

2000 U.S. Census Data - Report 3

Cluster: 26
Vicariate: Bucks

FS#: 2460

Parish: **St. John the Evangelist**

1. Detailed Age Breakdown for ALL People Living Within Parish Boundaries

Church Trends	Generational/ Age Cohorts	Birth Year	Age	Population Count			
				Total	Male	Female	
Post-Vatican II 9,561 55.1%	Millennial 5,254 30.3%	2000	< 1	242	140	102	
		1999	1	245	134	111	
		1998	2	248	122	126	
		1997	3	297	149	148	
		1996	4	268	142	126	
		1995	5	309	143	166	
		1994	6	307	158	149	
		1993	7	313	155	158	
		1992	8	256	117	139	
		1991	9	318	166	152	
		1990	10	294	140	154	
		1989	11	265	149	116	
		1988	12	276	149	127	
		1987	13	283	148	135	
		1986	14	281	146	135	
		1985	15	288	145	143	
		1984	16	271	151	120	
		1983	17	295	142	153	
1982	18	198	104	94			
Vatican II 5,554 32.0%	Gen. X 2,701 15.6%	1981	19	120	56	64	
		1980	20	131	71	60	
		1979	21	121	59	62	
		1976-78	22-24	401	191	210	
		1971-75	25-29	728	386	342	
		1966-70	30-34	1,200	539	661	
Vatican II 6,215 35.8%	Boomer	1961-65	35-39	1,606	761	845	
		1956-60	40-44	1,676	826	850	
		1951-55	45-49	1,510	734	776	
		1946-50	50-54	1,423	693	730	
Pre-Vatican II 2,226 12.8%	Post War 2,504 14.4%	1941-45	55-59	945	483	462	
		1939-40	60-61	251	126	125	
		1936-38	62-64	372	189	183	
		1934-35	65-66	199	88	111	
		1931-33	67-69	298	146	152	
		1926-30	70-74	439	212	227	
		1921-25	75-79	345	149	196	
Pre-Vatican II 667 3.8%	G.I. 667 3.8%	1916-20	80-84	186	68	118	
		Bef. 1916	85+	136	35	101	
		17,341	100%	17,341	100%	TOTALS	17,341

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; 2000 Census of Population and Housing, Summary File 1; (August 2001).

Notes:

- (a) Data are calculated by assigning each census block to a geography and aggregating all data for that geography.
- (b) Percentages may not total to 100% due to rounding.
- (c) Age reported as of April 1, 2000; Birth Year calculated by approximation.

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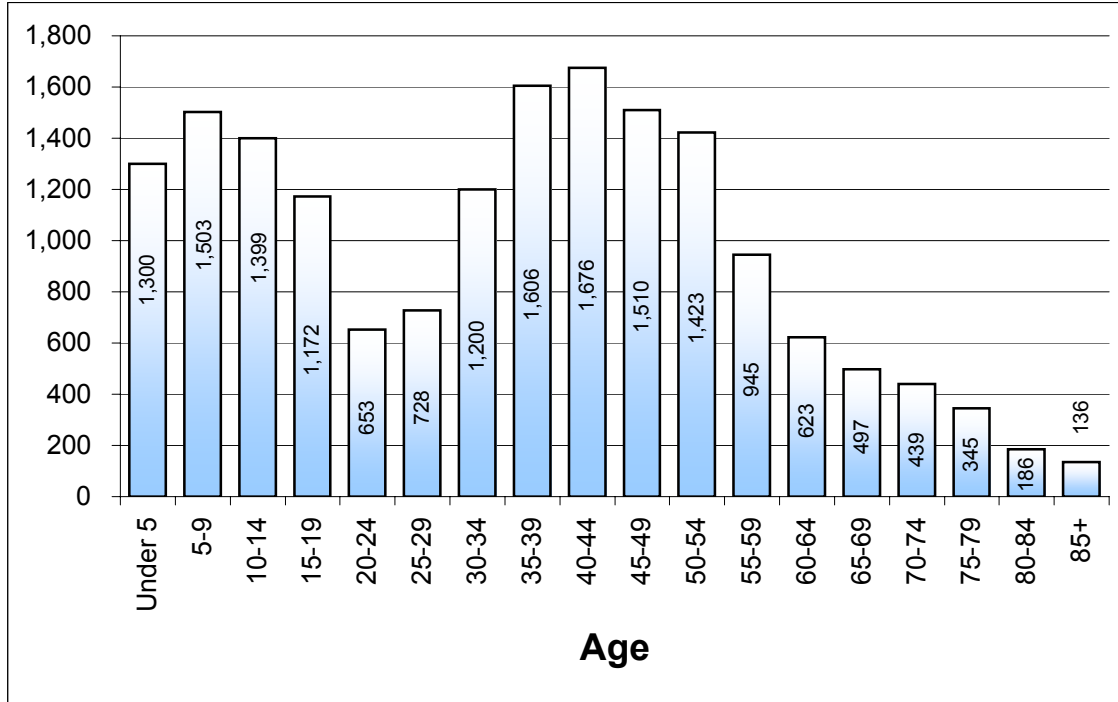
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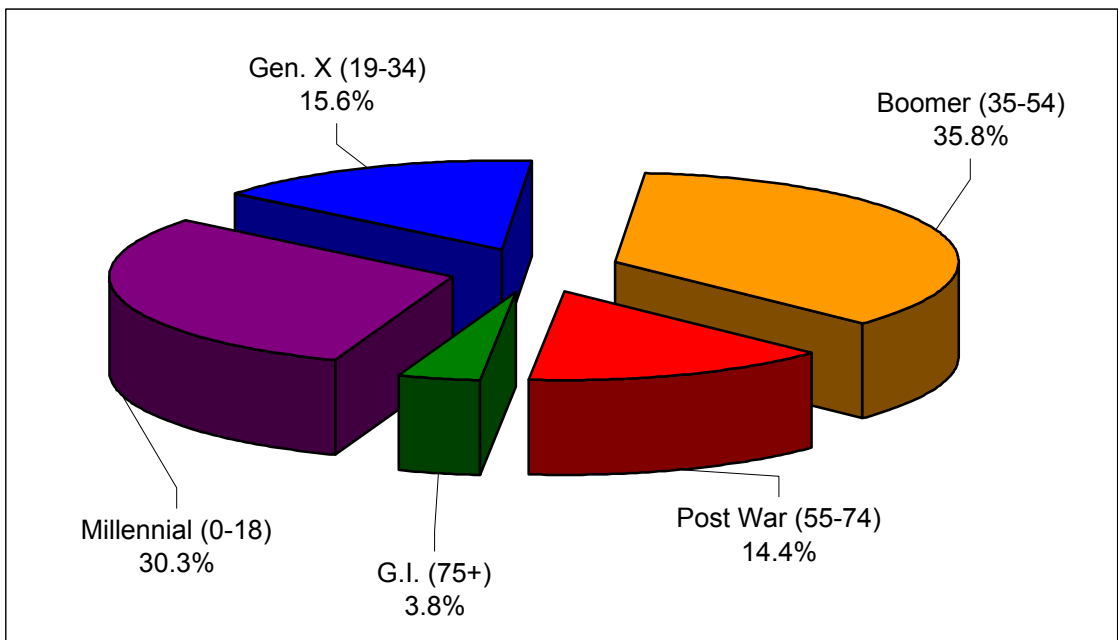
Parish:

St. John the Evangelist

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



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



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Pastoral leaders need to help people of every age and generation understand and appreciate the different gifts that each of them brings to the life of the parish. Age affects the way people think and act in two ways:

First, there is a **“life cycle experience”** of doing similar things at similar ages. We start out as children, we go to school, start working, leave home and frequently get married, have children, get older, retire, and die.

Second, there is a **“generational cohort effect”** which causes a group of people who have grown up (turned 18) around the same time to think and behave in ways that are different than their parents or their children.

Because of their ages, people differ not only in life cycle experience (some are buying houses and having babies while others are retiring and selling their houses), but also in the characteristics of their generation (some are attracted by institutions and are interested in preserving order; some are more interested in the individual and developing their own support networks).

This report describes the age of *all* the people living within the geographical territory, not just the Catholic people. It also associates the age of the people with their generation.

Characteristics of Generational Cohorts in the U.S. in 2000

G. I. Generation (age 75+) - Born 1901-1925. Age 18 between 1919-1943. *Heros*

Z Civic Values and Building	Z Institutions Over Individuals
Z Expanding Affluence	Z Conserving Values

This “building generation” survived the Depression and fought World War II. They then created many of the social and religious institutions of the 20th century.

Post War Generation (age 55-74) - Born 1926-1945. Age 18 between 1944-1963. *Artisans*

Z Loyalty to Order and Establishment	Z Avoid Risk
Z Negotiators, Adaptive	Z Fine-tune change
Z Compromise	Z Preserve Values

Sometimes called the “Silent Generation” because they conformed to the world that their elder GI’s built.

Those born before 1940 can also be seen as the **“pre Vatican II Council” generations**. The Catholic people were frequently city dwellers who experienced many forms of anti Catholicism which they combated by forming into “Catholic ghetto(s) comprised of Catholic neighborhoods, schools, hospitals, newspapers and social groups . . . Pre Vatican II Catholics grew up with Latin Masses, novenas, Benedictions, priests facing the altar (not the people) and Gregorian chant.”

Boomer Generation (age 35-54) - Born 1946-1965. Age 18 between 1964 -1983. *Prophets*

Z Focused on Individual Development	Z Individuals Over Institutions
Z Idealism	Z Liberal Values
Z Start Change & Break From Past	Z Risk Takers

This generation grew up in the turbulent 1960's and 1970's and rebelled against most things established by the GI generation.

Those born between 1941 and 1960 are also known as the “**Vatican II generation.**” They grew up in the pre Vatican II Church but, in their childhood through early adult years, the changes called for in Vatican II were implemented in their parishes just as the social movements of the 1960's plunged society into turmoil. This generation is most likely to have mixed feeling about authority (vs. making up their own mind) and institutional commitment (vs. personal spirituality).

Generation X (age 19-34) - Born 1966-1981. Age 18 between 1984 -1999. *Nomads*

Z	Emphasis on Autonomy	Z	Reactive, Pragmatic and Creative
Z	Sustaining Values	Z	Self-forming Networks

This generation grew up during a period of high divorce rates, relatively low value placed on children, and serious social problems. This pragmatic group is pessimistic and interested in issues of identity. They are less likely to make long term commitments.

Millennial Generation (age 18 and younger) - Born 1982-present. Age 18 between 2000 - ? .

Identified by some authors as the next “GI” type generation. They may be expected to be a confident, achievement oriented group, more interested in building community and institutions than the generations immediately before them.

Those born since 1961 can also be recognized as “**post Vatican II Council**” generations. They have always had Mass in the language of the people. Their religious education was more likely to be conducted by lay persons, not priests or sisters. They have been encouraged to take responsibility for their own faith journeys. They are least likely to depend on Church authority and most likely to think of their faith in personal, not institutional, terms.

Note: The dividing lines between generations are rough approximations. The divisions in this report have been selected to accommodate the Census data available and approximate generational groups identified by various authors.

References:

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