriages in the Church celebrated in Europe in 2012 than in 1980.

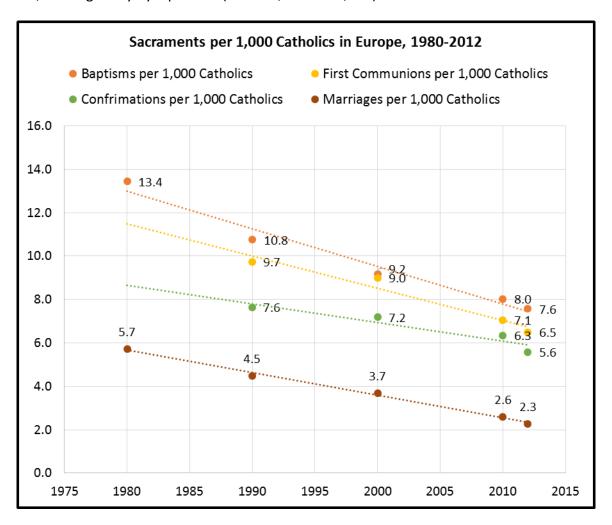
Europe: Sacramental Practice

	1980	1990	2000	2010	2012
Infant and child baptisms (under age 7)	3,625,379	3,011,753	2,463,112	2,200,367	2,083,521
Adult baptisms (ages 7 and older)	23,404	56,031	108,068	87,367	87,349
Total baptisms	3,648,783	3,067,784	2,571,180	2,287,734	2,170,870
First Communions	no data	2,775,740	2,519,433	2,009,433	1,864,505
Confirmations	no data	2,181,981	2,013,061	1,807,846	1,599,414
Marriages: Two Catholics	1,453,846	1,188,190	960,918	667,602	585,594
Marriages: Catholic and non-Catholic	97,253	92,313	72,791	67,147	62,946
Total marriages	1,551,099	1,280,503	1,033,709	734,749	648,540
% of marriages between two Catholics	94%	93%	93%	91%	90%

As shown in the figure on the next page, the numbers of sacraments celebrated per 1,000 Catholics in this region are all in a similar decline. Currently, per 1,000 Catholics in Europe, there are annually 7.6 baptisms, 6.5 first communions, 5.6 confirmations, and 2.3 marriages celebrated.

These declines reflect deep social and cultural changes in Europe. Fewer are marrying or having children. Fewer are joining and maintaining affiliations with brick and mortar membership institutions (including the Catholic Church). Among those who maintain Catholic affiliation, weekly Mass attendance is becoming less common. With fewer regularly in their parishes, and creating families outside of it, sacramental practice is waning in Europe.

At the country level within Europe, there are few states with positive sacramental trends. One notable exception is the Ukraine. In 1990, after the fall of the Soviet Union there were only a few hundred sacraments celebrated here. By 2000, these numbered in the tens of thousands. From 2000 to 2012, the number of baptisms celebrated in The Ukraine increased by 37 percent (from 28,658 to 39,152) and the number of confirmations increased at the same pace (from 27,038 to 37,082). Even marriages in the Church have increased here during this period, although only by 3 percent (from 17,975 to 18,507).



As shown in the table on the next page, overall, the total number of welfare institutions associated with the Catholic Church in Europe has increased by 48 since 1980 from 25,268 to 37,442. The strongest growth has been among matrimonial advice centers which numbered 1,403 in 1980 compared to 4,770 in 2012. The numbers of Catholic hospitals reported by dioceses in Europe has declined and is currently at a low point of 1,039.

Europe: Welfare Institutions

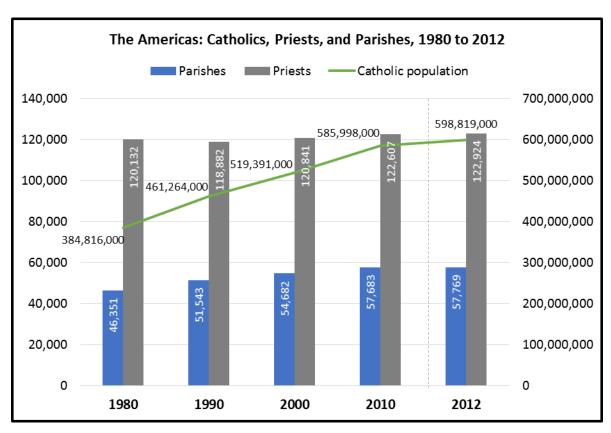
	1980	1990	2000	2010	2012
Hospitals	2,030	1,565	1,330	1,145	1,039
Dispensaries	2,418	2,564	2,893	2,643	2,637
Leprosaria	7	9	4	5	21
Homes for the old or disabled	6,485	6,812	7,679	8,021	8,200
Orphanages	2,709	2,257	2,411	2,078	2,194
Nurseries	2,561	1,643	1,939	2,458	2,285
Matrimonial advice centers	1,403	2,837	4,434	5,787	6,173
Centers for social education or re-education	964	1,963	8,514	11,720	1,141
Other institutions	6,691	11,301	1,604	3,159	13,752
Total welfare institutions	25,268	30,951	30,808	37,016	37,442

The Americas

The Catholic population in the Americas grew by 56 percent from 1980 to 2012—outpacing population growth in the region overall. There are 214 million more Catholics in the Americas now than in 1980. The Church has gained 11,418 Catholic parishes during this period. However, with 57,769 parishes overall in the region the number of Catholics per parish has grown to more than 10,000. In 1980 this figure stood at 8,300 Catholics per parish. The growth in parishes has lagged behind the growth in population (25 percent compared to 56 percent).

The Americas: Catholics, Population, and Parishes

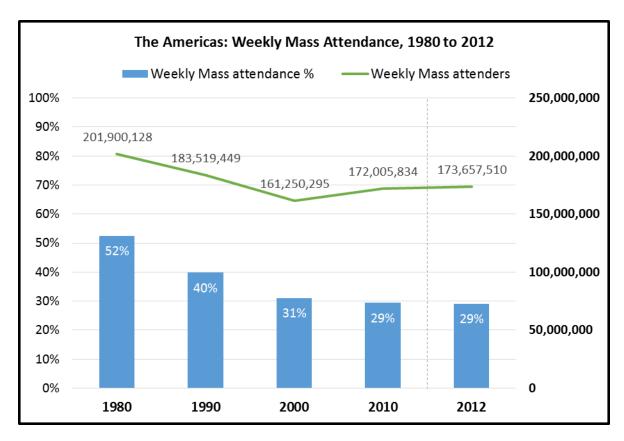
	1980	1990	2000	2010	2012
Parishes	46,351	51,543	54,682	57,683	57,769
Catholic population	384,816,000	461,264,000	519,391,000	585,998,000	598,819,000
Total population	616,807,000	723,648,000	826,554,000	927,021,000	946,971,000
% Catholic	62%	64%	63%	63%	63%
Catholics per parish	8,302	8,949	9,498	10,159	10,366



Catholics have consistently represented more than 60 percent of the population of the Americas. Population growth in the Americas is slowing as fertility rates fall. The total population is expected to grow by about 22 percent between now and 2040. If Catholics continue to be at least 60 percent of this population then the 2040 Catholic population in the region would be expected to number more than 690,500,000. If no new parishes were constructed there would be 11,953 Catholics per parish in the Americas in 2040.

The Americas consistently have had more than 120,000 priests (diocesan and religious) since 1980 and the number of diocesan priests in the region is growing. There are 16,882 more diocesan priests in the Americas now than in 1980 (growth of 26 percent). However, the region has lost nearly the same number of religious priests. In 2012, there were 122,924 priests in the region resulting in a ratio of 4,871 Catholics per priest.

CARA compiled weekly Mass attendance percentages in 354 national surveys conducted in the Americas between 1980 and 2013. The average percentage of an American country's Catholics saying they attend Mass every week was 52 percent in the 1980s, 40 percent in the 1990s, 31 percent in the 2000s, and 29 percent since 2010. Even with 22 percentage point decline in weekly Mass attendance since 1980, with population growth the actual number of weekly Mass attenders in the pews has declined by only 14 percent from nearly 202 million to nearly 174 million.



