

**Catholic Church in the United States
1965-2003**

U.S. DATA	1965	1975	1985	1995	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Diocesan Priests	35,925	36,005	35,052	32,834	31,370	30,940	30,655	30,429	29,715	28,967
Religious Priests	22,207	22,904	22,265	16,717	15,829	15,465	15,386	16,244	14,772	14,337
Total Priests	58,132	58,909	57,317	49,551	47,210	46,603	46,075	45,713	44,487	43,304
Priestly Ordinations	994	771	533	522	478	463	536	479	449	533
Permanent Deacons	0	898	7,838	11,452	12,675	12,862	13,348	13,764	14,106	14,206
Religious Brothers	12,271	8,625	7,544	6,578	5,970	5,736	5,565	5,690	5,568	5,434
Religious Sisters	179,954	135,225	115,386	92,107	84,034	81,161	79,462	75,000	74,698	70,194
Total Parishes	17,637	18,515	19,244	19,723	19,584	19,627	19,544	19,496	19,484	19,026
Total Catholics	46.6 m	48.7 m	52.3 m	60.2 m	62.0 m	62.4 m	63.6 m	65.3 m	66.4 m	64.3
Percent of US Population	24%	23%	23%	23%	23%	23%	23%	23%	23%	23%

World Data	1970	1975	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005
Diocesan priest	270,924	259,331	257,409	253,319	257,696	262,418	265,781	
Religious priest	148,804	145,452	156,191	150,161	145,477	142,332	139,397	
Total priest	419,728	404,783	413,600	403,480	403,173	404,750	405,178	
Diocesan priestly ordination	4,622	4,140	3,860	4,822	5,938	6,444	6,814	
Graduate-level seminarians	---	---	33,731	43,476	51,603	54,154	55,968	

Source: Adapted from a table prepared by the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate, using information from *The Official Catholic Directory* and the Vatican's *Statistical Yearbook of the Church*.

Permanent deacons	309	2,686	7,654	12,541	17,525	22,390	27,824	
Religious brothers	79,408	70,388	73,090	65,208	62,526	59,515	55,057	
Religious sisters	1,004,304	968,526	960,991	917,432	882,111	837,961	801,185	
Parishes	191,398	200,116	206,503	212,021	215,805	220,077	218,196	
Without a resident priest	39,431	46,074	50,469	55,343	57,664	60,705	55,729	
Catholic population	653.6m	709.6m	83.7m	852.0m	928.5m	989.4m	1.045b	

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