



Australian Catholic Bishops Conference

Pastoral Research Office



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New Director Appointed!



The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference has announced the appointment of Dr Trudy Dantis as Director of its Pastoral Research Office.

Dr Dantis had significant experience in research projects including the Building Stronger Parishes study and the Youth Survey conducted in preparation for the 2018 Synod of Bishops on Young People, the Faith and Vocational Discernment.

She has worked extensively in parishes and dioceses through her professional roles as a District Youth Coordinator for the St Vincent De Paul Society in New Zealand and as a Research Officer for the Australian

Catholic Bishops Conference Pastoral Research Office. She has a bachelor's degree in Community Resource Management and a master's degree in Social Work as well as a PhD in Pastoral Studies from the University of Divinity in Melbourne. Her thesis was titled 'Tracing the pulse: An investigation into the vitality of Australian Catholic parishes'.

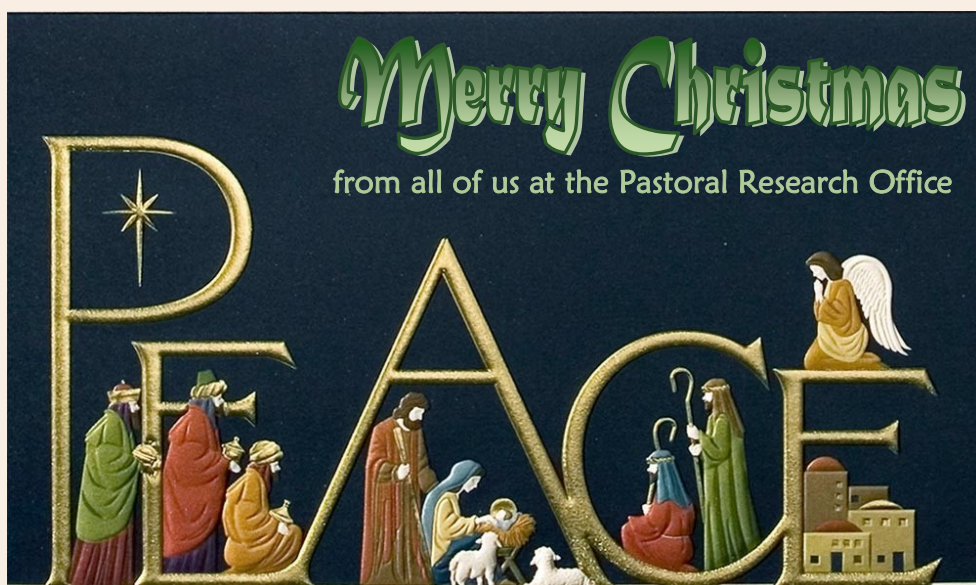
For the past two years she has been working as a research consultant for the Archdiocese of Bombay in India. With her husband Alwyn, she has been involved in various projects of the Family Commission there.

Dr Dantis is looking forward to moving back to Australia where she will take up her new role in Canberra at the end of January 2018.

The staff of the Pastoral Research Office wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

We thank you for your support during 2017, and look forward to continuing our association with you in 2018.

Office hours over Christmas and January school holidays:
The Pastoral Research Office will close on Friday 22 December and re-open on Tuesday 2 January 2018.



2016 Census—Ethnicity

2016 Census change predicted . . . in 2013!

“... it is highly probable that by the time of the next census in 2016, the Philippines will have displaced Italy as the overseas country contributing the highest number of Catholics to the Australian population.” (Dixon and Reid, *The Australasian Catholic Record*, April 2013, p. 134)

Birthplace

According to the last three Censuses, the ethnicity of Australian Catholics saw considerable change. Since the 1950s Italian-born immigrants (of whom most were Catholic) have dominated the overseas-born Catholic population in Australia. In the 1947 Census there were 33,600 Italian-born Australians, and by the 1961 Census this population had grown to 228,200. However, in

Top 10 birthplaces (other than Australia) of Catholics in 2016 & change since 2006

Birthplace	Number of Catholics			Change 2006-2016
	2006	2011	2016	
Philippines	96,571	134,660	174,619	78,048
Italy	184,228	168,809	149,900	-34,328
United Kingdom (except Northern Ireland)	125,585	137,206	126,595	1,010
New Zealand	59,624	73,146	68,837	9,213
India	34,503	48,202	59,702	25,199
Ireland & Northern Ireland	41,654	56,315	59,425	17,771
Vietnam	35,403	39,890	44,225	8,822
Croatia & other Former Yugoslavia	46,322	49,201	39,209	-7,113
Malta	40,401	37,815	33,474	-6,927
Poland	39,479	36,117	31,979	-7,500

Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing 2006, 2011 & 2016.