As shown on the next page, it is very uncommon for a parish to be entrusted to a non-priest in the Americas (i.e., Canon 517.2). Eighty-seven percent of parishes in the Americas in 2012 were administered by a resident priest pastor. Between 9 percent and 13 percent of parishes have been without a *resident* priest pastor since 1980. About 13 percent of parishes in 2012 were administered by non-resident priests.

The Americas: Parish Administration

	1980	1990	2000	2010	2012
Resident Diocesan priest	31,949	35,445	38,782	41,589	42,211
Resident Religious priest	10,203	9,743	8,637	8,765	7,868
Administered by non-resident priest	3,391	4,967	5,662	6,284	6,776
Administered by a deacon	58	129	239	227	240
Administered by a religious brother	28	35	88	34	23
Administered by a religious sister	386	726	687	344	310
Administered by lay people	127	183	303	235	212
Vacant parishes	209	315	284	205	129
Parishes without a resident priest pastor	9.1%	12.3%	13.3%	12.7%	13.3%

Bishops, diocesan priests, and permanent deacons have all grown in number since 1980 in the Americas. The number of religious priests, religious brothers, and religious sisters have all declined in number. The losses among vowed religious have outpaced the gains elsewhere leading to a net loss of 89,762 in the workforce of the Church in the Americas since 1980 (20 percent decline).

The Americas: Workforce of the Church

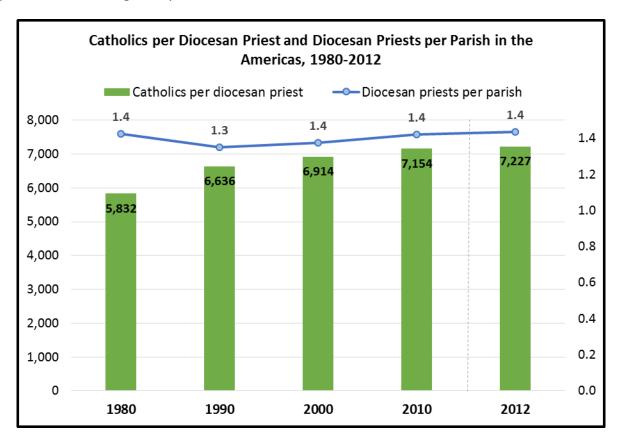
	1980	1990	2000	2010	2012
Bishops	1,460	1,591	1,695	1,914	1,919
Diocesan priests	65,982	69,508	75,121	81,913	82,864
Religious priests	54,150	49,374	45,720	40,694	40,060
Permanent Deacons	5,782	12,414	18,157	25,235	27,096
Religious brothers	22,938	18,941	16,615	16,531	15,953
Religious sisters	293,737	265,653	232,986	195,198	186,395
Workforce of the Church (total)	444,049	417,481	390,294	361,485	354,287

As shown below, dioceses report on several populations of lay persons including those in secular institutes, lay missionaries, and lay catechists. However, the way in which dioceses have estimated these numbers appear to have changed over time. This likely represents a shift in the definitions used. Since 2000, there have been more than 1.4 million lay catechists in the Americas. The number of lay missionaries has grown from 119,582 in 2000 to 317,403 in 2012. More lay men and women have joined secular institutes over time.

The Americas: Laity in Ministry

	1980	1990	2000	2010	2012
Lay males in secular institutes	no data	41	192	244	254
Lay women in secular institutes	no data	4,716	5,588	5,782	5,975
Lay missionaries	no data	864	119,582	300,718	317,403
Catechists (lay persons)	18,711	31,397	1,480,335	1,886,068	1,846,107

Relative to its number of parishes, American dioceses have sufficient numbers of diocesan priests—about three for every two parishes (1.4). Ratios of Catholics per diocesan priest are increasing slowly over time.



One of the reasons the Church in the Americas has had increasing numbers of diocesan priests over time is that it consistently ordains more men each year than it loses to mortality and defection. Currently the Church in the Americas adds more than 500 diocesan priests per year.

The Americas: Components of Change in the Number of Diocesan Priests

	1980	1990	2000	2010	2012
Ordinations of diocesan priests	1,176	1,763	2,156	2,208	2,117
Deaths of diocesan priests	933	1,083	1,173	1,230	1,235
Defections of diocesan priests	319	282	264	325	311
Net change in diocesan priests	-76	398	719	653	571

As shown in the table on the next page, the number of centers of formation for priests has numbered more than 2,000 since 1980 (currently there are 2,688). Numbers of religious secondary schools of formation are in decline with a loss of 34 centers since 1980. All other types of institutions have grown in number.

The Americas: Centers of Priest Formation

	1980	1990	2000	2010	2012
Diocesan secondary schools	437	598	582	564	586
Diocesan philosophy and theology	341	538	594	643	646
Religious secondary schools	543	560	517	526	509
Religious philosophy and theology	679	927	881	975	947
Total centers of formation	2,000	2,623	2,574	2,708	2,688

The numbers of men in formation in secondary school centers have declined by 64 percent since 1980. In 2012, a total of 35,841 men were in formation for the priesthood at a philosophy or theology center. In that same year, 2,205 men left these centers. This represents 6.2 percent of those enrolled and is similar to the percentages leaving in years past.

The Americas: Men in Formation

	1980	1990	2000	2010	2012
Secondary students in formation	38,324	25,044	20,884	14,021	13,965
Philosophy students in formation	11,612	15,792	19,558	18,795	18,804
Theology students in formation	11,088	15,257	16,834	17,676	17,037
Total students in formation for the					
priesthood	61,024	56,093	<i>57,276</i>	50,492	49,806
Philosophy students leaving the					
seminary	987	1,385	1,499	1,606	1,338
Theology students leaving the seminary	588	975	860	1,018	867
Theology and philosophy students					
leaving the seminary	1,575	2,360	2,359	2,624	2,205
Theology and philosophy students					
leaving as a % of those enrolled	6.9%	7.6%	6.5%	7.2%	6.2%

As shown in the table on the next page, the number of students enrolled in Catholic institutions of higher learning has more than doubled since 1980. The number of students enrolled in Catholic primary schools has declined by 5 percent (nearly 317,000 fewer students) during this same period. At the same time the numbers of students enrolled in kindergartens and secondary schools have increased. Overall, there are more than 14 million individuals in the Americas, 2.4 percent of the Catholic population in the region, enrolled in Catholic educational institutions.

The Americas: Catholic Educational Institutions

	1980	1990	2000	2010	2012
Kindergartens	8,684	12,675	15,078	17,502	17,052
Students in kindergarten	514,020	968,743	1,331,058	1,409,609	1,382,068
Primary schools	21,912	21,440	23,860	23,624	23,195
Students in primary schools	6,838,618	7,380,551	7,554,651	6,765,994	6,521,866
Secondary schools	8,660	8,585	9,409	11,665	10,965
Students in secondary schools	3,363,959	3,505,997	3,797,563	3,868,129	3,738,541
Students in colleges and					
universities	1,281,841	1,530,020	2,659,952	3,137,125	3,180,662
Total students in Catholic					
institutions	11,998,438	13,385,311	15,343,224	15,180,857	14,823,137

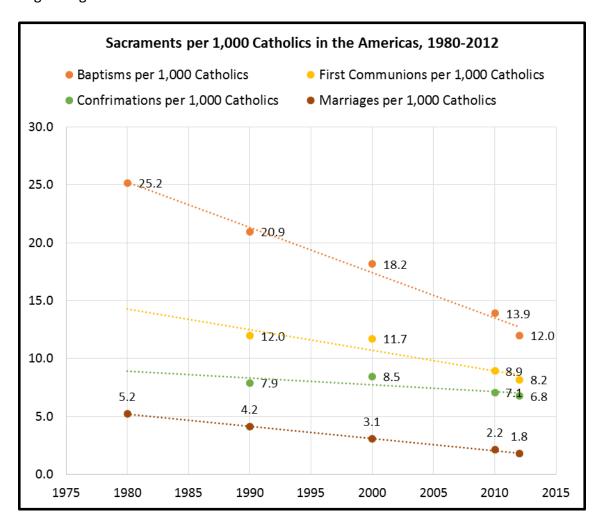
The number of infant and child baptisms (under age 7) has declined by 33 percent in the Americas since 1980. Some of this is due to falling fertility rates with the Latin American and Caribbean TFR decreasing from 4.2 in 1980 to 2.2 in 2012 and North American rates remaining stable, but well below replacement at 1.8 during this period. It is also the case that the number of baptisms of individuals ages 7 and older has jumped by 239 percent during the period reflecting a change, perhaps, in sacramental norms and practices with parents waiting longer to baptize. In 2010, 6.3 percent of those baptized in the Americas were age 7 or older (more than 1 million people). Marriages in the Church in the Americas declined by 46 percent between 1980 and 2012. There were nearly a million fewer of these celebrations in 2012 than in 1980. Data for the number of first communions and confirmations celebrated annually show more stability with the number of confirmations actually increasing over time.

