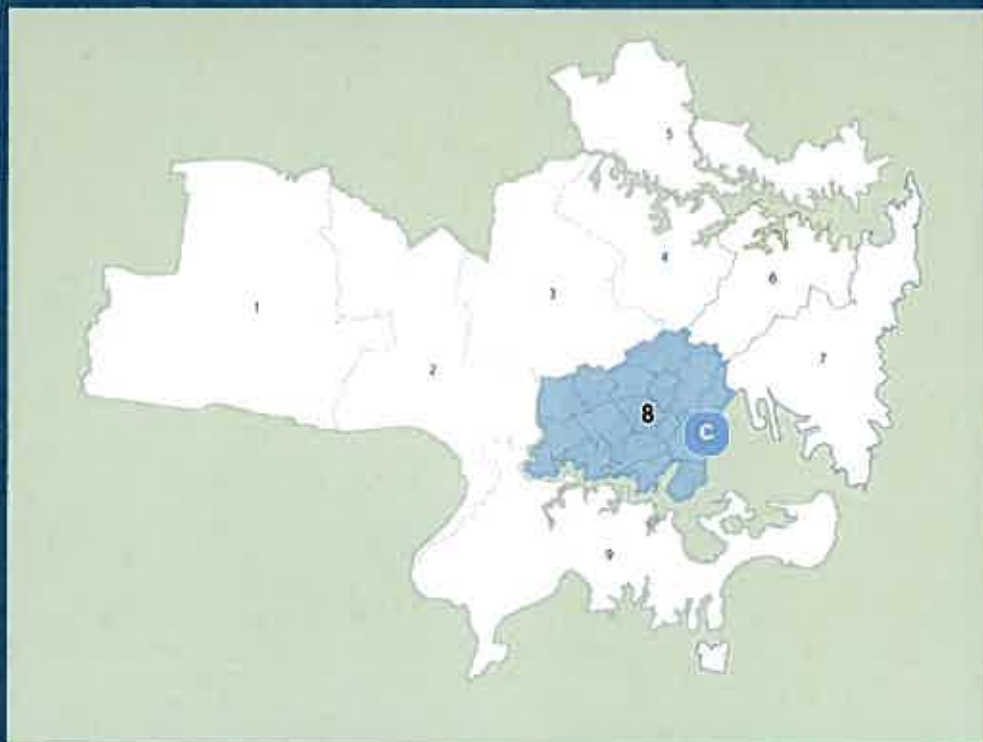


ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY



Parish 2020 ST GEORGE DEANERY HURSTVILLE PARISH PROFILE





To access the 2011 Parish Social Profile for Hurstville Parish undertaken by the Australian Catholic Bishops Office (Pastoral Research Office) please visit:

http://pro.catholic.org.au/2011-Parish-Social-Profiles/01-Sydney/HURSTVILLE%20Parish_28_Profile.pdf

St George Deanery Summary

Hurstville Parish Profile



The purpose of this report is to provide a summary of the key statistics and preliminary consultation on the future of a vibrant and outward reaching St George Parish life.

	2011	2006	% Change
Total Deanery Population	262,577	246,919	6% ↑
Catholic Population	64,252	63,503	1% ↑

Data Source: 2011 National Census

DEANERY COMPARISON

	TOTAL POPULATION	CATHOLIC POPULATION
Western	218,927	77,245
South West	212,514	64,016
Central	286,977	67,259
Concord	209,513	70,153
City	250,314	52,049
Northern	247,004	68,016
Eastern	270,221	72,658
St George	262,577	64,252
Sutherland	212,524	65,998

Data Source: 2011 National Census

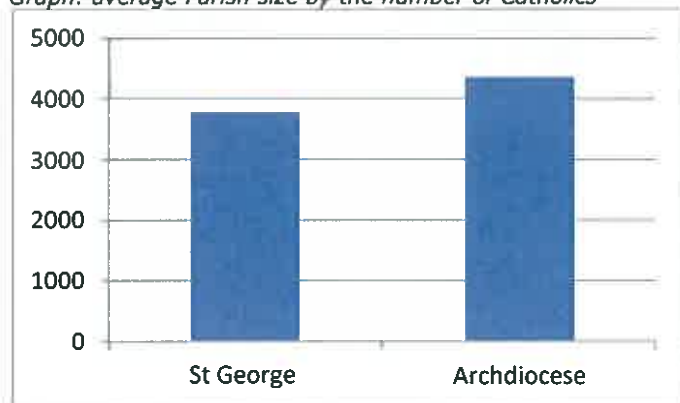
PARISH COMPARISON

	Catholic Population	% Catholic
Bexley	2,475	25.0
Brighton-le-Sands	3,425	26.6
Beverly Hills	4,127	25.2
Blakehurst	2,440	27.2
Earlwood	5,083	32.6
Hurstville	3,845	18.3
Hurstville South	4,217	20.6
Kogarah	4,393	23.4
Kingsgrove	3,002	27.8
Carlton	2,103	19.2
Oatley	3,276	30.1
Peakhurst	3,897	30.2
Penshurst	7,478	24.7
Rockdale City	6,604	20.1
Riverwood	4,288	24.7
Sans Souci	3,599	28.9

Half the size of the average Archdiocesan Parish

The average Parish size in the St George Deanery is lower than the average parish size in the Archdiocese.

