

# 2010 Annual Parish Pastoral Report

## From the Pastor's Desk



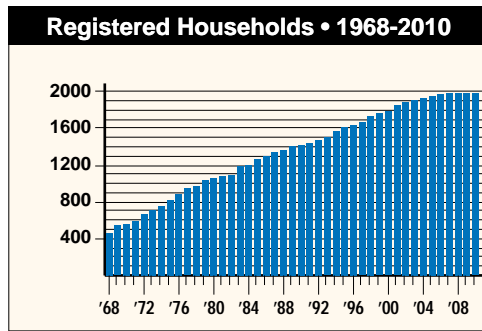
Each year the pastor submits a *Parish Pastoral Report* to the archdiocese, both to provide statistical data to our Archbishop as a help in identifying priorities for the future, and to raise awareness of current pastoral issues. St. Vincent's *Parish Pastoral Council* reviews the statistics gathered for our annual Pastoral Report and discusses answers to the pastoral questions. The essence of this report is published here to provide each parishioner with an overview of the parish and its growth — several years' figures are given for comparison. Prayerful reflection on the raw data provided here should help each parish organization — and each parishioner — in setting priorities and taking steps to make our parish a better sign of Christ's presence in our community.

Our *Parish Pastoral Council* continues to recognize challenges in some of the statistics included here: e.g. average Sunday Mass attendance (the October count) dipped slightly, and the significant drop in Religious Education enrollment after Confirmation has not abated. However, these statistics do not reflect all that is happening in the parish: a large numbers of volunteers witness to their faith as Religious Ed teachers, and in ministries which support liturgy and provide assistance to those in need. In addition, many of our parishioners are deeply involved in the wider Church, especially in our ongoing relationship with St. Charles Lwanga Parish in Ibanda, Uganda.

As you review the data in this report, pray with me that the numbers help us identify appropriate parish and personal priorities to assist in building up the Kingdom in our parish and in our homes. At the same time, we must remember the tremendous joy in heaven over *one* sinner who repents, so our fundamental mission is not in "better numbers," but in a deeper spirituality so that we become better witnesses to Christ for those who are looking for the way, the truth and the life.

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Parish Population (as of Dec. 31 <sup>st</sup> )	2007	2008	2009	2010
Total registered parishioners.....	6,413	6,430	6,389	6,298
Total registered households .....	1,985	1,987	1,988	1,978
Estimate the unregistered Catholic families.....	250	250	250	250
Total households with at least one non-Catholic	343	342	340	328
Total registered single-person households .....	198	191	185	193
Total contributing households (4+ times/year) ..	988	955	917	898



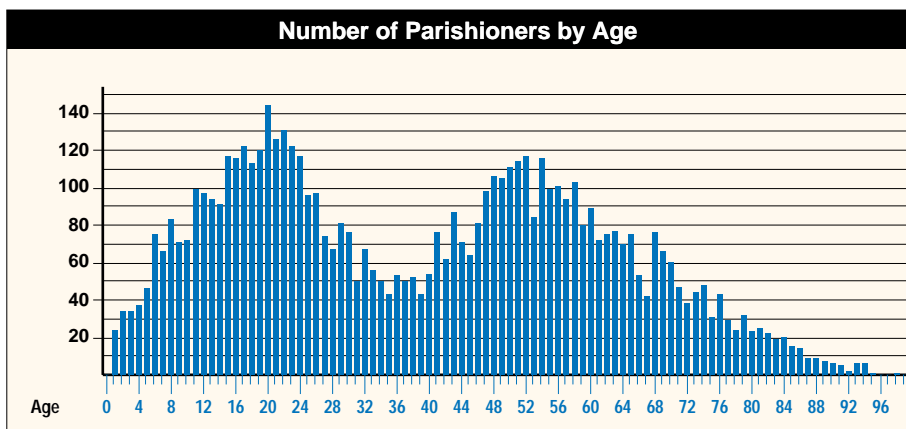
From the foundation of our parish in 1968 the number of parish families grew steadily until the last several years. Now our parish size has plateaued, as new families moving into the parish replace long-term parish members who are moving to smaller homes or warmer climates.

Our average age is 39.2, but the age chart at the bottom of the first column does not show a "normal distribution." Young adults going out on their own or beginning a new family cannot afford to live within the parish boundaries, leaving a relatively small number of parishioners in their late 20's and 30's. Couples moving in are generally older than that, and come into the parish with young children. Since 2001, our average age has moved steadily from 35 to 39.2, mainly because there are fewer children of elementary school age.

Early in 2010 we joined the Archdiocesan campaign, *Heritage of Faith ~ Vision of Hope*, which was already in progress. In *Parish Newsletter* articles, parishioners reflected on Archdiocesan needs — the Cathedral, the Seminary, Catholic Human Services, etc. — as well as our parish needs — the Church Hall, Sanctuary, and Religious Education Building, etc. Later, a parish survey helped prioritize our parish needs.