The Americas: Sacramental Practice

	1980	1990	2000	2010	2012
Infant and child baptisms (under age 7)	9,417,293	9,152,396	8,590,019	7,128,307	6,288,043
Adult baptisms (ages 7 and older)	265,198	508,455	843,151	1,019,766	897,569
Total baptisms	9,682,491	9,660,851	9,433,170	8,148,073	7,185,612
First Communions	No data	5,520,814	6,093,856	5,228,555	4,903,639
Confirmations	No data	3,649,780	4,401,416	4,137,076	4,052,714
Marriages: Two Catholics	1,850,071	1,777,622	1,493,797	1,191,556	1,012,779
Marriages: Catholic and non-Catholic	162,332	139,290	110,890	71,926	65,832
Total marriages	2,012,403	1,916,912	1,604,687	1,263,482	1,078,611
% of marriages between two Catholics	8.1%	7.3%	6.9%	5.7%	6.1%

As shown in the figure on the next page, the numbers of sacraments celebrated per 1,000 Catholics in the Americas are all in decline. Currently, per 1,000 Catholics in the Americas, there are annually 12.0 baptisms, 8.2 first communions, 6.8 confirmations, and 1.8 marriages celebrated. These changes reflect similar dynamics to what is occurring in Europe with lower

levels of Mass attendance and sacramental activity among a self-identified Catholic population that is growing.⁵



As shown in the table on the next page, the total number of welfare institutions associated with the Catholic Church in the Americas has increased by 123 percent since 1980, from 17,461 to 38,894, exceeding the number of these institutions in Europe. The strongest growth has been among matrimonial advice centers which numbered 1,435 in 1980 compared to 5,636 in 2012. The number of Catholic hospitals reported by dioceses in the Americas has declined by 38 percent since 1980 and is currently at a low point of 1,493.

⁵ This growth is primarily driven by people living longer than they had in the past. With fertility falling, the fastest growing segment of the global population in the decades to come will be among those ages 65 and older.

The Americas: Welfare Institutions

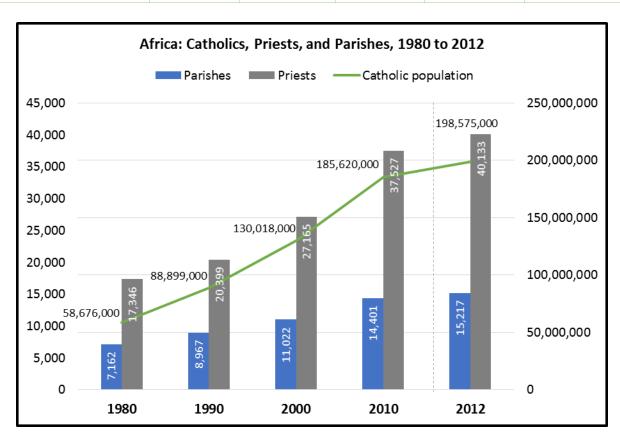
	1980	1990	2000	2010	2012
Hospitals	2,420	2,055	1,946	1,694	1,493
Dispensaries	3,801	4,863	5,224	5,762	5,137
Leprosaria	69	77	55	56	72
Homes for the old or disabled	2,189	2,730	3,465	5,650	3,815
Orphanages	1,431	1,640	2,516	2,770	2,418
Nurseries	1,039	4,040	4,000	3,727	3,661
Matrimonial advice centers	1,435	3,101	4,440	6,472	5,636
Centers for social education or re-education	1,688	3,868	10,817	14,661	1,551
Other institutions	3,389	12,716	3,903	3,564	15,111
Total welfare institutions	17,461	35,090	36,366	44,356	38,894

Africa

The Catholic population in Africa has grown by 238 percent since 1980 and is approaching 200 million. Fertility rates in Africa have remained higher than anywhere else in the world. Growth in the Catholic population accounts for 23 percent of all population growth in Africa since 1980. The percentage of the African population that is Catholic has increased from 12.5 percent in 1980 to 18.6 percent in 2012. Although the number of parishes in Africa increased by 113 percent—adding 8,055 worship sites—the ratio of Catholics per parish has gone from 8,193 in 1980 to 13,050 in 2012. Since 1980, the number of priests has grown faster than parishes (131 percent compared to 112 percent) but not as quickly as the Catholic population (238 percent).

Africa: Catholics, Population, and Parishes

	1980	1990	2000	2010	2012
Parishes	7,162	8,967	11,022	14,401	15,217
Catholic population	58,676,000	88,899,000	130,018,000	185,620,000	198,575,000
Total population	469,543,000	637,121,000	789,455,000	1,015,544,000	1,066,140,000
% Catholic	12.5%	14.0%	16.5%	18.3%	18.6%
Catholics per parish	8,193	9,914	11,796	12,889	13,050

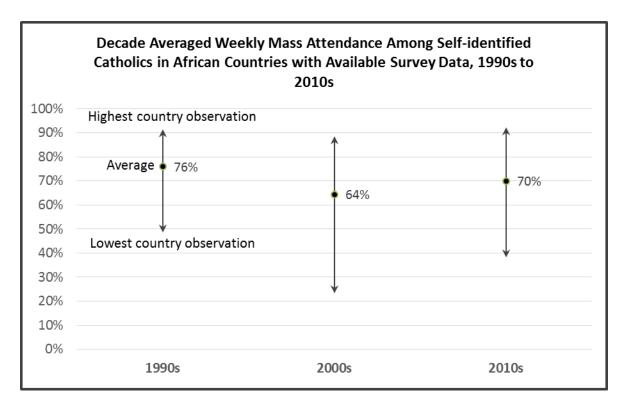


By 2040, the population of Africa is expected to be 1.9 billion and fertility rates will remain above three children per woman over her lifetime, on average. Life expectancies will likely rise to 68 on the continent by 2040. At this time, the U.S. Census Bureau International

Data Base predicts that for every death in Africa there will be 3.5 births. The 21st century will continue to be an era of significant population growth on the continent. If current trends in affiliation and differential fertility among religious groups continue, in 2040, 24 percent of Africans will be Catholic. This would result in a Catholic population of 460,350,000 in Africa.

Even with strong growth in the number of clergy in Africa, these numbers will likely continue to lag behind Catholic population growth. While some African priests serve internationally in parishes throughout the world this may become more challenging in the coming decades with more pressing needs at home.

CARA compiled weekly Mass attendance percentages in 112 national surveys conducted in Africa between 1990 and 2013. The average percentage of an African country's Catholics saying they attend Mass every week was 76 percent in the 1990s, 64 percent in the 2000s, and 70 percent since 2010. However, the variation by country in Africa is greater than in other regions of the world. For example, in Nigeria weekly Mass attendance in 2011 is estimated to be 92 percent. By comparison, in South Africa in the same year it was estimated to 38 percent.



Using the average rate of attendance of 70 percent, there were an estimated 139 million weekly Mass attenders in Africa in 2012 resulting in a ratio of 9,134 weekly attenders per parish in the region.

As shown below, it has become less common over time for African parishes not to have a resident priest pastor. With the numbers of priests growing faster than the numbers of new parishes fewer are entrusted to non-resident priests, other persons, or left vacant.