Graph: average Parish size by the number of Catholics



Lower than average Catholic Population (by Parish)

The average parish in the Archdiocese has a Catholic Population of 4,367. The average parish in the St George Deanery has a Catholic population of 3,780.

Across the Archdiocese, the Catholic population grew by just over 2% between 2006 to 2011. The St George Deanery Catholic population grew 1% from 2006 to 2011.

In the same period there was above average growth in Catholic Population in Arncliffe (part of Rockdale City Parish) of 8%, Earlwood, Hurstville South and Sans Souci with 7% growth Carlton and Hurstville have below average concentration of Catholics with 19.2% and 18.3% respectively

The CEO reports from 2011 – 2014 there was strong growth in Parish Primary enrolments in Beverly Hills and Earlwood with 12%, Kogarah with 14%, Oatley with 16% and Riverwood with 11%.

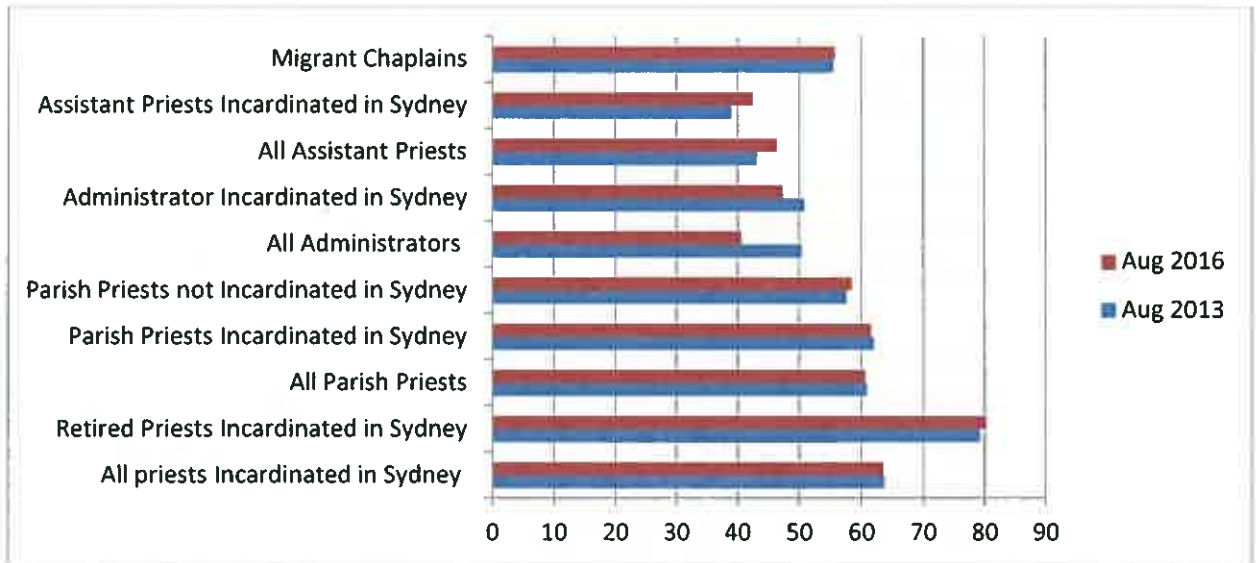
CLERGY AGE DEMOGRAPHICS

There are 16 clergy serving in the St George Deanery (@ August 2016)

25-35 years	36-45 years	46-55 years	56-65 years	66-75 years	76+ years
3	2	4	4	3	0

Total Priests	Total Deanery Catholic Population	Catholics per Priest
16	77,245	4,828