During 2010 we initiated the Miraculous Medal Novena on Saturday mornings after the 8 A.M. Mass, and installed relics of the Ugandan martyrs in Church.

We pray that this year's ministries, devotions and activities help us to grow closer to God and to his people — in our parish and throughout the world.



# 2010 Parish Pastoral Report *(continued)*

<b>Liturgy</b>	2007	2008	2009	2010
Sunday Mass attendance (October count).....	1,504	1,482	1,556	1,445
Estimate holyday Mass attendance.....	1,275	1,275	1,250	1,200
Estimate weekday Mass attendance.....	75	72	75	75
Estimate total Communion last year .....	99,000	98,000	98,000	72,000
Number receiving Communion at home.....	44	46	42	44
Monthly Communion in institutions.....	350	260	250	250
Total funerals for the year .....	35	35	33	44

## Administration of Sacraments

### Sacraments of Initiation

Baptism.....	55	54	43	38
Confirmation .....	89	66	75	79
First Eucharist .....	83	75	63	70
<b>Sacrament of the Sick.....</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>219</b>
<b>Matrimony</b>				
Both Catholic.....	14	18	15	18
Catholic/Baptized.....	2	3	0	7
Catholic/Non-baptized .....	3	3	4	1
TOTAL.....	19	24	19	26

## Parish School Age Population

### Catholic Schools

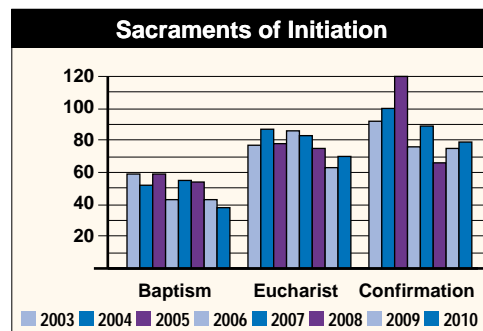
St. Andrew, Newtown.....	9	6	5	7
St. Bede the Venerable, Holland.....	64	56	50	37
Nativity of Our Lord, Warminster.....	12	13	10	9
Our Lady of Good Counsel, Southampton.	16	13	14	14
Private Catholic Elementary .....	25	12	12	11
Diocesan High Schools.....	33	40	38	32
Private Catholic High Schools.....	67	51	88	80
Other Catholic Schools.....	3	6	0	6
TOTAL.....	229	197	217	196

### Public or Non-Catholic Private Schools

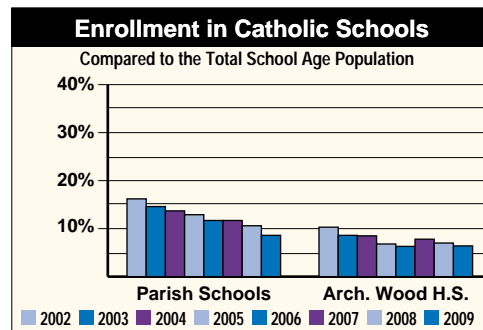
Elementary (K - 6) .....	539	472	516	522
Junior High (7 - 8).....	201	181	196	180
Senior High (9 - 12) .....	428	423	422	386
Other .....	3	0	0	0
TOTAL.....	1,171	1,076	1,134	1,088

## Parish Religious Education

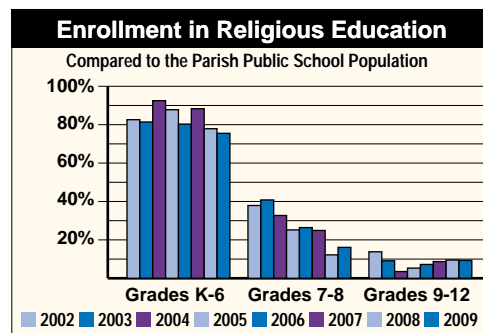
Pre-School (Sunday Church School).....	34	20	25	20
Elementary (K - 6) .....	433	417	402	394
Junior High (7 - 8) .....	53	45	24	29
High School (9 - 12) .....	31	37	40	36
Total Catechists .....	45	47	45	39



The consistently higher numbers for those receiving First Eucharist and Confirmation than for those being baptized reflect the figures in the age chart.



The enrollment figures given above are for the four neighboring parish schools attended by our parishioners, and our nearest Archdiocesan high school. We do not have accurate enrollment figures for those attending private Catholic schools and academies. Overall, in recent years both the number of students attending Catholic schools, and their percentage of the school age population, have decreased.



The percentages in the above chart are based on the figures given in the report. Since our Religious Ed Program begins in 1<sup>st</sup> grade, our grades 1-6 enrollment is being compared to the total students in grades K-6, thus, for those grades the actual percentages are higher than indicated. Enrollment drops significantly after Confirmation in sixth grade.