Africa: Parish Administration

	1980	1990	2000	2010	2012
Resident Diocesan priest	2,292	4,145	6,704	10,315	11,327
Resident Religious priest	3,841	3,395	2,848	2,910	2,989
Administered by non-resident priest	583	945	1,076	869	718
Administered by a deacon	11	21	25	22	21
Administered by a religious brother	7	15	4	44	5
Administered by a religious sister	43	82	38	21	28
Administered by lay people	201	236	218	196	107
Vacant parishes	184	128	109	24	22
Parishes without a resident priest pastor	14.4%	15.9%	13.3%	8.2%	5.9%

Every component of the vowed religious and clergy that make up the workforce of the Church in Africa has been growing since 1980. The strongest growth is among diocesan priests where 21,441 clergy have been added for a growth rate of 354 percent. The number of deacons is up by 225 percent since 1980 and the overall workforce of the Church doubled between 1980 and 2012. In contrast to many other regions, there is growth here among religious institutes with women religious increasing by 33,004 (92.7 percent growth) and religious brothers by 3,281 (61.2 percent growth). Religious priests are growing the slowest at 11.9 percent. There are also now 252 more bishops in Africa than in 1980.

Africa: Workforce of the Church

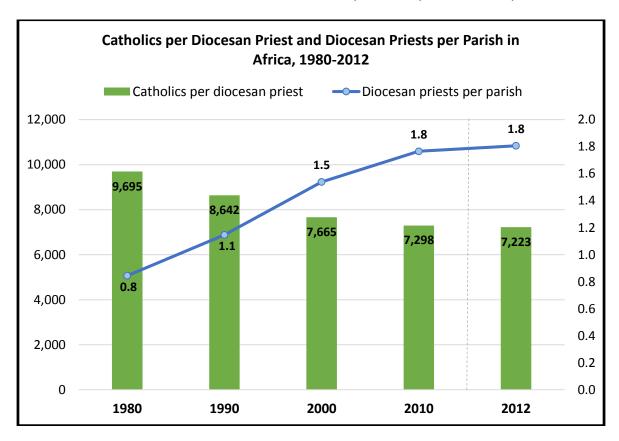
	1980	1990	2000	2010	2012
Bishops	448	494	601	697	700
Diocesan priests	6,052	10,287	16,962	25,434	27,493
Religious priests	11,294	10,112	10,203	12,093	12,640
Permanent Deacons	119	254	345	378	387
Religious brothers	5,364	5,963	7,256	8,564	8,645
Religious sisters	35,586	42,429	52,583	66,375	68,590
Workforce of the Church (total)	58,863	69,539	87,950	113,541	118,455

As shown in the table on the next page, dioceses report on several populations of lay persons including those in secular institutes, lay missionaries, and lay catechists. However, the way in which dioceses estimate these numbers appears to have changed over time. This likely represents a shift in the definitions used. As with the growth in clergy and vowed religious in Africa there is also growth in lay forms of ministry in all areas measured by the Vatican. There are now an estimated 393,580 catechists in Africa along with 7,195 lay missionaries, and 928 lay men and women in secular institutes.

Africa: Laity in Ministry

	1980	1990	2000	2010	2012
Lay males in secular institutes	no data	28	26	84	77
Lay women in secular institutes	no data	423	418	782	851
Lay missionaries	no data	1,329	1,222	6,372	7,195
Catechists (lay persons)	142,138	256,903	385,897	397,383	393,580

In 1980, Africa had fewer diocesan priests per parish than Europe does now. In 2012, there were nearly two diocesan priests per parish—providing the pastoral flexibility that few dioceses around the world could imagine. The number of Catholics per diocesan priest has declined from 9,695 in 1980 to 7,223 in 2012. Future expansions in the number of parishes will be needed given rising numbers of Catholics and high levels of weekly attendance. Many dioceses in Africa have sufficient numbers of diocesan priests to pastor in new parishes.



Growth in the number of new diocesan priests in Africa is not expected to slow. As shown in the table on the next page the number of new diocesan priests ordained annually on the continent is much larger than the numbers lost to mortality or defection. In recent years, there has been a net gain of more than 1,000 diocesan priests every year.

Africa: Components of Change in the Number of Diocesan Priests

	1980	1990	2000	2010	2012
Ordinations of diocesan priests	397	716	1,177	1,572	1,535
Deaths of diocesan priests	43	87	202	200	222
Defections of diocesan priests	42	34	44	78	58
Net change in diocesan priests	312	595	931	1,294	1,255

As one might expect given the growth in clergy, there has also been growth in the number of centers of formation for priests in Africa. These now number more than 1,100. The number of centers of formation for religious priests has grown more quickly than centers for diocesan priests.

Africa: Centers of Priest Formation

	1980	1990	2000	2010	2012
Diocesan secondary schools	280	382	411	473	456
Diocesan philosophy and theology	73	140	152	185	175
Religious secondary schools	52	141	166	245	263
Religious philosophy and theology	43	126	160	194	233
Total centers of formation	448	789	889	1,097	1,127

The number of men in formation for the priesthood has increased by 122 percent since 1980. In 2012, a total of 24,330 men were in formation for the priesthood at a philosophy or theology center. In that same year, 525 men left these centers. This represents 2.2 percent of those enrolled and is down from higher attrition rates in years past.

Africa: Men in Formation

	1980	1990	2000	2010	2012
Secondary students in formation	28,215	40,478	45,941	52,140	52,838
Philosophy students in formation	3,748	7,353	10,507	14,902	13,813
Theology students in formation	2,801	7,010	9,850	11,922	10,517
Total students in formation for the priesthood	34,764	54,841	66,298	78,964	77,168
Philosophy students leaving the seminary	250	335	331	316	257
Theology students leaving the seminary	175	283	358	313	268
Theology and philosophy students leaving the seminary	425	618	689	629	525
Theology and philosophy students leaving as a % of those enrolled	6.5%	4.3%	3.4%	2.3%	2.2%

As shown in the table on the next page, the number of students enrolled in Catholic educational institutions has increased strongly since 1980. In 2012, there were 23.5 million students enrolled in Catholic schools and colleges in Africa up from 6.6 million in 1980 (growth of 256 percent). Colleges and university enrollment has expanded the most, growing by 3,487

percent since 1980 from 8,337 students to 299,032 in 2012. The number of K-12 schools in Africa expanded by 166 percent since 1980—adding 39,532 campuses and now totaling 63,384 schools.

Africa: Catholic Educational Institutions

	1980	1990	2000	2010	2012
Kindergartens	1,954	6,646	11,672	13,600	14,711
Students in kindergarten	162,370	484,574	1,147,902	1,277,500	1,444,069
Primary schools	18,654	23,650	30,245	34,238	36,613
Students in primary schools	5,610,700	8,393,845	10,158,438	15,821,318	16,472,059
Secondary schools	3,244	4,449	7,297	11,477	12,060
Students in secondary schools	806,533	1,275,210	2,267,086	4,540,937	5,241,057
Students in colleges and					
universities	8,337	10,298	69,651	196,087	299,032
Total students in Catholic					
institutions	6,587,940	10,163,627	13,643,077	21,835,842	23,456,217

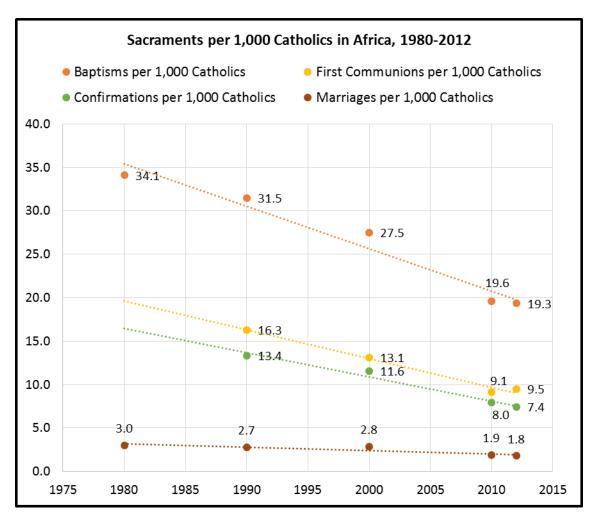
As one might expect given the population growth and Mass attendance rates in Africa, there is substantial growth in sacramental practice as well on the continent. In 1980, there were just over 2 million baptisms in Africa. In 2012, there were 3.8 million new Catholics entering the faith. If there is any cause of concern it is that growth in the number of first communions and confirmations lags behind baptisms and confirmations have decreased in number slightly since 2000. Similar to baptisms, marriages have increased in number strongly with 99 percent growth since 1980.