AVERAGE CLERGY AGE



Graph – Average age of Sydney Clergy - 2013 and 2016 Comparison

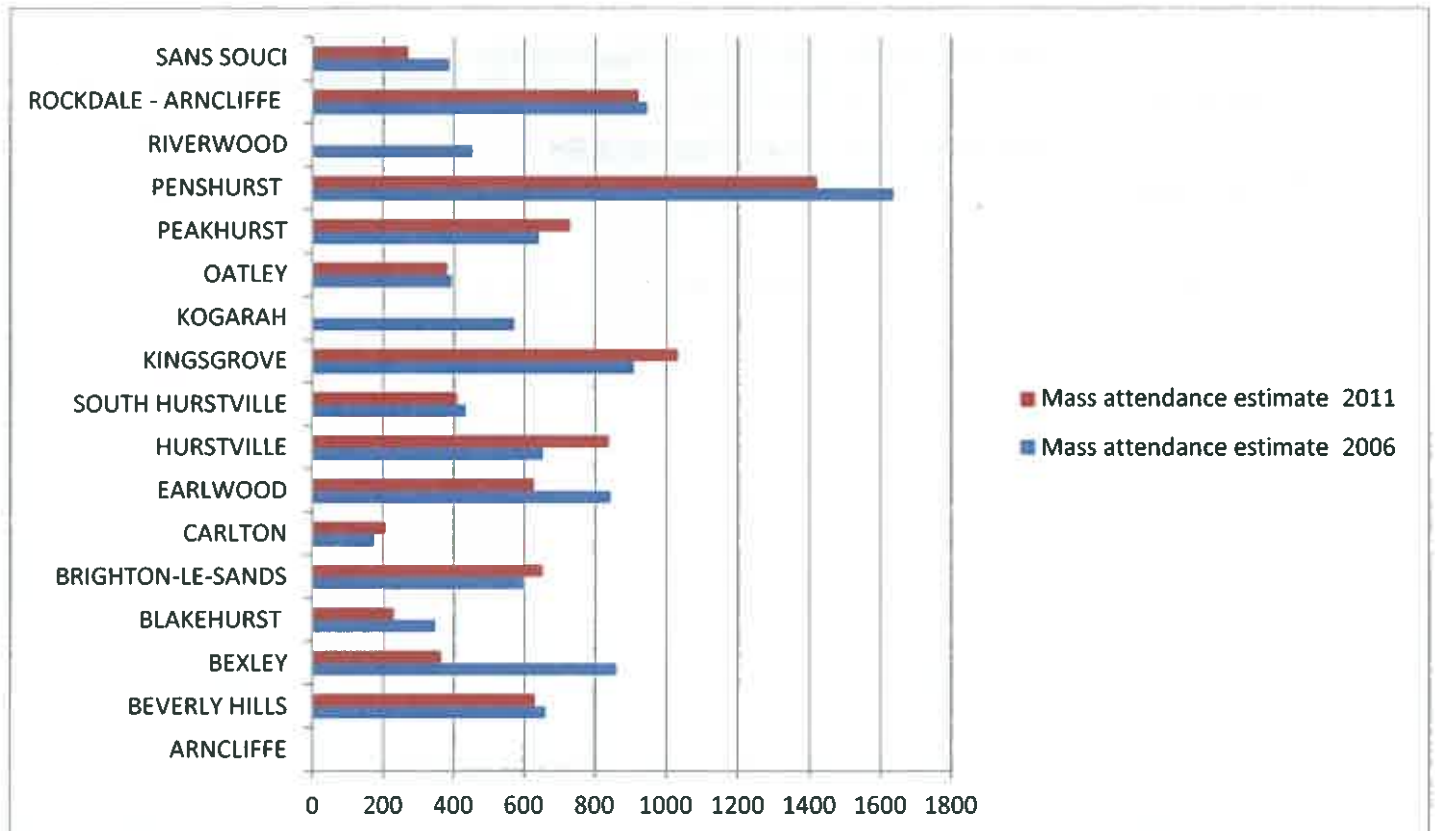
Based on the current clergy serving in the deanery 18% will be over the age of 70 in 2020.

Local Government Area

The majority of the St George Deanery falls within the boundaries of the Hurstville, Kogarah, Rockdale Local Government Area (LGA). The NSW Department of Planning and Environment forecasts that an additional 70,450 people will move into the LGA by 2031 – this represents forecast growth in population of 27.7%. The average growth forecast across Sydney Metropolitan LGAs is 35.9%.

Local Government Area (LGA)	2011	2016	2021	2026	2031	Total Change	Total % Change	Annual % Change
Hurstville	82,800	87,200	93,750	99,600	104,950	22,150	26.7%	1.2%
Kogarah	58,900	62,450	66,850	71,500	76,350	17,450	29.6%	1.3%
Rockdale	103,500	113,400	120,900	127,550	134,350	30,850	29.8%	1.3%

ANNUAL MASS ATTENDANCE STATISTICS



Data Source- Pastoral Research Office 2006 and 2011 National Mass Attendance Count Survey
(Data unavailable for 2011: Riverwood and Kogarah Parishes)

Mass attendances have been in a more or less constant state of decline since the 1950s. Since 1996, the percentage of Mass attenders born in non-English speaking countries has risen from about 18 per cent to almost 34 per cent, resulting in an increase of attenders born in non-English speaking countries of about 69,000.

Despite this increase, overall Mass attendances declined by about 23 per cent. This happened because the number of Australian-born attenders fell by around one-third! Two major factors have contributed to this decline.

- Firstly, people in particular age cohorts have stopped going to Mass; it is estimated, for example, that up to 26,000 Baby Boomers stopped going to Mass between 1996 and 2011.
- Secondly, young adult attenders are not being replaced as they age. In 1996, about 136,000 Catholics aged 15 to 34 attended Mass on a typical

weekend, but by 2011 the number of Mass attenders aged 15 to 34 had dropped to about 80,000.

We have reached a critical moment with regard to Mass attendance in Australia. Between 2006 and 2011, the number of dioceses with attendance rates below ten per cent rose from two to fourteen. It is not improbable that the number could increase by another nine by the time of the next national count in 2016, and several dioceses could drop to as low as five per cent.

The age profile of current attenders makes it almost certain that we have not yet seen the end of the decline in total attendances; only an unprecedented surge in attendance among people who do not currently attend Mass, or the unanticipated arrival of large numbers of Catholics from non-English speaking countries, could offset the inevitable effects of advancing age.