Data obtained as part of the National Catholic Census Project.

2016, for the first time the number of Filipino-born Catholics outnumbered Italian-born Catholics in Australia. Between 2006 and 2016 Catholics born in the Philippines increased by 81 per cent, while Catholics born in Italy decreased by around 19 per cent. Indian-born Catholics also increased substantially in that time, growing by 76 per cent.

Language

Many Italian-born Australians continue to speak their native language and, as the Census results show, pass their language on to second and third generations. For example, in 2016, whilst around 150,000 Catholics were Italian-born, the number speaking Italian at home was around 232,000. In contrast, although 175,000 Catholic were Filipino-born, around 140,000 spoke a Filipino

Top 10 languages spoken at home (other than English) by Catholics in 2016 & change since 2006

Language	Number of Catholics speaking language			Change 2006-2016
	2006	2011	2016	
Italian	287,233	267,002	231,664	-55,569
Filipino languages	77,348	112,128	139,930	62,582
Spanish	66,234	75,871	82,208	15,974
Arabic	70,100	72,204	68,952	-1,148
Vietnamese	55,701	63,887	68,569	12,868
Croatian	57,797	55,148	49,546	-8,251
Chinese languages	42,859	46,709	49,056	6,197
Polish	44,615	41,025	36,561	-8,054
Portuguese	21,121	24,714	29,901	8,780
Maltese	35,085	32,803	29,828	-5,257

Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing 2006, 2011 & 2016.

Data obtained as part of the National Catholic Census Project.

language at home. On the other hand, the number of Catholics speaking a Filipino language grew by 81 per cent between 2006 and 2016, while the number of Catholics speaking Italian decreased by 19 per cent—the same percentage change as in birthplace.

Our Work Matters

Catholic Church employers and employees in Australia

Our Work Matters, the final report of the survey of Catholic Church employers and employees in Australia, was launched on November 29 at Mary MacKillop Place in North Sydney. The publication is the result of a survey of Catholic employment nationwide, which was commissioned by the Australian Catholic Council for Employment Relations (ACCER) and carried out by the Pastoral Research Office, and is the most comprehensive report of its kind. The research confirms the vast contribution the Church makes to Australian society. Some of the findings include:

- 220,000 people are employed by the Catholic Church in Australia,
- There are around 3,000 organisations which employ those people,
- 77 per cent of employees are women,
- 84 per cent of the Church's employees work in the education, health and aged care sectors,
- The Catholic Church is one of the largest single group of employers in Australia – bigger than Woolworths and bigger than the four major banks in Australia combined,
- More people work for the Catholic Church than in local government.

The report can be downloaded free of charge from: www.acer.asn.au

Hard copies of the report can be ordered from the Pastoral Research Office using the attached form.



PRO Staff

Stephen Reid
Acting Director

s.reid@pro.catholic.org.au
(03) 9953 3457

Annemarie Atapattu
Administrative Assistant
a.atapattu@pro.catholic.org.au
(03) 9953 3459

Trudy Dantis
Research Officer
t.dantis@pro.catholic.org.au

Bob Dixon
Honorary Senior Fellow
r.dixon@pro.catholic.org.au
(03) 9953 3456

For more information about the office, or how we can assist you, please contact:

ACBC Pastoral Research Office,
Australian Catholic University,
Locked Bag 4115
Fitzroy VIC 3065
P: (03) 9953 3459
E: office@pro.catholic.org.au
W: www.pro.catholic.org.au

National Church Life Survey: A demographic snapshot of Catholic Mass attenders



62% of all people are female and 38% are male

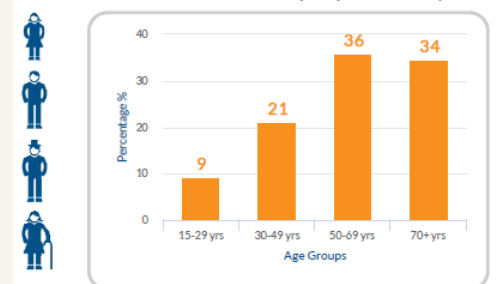


57% of all people were born in AUSTRALIA

43% were born overseas

33% speak a language other than ENGLISH at home

The AVERAGE AGE of people is 59 years



36% of all people have a university degree



23% have a trade certificate, diploma or associate diploma



42% have primary or secondary school education



Source: 2016 National Church Life Survey, Church Life Profile of the Catholic Church in Australia