Africa: Sacramental Practice

	1980	1990	2000	2010	2012
Infant and child baptisms (under age 7)	1,413,847	1,853,757	2,265,897	2,442,522	2,577,280
Adult baptisms (ages 7 and older)	587,257	945,713	1,308,322	1,197,253	1,262,564
Total baptisms	2,001,104	2,799,470	3,574,219	3,639,775	3,839,844
First Communions	No data	1,446,170	1,707,460	1,687,951	1,886,907
Confirmations	No data	1,187,663	1,503,878	1,475,941	1,475,184
Marriages: Two Catholics	152,798	203,546	326,173	310,520	310,728
Marriages: Catholic and non-Catholic	24,887	40,901	42,480	40,740	43,368
Total marriages	177,685	244,447	368,653	351,260	354,096
% of marriages between two Catholics	86.0%	83.3%	88.5%	88.4%	87.0%

As shown in the figure on the next page, the numbers of sacraments celebrated per 1,000 Catholics in Africa are surprisingly on declining trends controlling for the growth and size of the population over time. Currently, per 1,000 Catholics in Africa, there are annually 19.3 baptisms, 9.5 first communions, 7.4 confirmations, and 1.8 marriages celebrated.

The number of marriages celebrated in the Church per 1,000 Catholics in Africa is actually similar to the Americas and lower than in Europe. Even as nearly all the indicators are pointing up in Africa, sacramental practice is still lagging behind population growth. Some of this is related to population growth being driven by longer life expectancies (e.g., you are only baptized once). Yet the Church still faces a global 21st century problem of keeping Catholics engaged with parish and sacramental life. In Africa, more than elsewhere, the Church needs to explore the possibility that some forego or delay sacramental activity due to a lack of access to a nearby parish.



As shown in the table on the next page, overall, the total number of welfare institutions associated with the Catholic Church in Africa has increased by 97 percent since 1980 from 7,828 to 15,419. The strongest growth has been among matrimonial advice centers (486 percent increase) and nurseries (483 percent increase). The number of Catholic Hospitals reported by dioceses in Africa has increased and is currently at a high point of 1,298. Also increasing in number since 1980 are homes for the old or disabled (124 percent growth), orphanages (291 percent growth), and dispensaries (69 percent growth).

Africa: Welfare Institutions

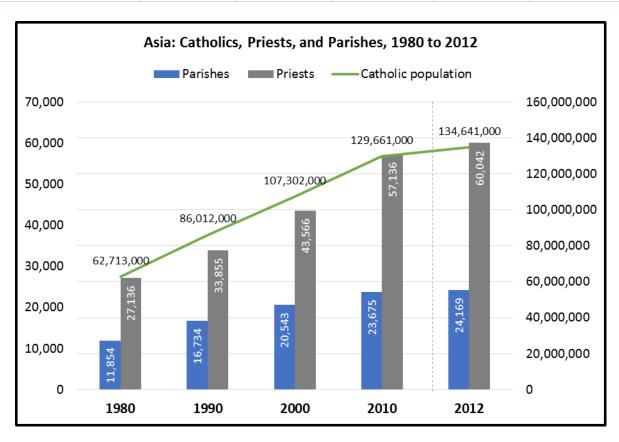
	1980	1990	2000	2010	2012
Hospitals	978	898	819	1,150	1,298
Dispensaries	3,115	3,591	4,715	5,312	5,256
Leprosaria	283	238	378	198	229
Homes for the old or disabled	281	402	890	655	632
Orphanages	358	533	859	1,345	1,398
Nurseries	360	617	1,760	1,918	2,099
Matrimonial advice centers	295	955	1,503	1,812	1,728
Centers for social education or re-education	780	1,169	2,105	2,508	223
Other institutions	1,378	4,775	1,167	1,250	2,556
Total welfare institutions	7,828	13,178	14,196	16,148	15,419

Asia

From 1980 to 2012, the Catholic population of Asia increased by 115 percent from 62.7 million to 134.6 million. This does not include the Catholic population of mainland China, for which the Vatican does not provide estimates. Examination of survey data and other estimates indicate that in 2010 the Catholic population of China was 9 million (ranking just below Portugal). Including this estimate for China, the current Catholic population in Asia may be as high as 143.6 million. The percentage of Asia's population that is Catholic is growing slowly from 2.4 percent in 1980 to 3.2 percent in 2012.6

Asia: Catholics, Population, and Parishes

	1980	1990	2000	2010	2012
Parishes	11,854	16,734	20,543	23,675	24,169
Catholic population	62,713,000	86,012,000	107,302,000	129,661,000	134,641,000
Total population	2,581,687,000	3,149,064,000	3,698,142,000	4,156,095,000	4,254,259,000
% Catholic	2.4%	2.7%	2.9%	3.1%	3.2%
Catholics per parish	5,290	5,140	5,223	5,477	5,571

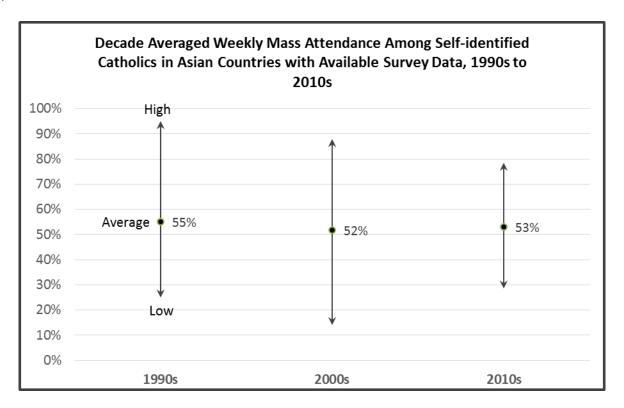


If current growth rates continue, 3.8 percent of Asia's population will be Catholic by 2040 which would result in a total Catholic population of approximately 192.6 million.

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⁶ Asia is home to the largest population of people without any religious affiliation numbering 858.6 million or 21 percent of the region in 2010.

CARA compiled weekly Mass attendance percentages in 75 national surveys conducted in Asia between 1990 and 2013. The average percentage of an Asian country's Catholics saying they attend Mass every week was 55 percent in the 1990s, 52 percent in the 2000s, and 53 percent since 2010. There is considerable variation in weekly Mass attendance rates by country in Asia. Some 15 percent of Catholics in China reported weekly attendance in 2006. By comparison, 93 percent of Catholics in Singapore reported weekly attendance during the same year.



If current trends continue and Mass attendance rates remain stable, there would be about 102 million weekly Mass attenders in Asia in 2040. If dioceses in Asia did not construct any new parishes or close any existing sites this would lead to an estimated 4,223 Mass attending Catholics per parish at this point in time.

As shown on the next page, 91 percent of parishes in Asia have resident priest pastors. Additionally, 8 percent are administered by non-resident priests. Entrusting the parish to deacons or lay persons is uncommon (i.e., Canon 517.2). However, one recent change is a growing number of parishes entrusted to religious sisters. In 2010, only 11 parishes were entrusted to religious sisters and two years later 95 parishes were entrusted as such.

Over time the percentage of parishes without resident priest pastors has steadily declined from 17 percent in 1990 to 8.9 percent in 2012.

Asia: Parish Administration

	1980	1990	2000	2010	2012
Resident Diocesan priest	7,188	10,562	13,763	17,472	17,941
Resident Religious priest	3,057	3,322	3,496	4,046	4,080
Administered by non-resident priest	1,447	2,381	2,939	1,923	1,891
Administered by a deacon	18	15	6	2	11
Administered by a religious brother	12	36	36	61	31
Administered by a religious sister	33	35	72	10	95
Administered by lay people	47	45	141	96	84
Vacant parishes	52	338	90	65	36
Parishes without a resident priest pastor	13.6%	17.0%	16.0%	9.1%	8.9%

The workforce of the Church, in terms of vowed religious and clergy, has expanded broadly in recent decades. Since 1980 the number of priests (diocesan and religious) in Asia has increased by 121 percent from 27,136 to 60,042 in 2012. Numbers of religious brothers and sisters have nearly doubled. There are 231 more bishops in Asia in 2012 than in 1980 as well. Overall the workforce of the Church has essentially doubled from 121,710 to 242,264 since 1980. This is near the same rate of growth occurring in the Catholic population.