The parish has been the bedrock of the Catholic Church in Australia, but its survival in many parts of the country is no longer assured. While there are numerous examples of strong, vital parish communities, in other places the viability of parishes is threatened by declining attendances.

Urgent action is required if we are to save the treasure that is the Australian Catholic parish.

*(Taken from - **Mass attendance in Australia: A critical moment** - A report based on the National Count of Attendance, the National Church Life Survey and the Australian Census - Bob Dixon, Stephen Reid, Marilyn Chee)*

SACRAMENTAL STATISTICS FROM THE PASTORAL RESEARCH OFFICE

In its most recent edition of Pastoral Research Online, the Pastoral Research Office (PRO) takes a look at some of the sacramental data contained in the Vatican Publishing House Yearbooks, and uncovers some interesting trends which have occurred in the last 10 to 20 years.

Baptisms

While the PRO has previously noted the decline in Mass attendance in Australia in the last few decades (see *Mass attendance in Australia: A critical moment*, available from the PRO website), the number of Catholic baptisms in Australia has not seen such decline. In fact, according to the *Statistical Yearbook of the Church*, between 2003 and 2012 there was an increase of around six per cent in the total number of baptisms. In 2003, there were 59,954 baptisms of children up to 7 years of age, and 4,985 baptisms of individuals over 7 years. By 2012, this had increased to 63,793 and 5,282 respectively.

However, in 1993, there were a total of 75,278 baptisms, meaning that in the 20 year period to 2012 there was a decline of around eight per cent, with much of this decline occurring in the mid-1990s). The decline in baptisms only occurred

for children up to 7 years (from 71,055 to 63,793), while baptisms for those over 7 years increased by 25 per cent (from 4,223 to 5,282).

Marriages

According to the *Statistical Yearbook of the Church*, in 2003 there were 15,287 Catholic marriages in Australia. Just over half of these (51%) were marriages between two Catholics, while the remaining 49 per cent were between a Catholic and a non-Catholic couple. Ten years later, in 2013, there were 11,688 recorded marriages, which comprised 53 per cent between two Catholics and 47 per cent between a Catholic and a non-Catholic.

The change between 2003 and 2012 represents a 24 per cent decrease in the total number of Catholic marriages. Whilst the Pastoral Research Office does not have complete data for some intervening years, in 1993 there were 22,139 Catholic marriages in Australia, with an almost 50 per cent split in marriages between two Catholics and marriages between a Catholic and a non-Catholic. The percentage change in the 20 year period between 1993 and 2012 was a decrease of 47 per cent in total Catholic marriages.

In the general population, the Australian Bureau of Statistics notes that in 2014 (the most recent data), 74 per cent of the marriages in Australia were civil celebrations, compared to 43 per cent of marriages in 1994. Of the 31,278 marriages conducted by ministers of religion, 32 per cent—or 11,858 marriages—were Catholic.

Seventy per cent of the Catholic marriages in 2014 were between individuals who were both born in Australia, while five per cent were between individuals who were both born in the same overseas country. One-quarter of the marriages were between individuals born in different countries. (*ABS data source: Marriages and Divorces, Australia, 2014, Cat. No. 3310.0*)

SACRAMENTAL CATECHESIS – THE CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES TODAY

If we are going to journey with children (as well as people of all ages, especially adults) into a life of discipleship, sacramental catechesis cannot just happen in a classroom. What happens in a structured school or religious education setting alone doesn't do it anymore.

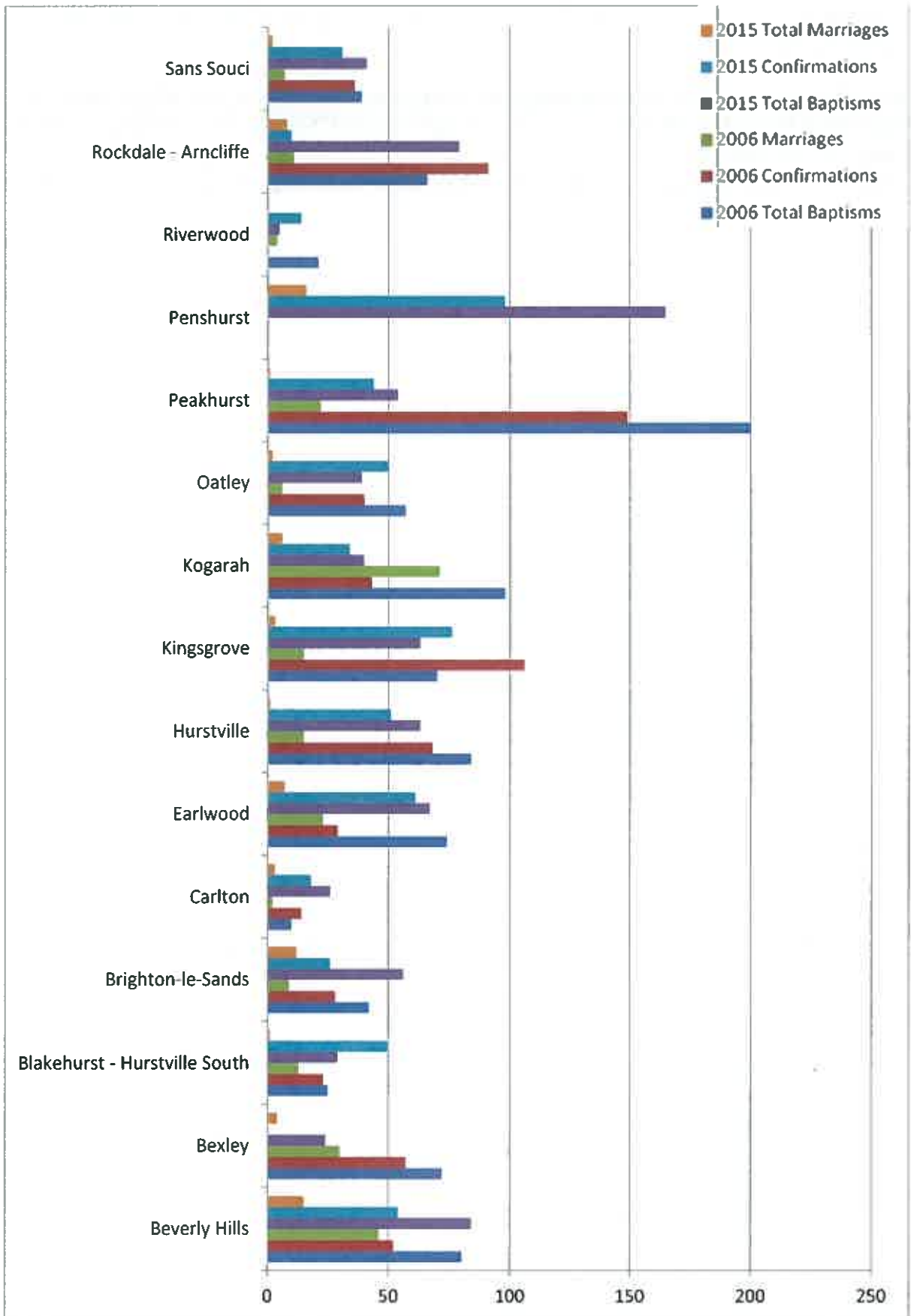
A long time ago that worked. It worked then because the formation -- the living of it, the discipleship part -- was happening (for many people) much more vividly in families, in neighbourhoods and parishes, and in a society built more strongly on Judeo-Christian values. In that kind of milieu, children (and youth and adults) came to the catechetical setting and reflected on what was already being lived out in their lives and all around them. The catechetical setting gave words to the lived reality.

For many people, that's not happening today. Therefore, just imparting the information isn't going to do it. Our challenge -- to help people come to

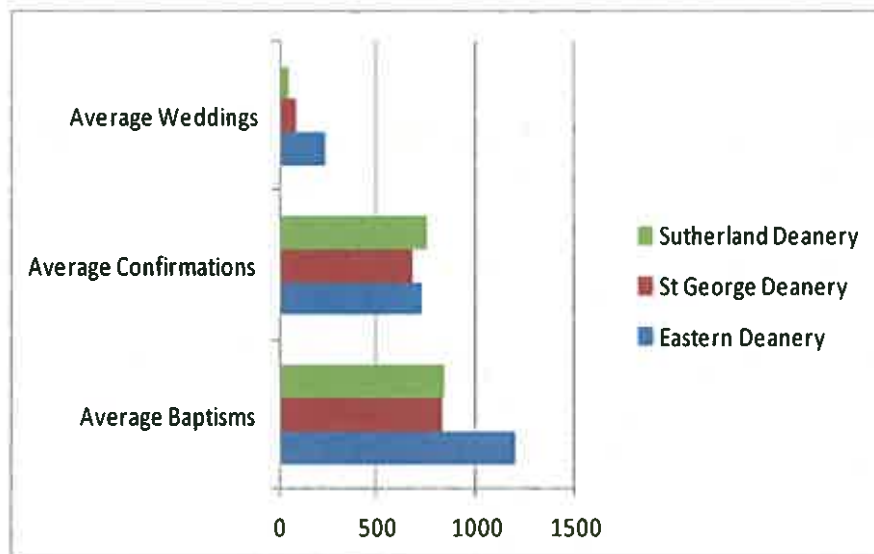
communion with Jesus as disciples -- is about information and formation and transformation.

We need to have the best catechetical programs in our schools and parishes -- and have them for all ages -- but they have to be different, very different, than what we've done in the past. They call for new structures and methods.

(Taken from Breathtaking Responsibility, Exhilarating Challenge Strategies for successful religious education. Sister Janet Schaeffler, O.P.