Asia: Workforce of the Church

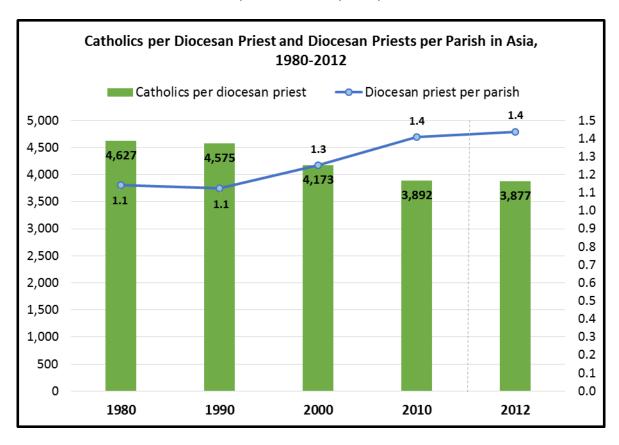
	1980	1990	2000	2010	2012
Bishops	535	584	627	758	766
Diocesan priests	13,555	18,799	25,716	33,318	34,731
Religious priests	13,581	15,056	17,850	23,818	25,311
Permanent Deacons	33	52	87	190	178
Religious brothers	6,117	6,637	7,659	10,461	11,688
Religious sisters	87,889	112,127	138,195	165,308	169,590
Workforce of the Church (total)	121,710	153,255	190,134	233,853	242,264

Dioceses report on several populations of lay persons including those in secular institutes, lay missionaries, and lay catechists. However, the way in which dioceses have estimated these numbers appear to have changed over time. These data indicate growth in Asia among all lay ministry populations measured by the Vatican.

Asia: Laity in Ministry

	1980	1990	2000	2010	2012
Lay males in secular institutes	no data	31	79	41	72
Lay women in secular institutes	no data	861	1,378	1,881	1,839
Lay missionaries	no data	352	3,597	21,726	31,341
Catechists (lay persons)	52,422	83,638	260,961	304,774	365,720

With strong growth in the number of clergy in recent decades the number of Catholics per diocesan priest in Asia has been falling and the number of diocesan priests per parish rising. There are now about three diocesan priests for every two parishes.



The number of diocesan priests are growing in Asia because the number ordained each year by far exceeds the numbers lost to death or defections. Since 2000, more than 1,000 priests have been ordained annually in Asia.

Asia: Components of Change in the Number of Diocesan Priests

	1980	1990	2000	2010	2012
Ordinations of diocesan priests	562	959	1,094	1,287	1,156
Deaths of diocesan priests	172	188	254	318	301
Defections of diocesan priests	51	48	58	61	91
Net change in diocesan priests	339	723	782	908	764

As shown in the table on the next page, the total numbers of centers of formation for priests have increased by 232 percent since 1980. The number of centers for religious clergy are growing more quickly than those for diocesan clergy. There are 1,482 more centers in 2012 than in 1980.

Asia: Centers of Priest Formation

	1980	1990	2000	2010	2012
Diocesan secondary schools	223	339	390	461	470
Diocesan philosophy and theology	94	150	291	224	241
Religious secondary schools	176	299	402	615	720
Religious philosophy and theology	147	270	405	638	691
Total centers of formation	640	1,058	1,488	1,938	2,122

The numbers of men in formation in all types of centers of formation have increased since 1980. In 2012, a total of 35,481 men were in formation for the priesthood at a philosophy or theology center. In that same year, 618 men left these centers. This represents 1.7 percent of those enrolled and is slightly below the trend since 1980.

Asia: Men in Formation

	1980	1990	2000	2010	2012
Secondary students in formation	16,624	21,048	24,745	24,930	25,065
Philosophy students in formation	6,729	11,035	13,911	19,004	20,333
Theology students in formation	5,461	10,253	12,095	15,240	15,148
Total students in formation for the	28,814	42,336	50,751	59,174	60,546
Philosophy students leaving the					
seminary	249	329	311	190	320
Theology students leaving the seminary	210	243	262	143	298
Theology and philosophy students					
leaving the seminary	459	<i>572</i>	<i>573</i>	333	618
Theology and philosophy students					
leaving as a % of those enrolled	3.8%	2.7%	2.2%	1.0%	1.7%

As shown in the table on the next page, the number of students enrolled in Catholic institutions of higher learning and kindergartens tripled since 1980. Overall, the number of students enrolled has expanded by 83 percent since 1980 adding more than 7.1 million students enrolled to total 15.3 million in Catholic educational institutions in 2012. The number of schools has expanded along with enrollments.

Asia: Catholic Educational Institutions

	1980	1990	2000	2010	2012
Kindergartens	4,889	8,000	10,905	13,935	14,064
Students in kindergarten	606,985	1,058,582	1,369,762	1,761,085	1,875,272
Primary schools	11,108	12,608	14,625	15,877	16,097
Students in primary schools	3,752,622	4,286,949	4,668,907	5,023,844	5,675,312
Secondary schools	6,207	7,572	7,976	10,015	10,450
Students in secondary schools	3,150,892	3,982,112	4,017,422	5,291,981	5,801,336
Students in colleges and					
universities	622,199	924,365	1,333,202	1,800,752	1,888,974
Total students in Catholic					
institutions	8,154,902	10,280,188	11,389,293	13,917,489	15,281,505

The number of infant and child baptisms (under age 7) increased by 16.6 percent from 1980 to 2012. Adult baptisms (ages 7 and older) expanded much more by 79.9 percent. Overall, entries into the Church have increased by 23.9 percent from 1980 to 2012. Declines in infant and child baptisms coincide with falling fertility in Asia. In East Asia and the Pacific the total fertility rate has fallen from 3.05 in 1980 to below replacement, 1.82, in 2012. Fertility is slightly higher in South Asia but still fell here from 5.01 in 1980 to 2.59 in 2012. The numbers of first communions and confirmations celebrated annually have been increasing over time. The total number of marriages in the Church in Asia has grown from 381,697 in 1980 to 626,380 in 2012 (growth of 64.1 percent).

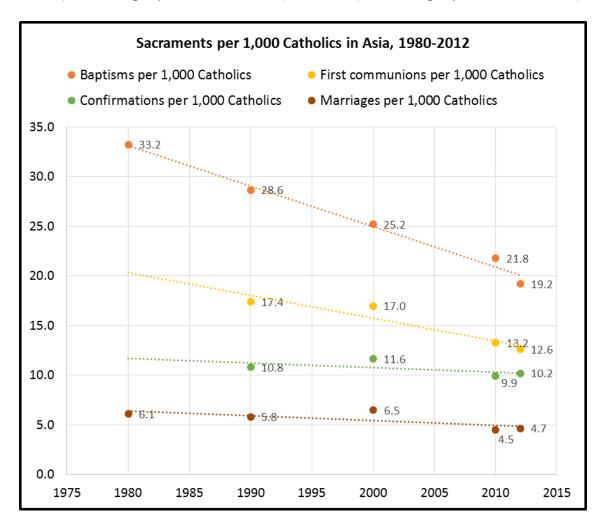
Asia: Sacramental Practice

	1980	1990	2000	2010	2012
Infant and child baptisms (under age 7)	1,842,145	2,109,025	2,256,942	2,397,869	2,147,877
Adult baptisms (ages 7 and older)	241,244	354,197	444,613	427,439	434,024
Total baptisms	2,083,389	2,463,222	2,701,555	2,825,308	2,581,901
First Communions	No data	1,495,574	1,819,766	1,717,188	1,696,831
Confirmations	No data	930,792	1,248,515	1,288,680	1,371,401
Marriages: Two Catholics	345,963	442,187	635,898	527,622	562,442
Marriages: Catholic and non-Catholic	35,734	56,789	60,942	59,332	63,938
Total marriages	381,697	498,976	696,840	586,954	626,380
% of marriages between two Catholics	90.6%	88.6%	91.3%	89.9%	89.8%

As shown in the figure on the next page, the numbers of sacraments celebrated per 1,000 Catholics in Asia are declining over time. Currently, per 1,000 Catholics in Asia, there are annually 19.2 baptisms, 12.6 first communions, 10.2 confirmations, and 4.7 marriages celebrated.