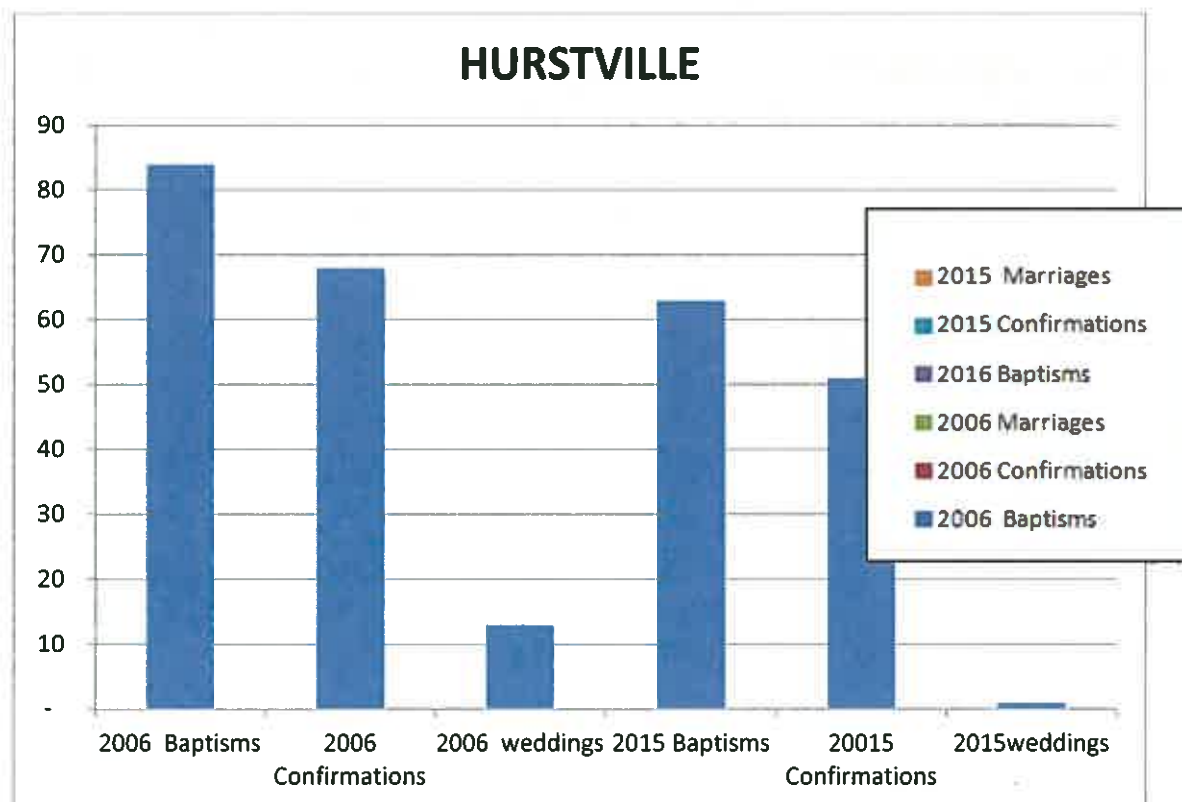


Graph – Deanery Sacramental Statistics averaged 2013-2015, taken from Parochial Returns for the same years



Graph – Regional Sacramental Statistics averaged 2013-2015, taken from Parochial Returns for the same years

SACRAMENTAL STATISTICS (HURSTVILLE PARISH 2006 AND 2015 COMPARISON)



CATHOLIC SCHOOL ENROLMENT STATISTICS

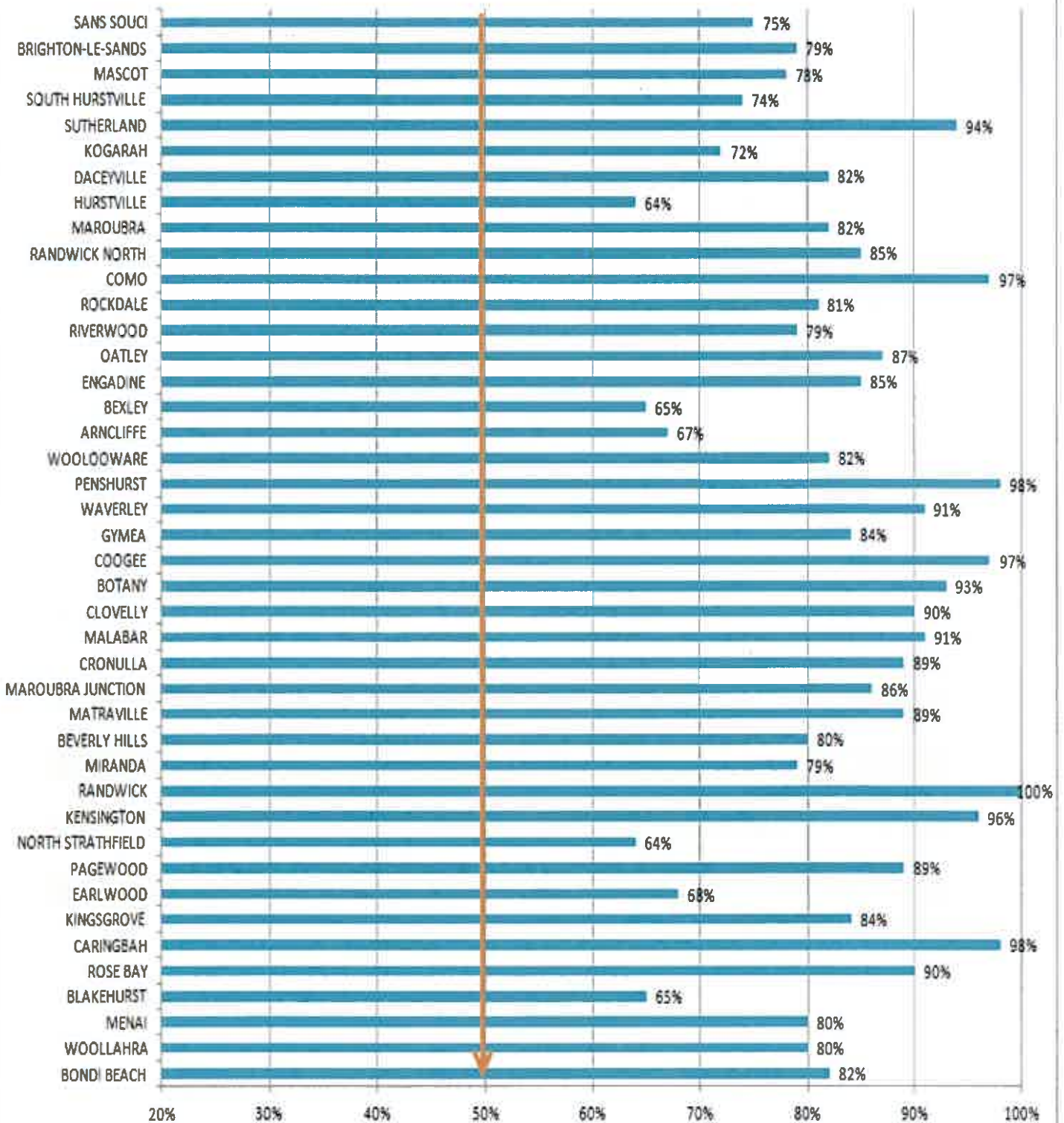
Name	Locality	Primary	Secondary	Total	Catholic
Bethany College	HURSTVILLE	0	952	952	650
Marist Catholic College Penshurst	MORTDALE	0	579	579	348
Marist College Kogarah	BEXLEY	0	1049	1049	631
Mater Dei Catholic Primary	BLAKEHURST	409	0	409	265
Mount St Joseph Milperra	MILPERRA	0	979	979	784
Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Primary	KINGSGROVE	423	0	423	356
Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary	EARLWOOD	431	0	431	292
Regina Coeli Catholic Primary	BEVERLY HILLS	462	0	462	368
St Declan's Catholic Primary	PENSHURST	429	0	429	421
St Francis Xavier's Catholic Primary	ARNCLIFFE	160	0	160	107
St Gabriel's Catholic Primary	BEXLEY	209	0	209	136
St Joseph's Catholic Primary	OATLEY	220	0	220	192
St Joseph's Catholic Primary	RIVERWOOD	382	0	382	302
St Joseph's Catholic Primary	ROCKDALE	203	0	203	164
St Mary's Star of the Sea Primary	HURSTVILLE	405	0	405	258
St Patrick's Catholic Primary	KOGARAH	406	0	406	294
St Raphael's Catholic Primary	SOUTH HURSTVILLE	211	0	211	157
St Thomas More Catholic	BRIGHTON-LE-SANDS	206	0	206	162
St Ursula's College	KINGSGROVE	0	1034	1034	872

Graph – 2015 Enrolments in Catholic Schools – Deanery(Above) ; Regional (Below)

Parents continue to turn to Catholic primary and secondary schools when deciding on their children's education with rises in enrolments continuing to increase year by year. Data for 2013 released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) show that an additional 8000 students were enrolled at the nation's 1706 Catholic schools.

Over the 10 years from 2003 to 2013, enrolments in Archdiocese Catholic schools increased by 7800 students as Catholic parents as well as non-Catholic parents chose to enrol their children at Sydney's Catholic schools.

% of Catholic Enrolments in Parish Primary Schools - Region 3



SPECIAL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION STATISTICS

	SRE Students	Schools	Catechists
BEVERLY HILLS	191	2	16
BEXLEY	76	1	5
BLAKEHURST	96	2	9
BRIGHTON-LE-SANDS	140	2	13
CARLTON	70	1	5
EARLWOOD	241	4	30
HURSTVILLE	237	1	15
SOUTH HURSTVILLE	186	2	12
KINGSGROVE	69	1	11
KOGARAH	337		24
OATLEY	350	3	27
PEAKHURST	200	3	16
PENSHURST	330	5	25
RIVERWOOD	178	3	21
ROCKDALE - ARNCLIFFE	120	5	15
SANS SOUCI	123	2	6