Baptismal rates per 1,000 Catholics in Asia are similar to those in Africa. However, for rates of celebration for first communions, confirmations, and marriage, Asia leads the world. Marriage rates are significantly higher here than in other regions.

There are also a few Asian countries with marriage rates even higher than other countries in this region. In 2012 these included: Vietnam (12.2 marriages per 1,000 Catholics), Cambodia (8.5 marriages per 1,000 Catholics), and Laos (7.5 marriages per 1,000 Catholics).



As shown in the table on the next page, the total number of welfare institutions associated with the Catholic Church in Asia has increased by 119 percent since 1980. The strongest growth has been among nurseries (increasing by 295 percent) and among homes for the old and disabled (increasing by 386 percent). In contrast to other regions, matrimonial advice centers grew only modestly at 10 percent during this period. The numbers of Catholic Hospitals reported by dioceses in Asia have fluctuated but are consistently over 1,000.

Asia: Welfare Institutions

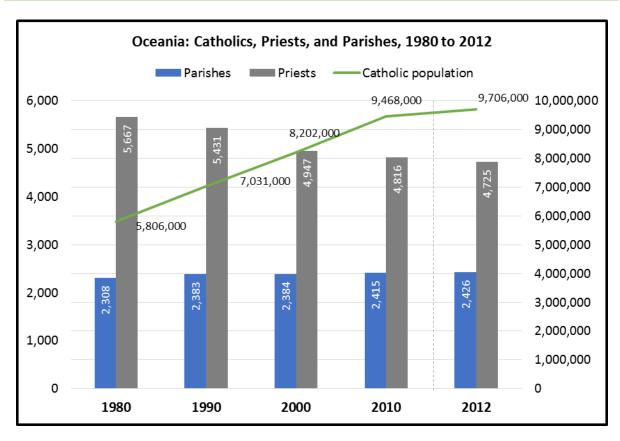
	1980	1990	2000	2010	2012
Hospitals	1,089	1,005	1,584	1,126	1,137
Dispensaries	2,241	3,117	3,427	3,884	3,760
Leprosaria	266	405	348	285	322
Homes for the old or disabled	519	835	1,548	2,346	2,520
Orphanages	1,629	2,165	2,851	3,606	3,980
Nurseries	872	1,530	2,849	3,175	3,441
Matrimonial advice centers	847	882	945	987	933
Centers for social education or re-education	868	3,105	6,084	4,867	581
Other institutions	1,467	4,288	889	1,252	4,751
Total welfare institutions	9,798	17,332	20,525	21,528	21,425

Oceania

The Catholic population in Oceania has grown at the same rate as the total population in the region since 1980 and in 2012 totaled 9.7 million. With a stable number of parishes during this period, this growth has meant that the number of Catholics per parish has gone from 2,516 in 1980 to 4,001 in 2012.

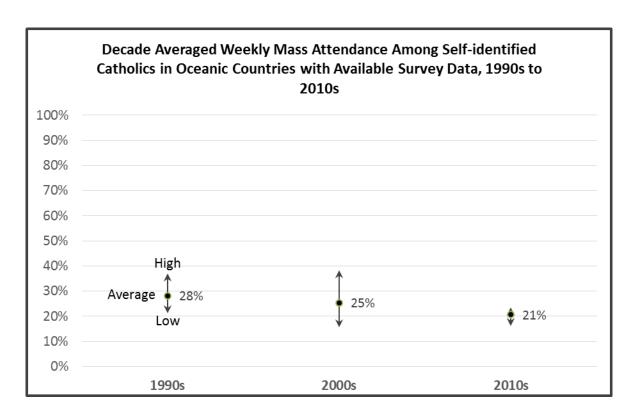
Oceania: Catholics, Population, and Parishes

	1980	1990	2000	2010	2012
Parishes	2,308	2,383	2,384	2,415	2,426
Catholic population	5,806,000	7,031,000	8,202,000	9,468,000	9,706,000
Total population	22,739,000	26,497,000	30,566,000	36,492,000	37,301,000
% Catholic	25.5%	26.5%	26.8%	25.9%	26.0%
Catholics per parish	2,516	2,950	3,440	3,920	4,001



From 1980 to 2012, Catholics represented 26 percent of the population of Oceania. If Catholics continue to be 26 percent of the Oceanic population in 2040 there will be approximately 12 million Catholics in the region.

As shown on the next page, CARA compiled weekly Mass attendance percentages in 51 national surveys conducted in Australia and New Zealand between 1990 and 2012. The average percentage of Catholics saying they attend Mass weekly in these two countries was 28 percent in the 1990s, 25 percent in the 2000s, and 21 percent since 2010.



Weekly Mass attendance in Australia and New Zealand is similar to levels in Europe. To the degree these two countries reflect all of Oceania, it is expected that about 2 million Catholics in the region attend Mass weekly resulting in 866 weekly attenders per parish.

As shown in the table below, the percentage of parishes without a resident priest pastor have grown from 6.0 percent in 1980 to 19.3 percent in 2012. Thus, eight in ten parishes have a resident priest pastor and an additional 14 percent are administered by non-resident priests. The numbers of parishes entrusted to lay people (Canon 517.2) have grown from 47 in 1980 to 65 in 2012.

Oceania: Parish Administration

	1980	1990	2000	2010	2012
Resident Diocesan priest	1,571	1,617	1,537	1,460	1,463
Resident Religious priest	598	534	485	512	494
Administered by non-resident priest	71	151	261	322	349
Administered by a deacon	7	12	16	21	19
Administered by a religious brother	5	0	4	0	0
Administered by a religious sister	3	15	31	16	18
Administered by lay people	47	30	46	62	65
Vacant parishes	6	24	4	22	18
Parishes without a resident priest pastor	6.0%	9.7%	15.2%	17.5%	19.3%

The only segments of the clergy and vowed religious workforce of the Church in Oceania that have grown since 1980 are bishops and permanent deacons. There are 35 more bishops in the region in 2012 than in 1980 (35 percent growth) and there are 322 more permanent deacons (671 percent growth). The number of diocesan priests has decreased by 9 percent from 2,912 in 1980 to 2,731 in 2012. There are 305 more diocesan priests than parishes in Oceania. The numbers of religious priests, brothers, and religious sisters have also all decreased. In total, the workforce of the Church in terms of its clergy and vowed religious in Oceania has declined by 40 percent since 1980. There are 10,007 fewer clergy and vowed religious in Oceania now than in 1980.

Oceania: Workforce of the Church

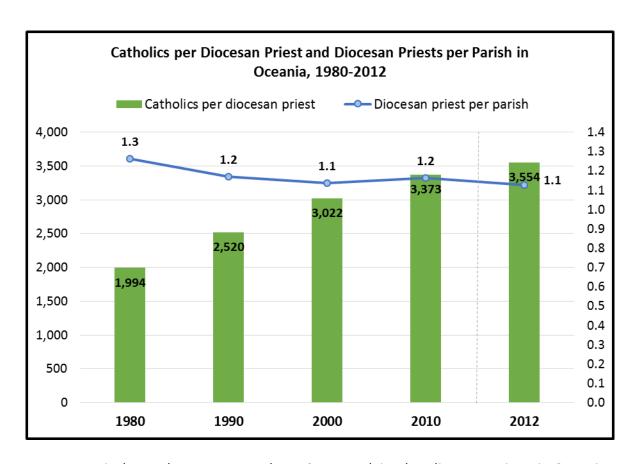
	1980	1990	2000	2010	2012
Bishops	101	106	121	129	136
Diocesan priests	2,912	2,790	2,714	2,807	2,731
Religious priests	2,755	2,641	2,233	2,009	1,994
Permanent Deacons	48	89	176	344	370
Religious brothers	3,226	2,460	1,836	1,440	1,454
Religious sisters	16,072	13,554	11,095	9,012	8,422
Workforce of the Church (total)	25,114	21,640	18,175	15,741	15,107

As shown in the table below, dioceses report on several populations of lay persons including those in secular institutes, lay missionaries, and lay catechists. However, the way in which dioceses have estimated these numbers appear to have changed over time. This likely represents a shift in the definitions used. Since 2000, there have been more than 12,000 lay catechists in Oceania. The number of lay missionaries has declined from 220 in 1990 to 90 in 2012. Very few lay men or women are involved in secular institutes in Oceania.

Oceania: Laity in Ministry

	1980	1990	2000	2010	2012
Lay males in secular institutes	no data	1	1	1	1
Lay women in secular institutes	no data	46	44	48	44
Lay missionaries	no data	220	107	352	90
Catechists (lay persons)	4,735	6,232	12,343	15,875	15,358

As shown in the figure on the next page, the ratio of diocesan priests per parish in Oceania have been decreasing over time and is nearing parity. The ratio of Catholics per diocesan priest is rising over time as well.



In a typical year there are more than 40 men ordained as diocesan priests in Oceania. Sometimes this exceeds the number of diocesan priests lost to mortality or defection and sometimes it does not. As noted previously, the number of diocesan priests is in decline in this region.

Oceania: Components of Change in the Number of Diocesan Priests

	1980	1990	2000	2010	2012
Ordinations of diocesan priests	43	44	66	49	52
Deaths of diocesan priests	46	31	61	49	62
Defections of diocesan priests	18	12	13	7	12
Net change in diocesan priests	-21	1	-8	-7	-22

Oceania has had 70 or more centers for priestly formation since 1980.

Oceania: Centers of Priest Formation

	1980	1990	2000	2010	2012
Diocesan secondary schools	17	16	24	24	20
Diocesan philosophy and theology	13	17	26	19	21
Religious secondary schools	4	7	7	11	9
Religious philosophy and theology	40	30	21	20	21
Total centers of formation	74	70	<i>78</i>	74	71

The numbers of men in formation have ranged from more than 1,100 to 1,300 in any given year since 1980. In 2012, a total of 1,078 men were in formation for the priesthood at a philosophy or theology center. In that same year, 69 men left these centers. This represents 6.4 percent of those enrolled and is similar to the percentages leaving in years past.

Oceania: Men in Formation

	1980	1990	2000	2010	2012
Secondary students in formation	452	336	322	249	235
Philosophy students in formation	406	308	443	480	490
Theology students in formation	531	486	480	540	588
Total students in formation for the priesthood	1,389	1,130	1,245	1,269	1,313
Philosophy students leaving the	,	,	, -	,	,
seminary	38	22	24	24	29
Theology students leaving the seminary	23	36	22	26	40
Theology and philosophy students leaving the seminary	61	58	46	50	69
Theology and philosophy students leaving as a % of those enrolled	6.5%	7.3%	5.0%	4.9%	6.4%

The number of students enrolled in Catholic educational institutions in Oceania has increased by 63 percent since 1980 (adding nearly 477,000 students). The strongest growth has occurred among those enrolled in kindergartens (increasing 851 percent) and colleges and universities (increasing 633 percent). The number of K-12 schools has expanded by 2,260 (69 percent growth).

Oceania: Catholic Educational Institutions

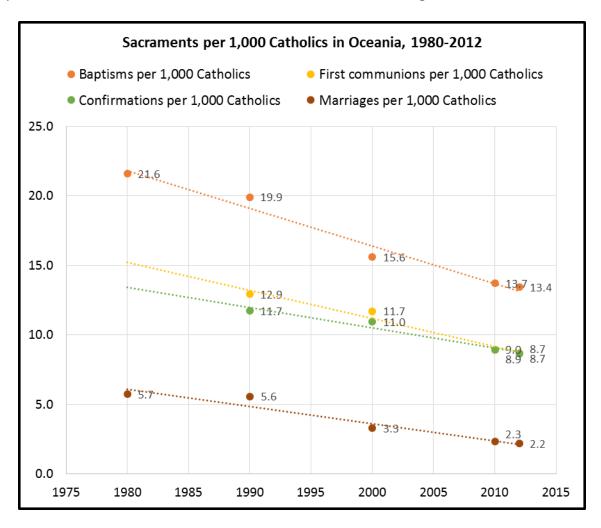
	1980	1990	2000	2010	2012
Kindergartens	185	349	661	1,544	1,402
Students in kindergarten	7,623	33,478	37,051	106,992	72,462
Primary schools	2,407	2,428	2,721	3,296	3,457
Students in primary schools	480,310	510,918	615,746	694,021	690,732
Secondary schools	682	661	651	684	675
Students in secondary schools	257,583	319,261	350,784	426,098	427,744
Students in colleges and universities	4,579	7,049	17,692	43,090	33,570
Total students in Catholic institutions	753,369	867,701	1,025,336	1,275,725	1,230,042

As shown in the table on the next page, the numbers of child, adult, and therefore total baptisms in Oceania have increased slightly since 1980 by about 4 percent. All other listed sacraments have seen declining numbers over time. Marriages in the Church in Oceania have declined by 36 percent since 1980 from 33,380 to 21,399 in 2012.

Oceania: Sacramental Practice

	1980	1990	2000	2010	2012
Infant and child baptisms (under age 7)	111,497	125,507	114,062	114,197	116,000
Adult baptisms (ages 7 and older)	13,900	14,635	13,890	15,739	14,375
Total baptisms	125,397	140,142	127,952	129,936	130,375
First Communions	No data	90,952	96,147	84,819	84,594
Confirmations	No data	82,563	89,893	84,573	84,270
Marriages: Two Catholics	17,784	21,311	16,211	14,198	13,943
Marriages: Catholic and non-Catholic	15,596	17,913	10,812	7,811	7,456
Total marriages	33,380	39,224	27,023	22,009	21,399
% of marriages between two Catholics	53.3%	54.3%	60.0%	63.7%	65.2%

As shown below, the numbers of sacraments celebrated per 1,000 Catholics in Oceania are all in a similar decline. Currently, per 1,000 Catholics in Oceania, there are annually 13.4 baptisms, 8.7 first communions, 8.7 confirmations, and 2.2 marriages celebrated.



Overall, the total number of welfare institutions associated with the Catholic Church in Oceania has increased by 156 percent since 1980 from 848 to 2,172. Strong growth has been evident among matrimonial advice centers (increasing 286 percent) and nurseries (increasing 293 percent). The number of Catholic Hospitals reported by dioceses in Oceania has increased and is currently at a high point of 200.

Oceania: Welfare Institutions

	1980	1990	2000	2010	2012
Hospitals	183	152	174	190	200
Dispensaries	214	165	186	578	532
Leprosaria	5	3	2	3	4
Homes for the old or disabled	168	239	351	551	532
Orphanages	58	55	58	83	134
Nurseries	28	20	92	101	110
Matrimonial advice centers	71	178	280	269	274
Centers for social education or re-education	75	91	239	575	167
Other institutions	46	409	140	166	219
Total welfare institutions	848	1,312	1,522	2,516	2,172

Appendix

The Vatican included the following countries within these regions for 2012:

Africa

Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Cote d'Iviore, Dem. Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Equatorial Guinea, Guinea, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Réunion, Rwanda, Saint Helena, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Western Sahara, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Americas—Central America Antilles

Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Aruba, Bahamas, Barbados, Cayman Islands, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guadeloupe, Haiti, Jamaica, Martinique, Montserrat, Netherlands Antilles, Puerto Rico, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, Turks and Caicos Islands, Virgin Islands (GBA), Virgin Islands (USA)

Americas—Central America Mainland

Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama

Americas—North America

Bermuda, Canada, Greenland, St. Pierre and Miguelon, United States

Americas—South America

Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Falkland Islands, French Guiana, Guyana Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay, Venezuela

Asia—South East, Far East Asia

Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China (Mainland), Taiwan, Hong Kong SAR, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Dem. People's Republic of Korea, Republic of Korea, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao Peoples Dem. Rep., Macao SAR, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation (in Asia), Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, East Timor, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Yemen

Asia—Middle East Asia

Afghanistan, Cyprus, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey

Europe

Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Faeroe Islands, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Gibraltar, Great Britain, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Kosovo, Latvia,

Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Malta, Republic of Moldova, Monaco, Republic of Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Fed. (In Europe), San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Svalbard and Jan Mayen Is., Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine

Oceania

American Samoa, Australia, Cook Islands, Fiji, Guam, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, N. Mariana Islands, Nauru, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Polynesia, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Wallis and Futuna Islands