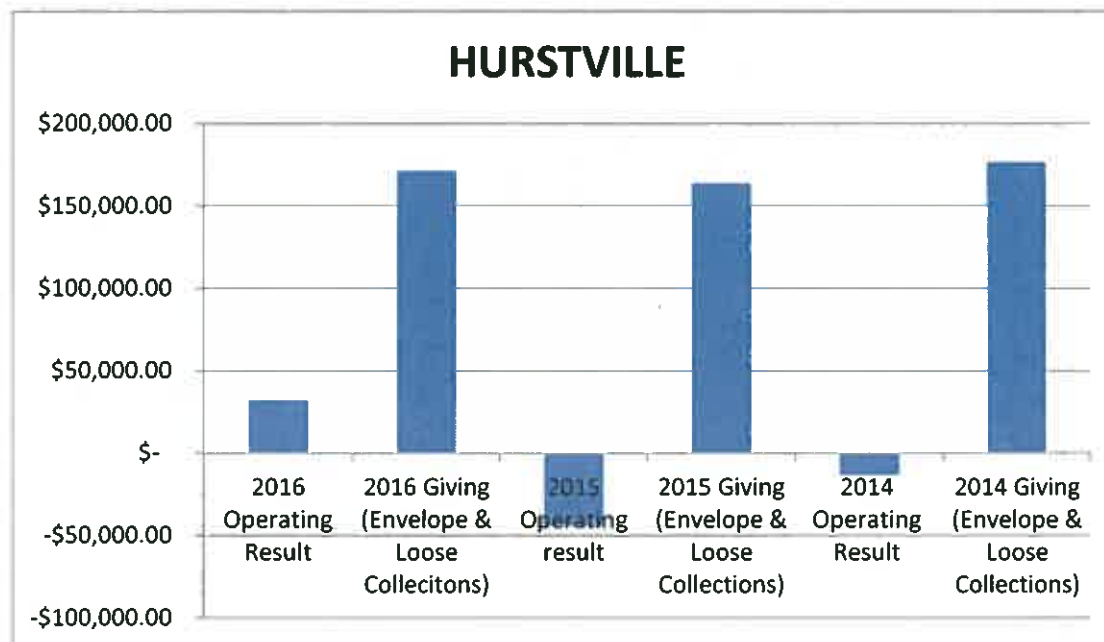
SRE 2016 Enrolments including Catechists serving and number of State schools (Information provided by CCD)

	SRE Student Numbers	Catechists	Students per Catechist
Western Deanery	4,281	327	13
South West Deanery	3,877	231	16
Central Deanery	1,177	189	6
Concord Deanery	2,885	183	15
Northern Deanery	3,514	294	14
City Deanery	1,321	139	10
Eastern Deanery	2,232	174	13
St George Deanery	2,944	250	11
Sutherland Deanery	4,355	206	21

Most Parishes would agree that they do not experience people 'knocking down the door' to volunteer to be catechists.

It is no secret that families today are overwhelmed by an overbooked schedule of events and work, and growing faith is often deferred to those once-in-a-while moments when things are quiet, and not necessarily weekend Mass. So how does a Parish find future catechists?

FINANCIAL STATISTICS



Graph – Figures taken from Parish Financial Returns 2014-2016

The Catholic Church in Sydney continues to grow with the population, but a steady decline in Mass attendance means fewer are putting money on the collection plate on Sundays.

Some challenges to consider:

1. **The buildings are not where the people are** – The Archdiocese has a surplus of aging buildings, especially in the inner-city. Consider the current population movement trends: city dwellers moving to suburbs; new city dwellers moving in who are largely transient in nature; the rapid growth in the Western area of the Archdiocese which will require resources for building new parishes, etc.
2. **Effects of the clergy sexual abuse scandal** – Catholics have left, and some have lost trust, and are reluctant to financially support Catholic life through monetary offerings.
3. **'Coin' Donation Catholics** -There are still a lot of Catholics who drop a coin or two into the plate each Sunday. It must be acknowledged that many are elderly, perhaps on pensions; others are families who might be economically stretched.
4. **Rising costs** – The average Catholic parish building is 50+ years old which means higher maintenance costs. Along with falling numbers of Mass attenders, resulting in lower collections, meeting the costs of

building maintenance takes away from 'investing' in the more important pastoral activity and life of the Parish.

MISCELLANEOUS PARISH STATISTICS

	PAID	EST. VOLLUN	PPC	FINANCE CTTEE	PAID YOUTH WORKER	VOL YOUTH WORKER	EST. YOUTH MEMBERS	DEVOTIONS	INSTITUTIONS	RCIA	TOTAL GROUPS
Beverly Hills	3	50		Y		1	40	5	1	Y	17
Bexley*	Y	73		Y				4	2	Y	13
Blakehurst & Sth Hville	8	110	Y	Y		1		8	5	Y	11
Brighton-le-Sands	2	100		Y		1	5	6	1		15
Carlton	3	58		Y		1	7	6	4	Y	3
Earlwood	3	80		Y			0	7	0	Y	5
Hurstville	1	221	Y	Y			0	7	5	Y	17
Kingsgrove	6	387	Y	Y	1		15	6	12	Y	13
Kogarah	3	80	Y	Y				4	3	Y	11
Oatley	1	130		Y		1	20	3	1	Y	8
Peakhurst**	2	130	Y	Y	1		50	1			15
Penshurst	6	317	Y	Y	1		40	6	7		21
Riverwood	1	90						3	3		4
Rockdale City	4	157		Y				7	7	Y	18
Sans Souci	1	30		Y				3	1	Y	2

* Bexley with Rockdale City Parish

** Peakhurst with Penshurst Parish

Graph – Information taken from 2015 Parochial Return