

New Reports Online

* Engaging with your Parish Social Profile

This report is a compilation of resources to help explain and unpack the data from the 2016 Parish Social Profiles, released in July this year.

* Top 5 Parishes in Australia

This report ranks Catholic parishes in a number of different categories from the 2016 Australian Census.

Now available at:

<https://ncpr.catholic.org.au/national-catholic-census-project/>

Dear Readers,

Welcome to our September 2020 newsletter! This month, we continue unpacking information from the 2016 Census as we explore in greater detail the 2016 Extended Social Profiles and the Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) for parishes and dioceses.

As the COVID-19 lockdown continues in many places around Australia, we have tried to focus our efforts on creating more online research resources. Last month, we produced a free YouTube training video for people who are new to the social profiles and wish to understand them better. Recently, we also participated in a national Zoom webinar to help parishes and dioceses translate the data from the profiles into pastoral strategies. This webinar was recorded and can be viewed online.

Our office regularly produces a number of customised reports for parishes, dioceses and Catholic agencies to assist them in their planning needs. More details on these can be found inside.

The NCPR team sends our best wishes to you and your families in these difficult times. Stay safe and well!

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- ◆ Knowing the Community Whom we are Called to Serve
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- ◆ NCPR Resources and Services

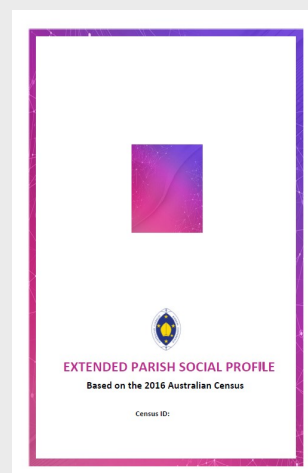


2016 Extended Social Profile for Parishes

The 2016 Extended Parish Social Profile is a customised report for an individual parish which includes information beyond the scope of the standard 2016 Census Parish Social Profile. In comprehensive detail, this report offers a compilation of data, presenting changes within the parish over multiple 5-year periods between 1991 and 2016.

Table A. Population 1991-2016

| Year | Catholic Population | Total Population | Per Cent Catholic | 5-year change in Catholic Population | 5-year per cent change in Catholic Population |
|------|---------------------|------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| 1991 | 10,591 | 33,867 | 31.3 | - | - |
| 1996 | 11,721 | 37,035 | 31.6 | 1,130 | 10.7 |
| 2001 | 12,172 | 37,545 | 32.4 | 451 | 3.8 |
| 2006 | 11,864 | 37,842 | 31.4 | -308 | -2.5 |
| 2011 | 12,696 | 38,936 | 32.6 | 832 | 7.0 |
| 2016 | 12,512 | 41,480 | 30.2 | -184 | -1.4 |



There are seven sections in the Extended Profile for Parishes. **Section 1** addresses the population changes from 1991-2016 with total and Catholic population numbers and percentages provided for the past 25 years. The trend is described with possible reasons provided for the population change and movement.

A map of Census boundaries for the parish is provided based on the Statistical Area 1s (SA1s) used by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. In addition, a table displaying the comprehensive list of SA1s within the parish highlights the numbers of Catholic males and females, as well as the percentage of Catholics, in each area.

Section 2 focuses on the religious profile of the parish population between 1996 and 2016, highlighting significant increases or declines, as shown in the example of Table C. A breakdown of religious affiliation by age group from the 2016 Census data is also presented.

Mass attendance numbers and attendance rates, from the National Count of Attendance, are presented from 2001 to 2016, and details about Mass attenders, explored in the later sections of the Extended Profile, are incorporated from the 2016 National Church Life Survey (if the parish participated in this project).

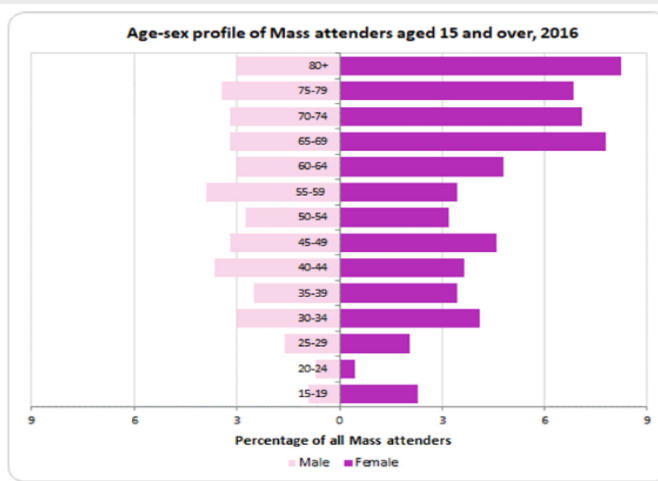
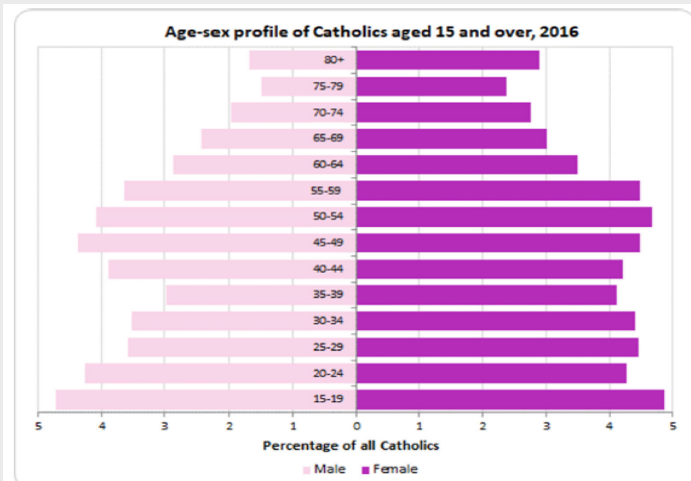
Table C. Religious Affiliation 1996-2016⁶

| Religious Affiliation | 1996 | 2001 | 2006 | 2011 | 2016 | % Change 1996-2016 |
|----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------------|
| Buddhism | 53 | 74 | 87 | 181 | 288 | 443.4 |
| Christianity | | | | | | |
| Anglican | 11,599 | 11,381 | 10,910 | 11,191 | 9,617 | -17.1 |
| Baptist | 771 | 710 | 707 | 630 | 710 | -7.9 |
| Catholic | 11,721 | 12,175 | 11,858 | 12,743 | 12,512 | 6.7 |
| Churches of Christ | 74 | 51 | 75 | 60 | 39 | -47.3 |
| Eastern Orthodox | 240 | 210 | 167 | 166 | 150 | -37.5 |
| Lutheran | 190 | 211 | 221 | 239 | 164 | -13.7 |
| Pentecostal | 519 | 495 | 492 | 451 | 434 | -16.4 |
| Presbyterian and Reformed | 1,840 | 1,949 | 1,855 | 1,799 | 1,747 | -5.1 |
| Salvation Army | 256 | 211 | 184 | 178 | 162 | -36.7 |
| Seventh-day Adventist | 159 | 148 | 132 | 144 | 118 | -25.8 |
| Uniting Church | 3,527 | 3,286 | 2,876 | 2,644 | 2,189 | -37.9 |
| Christian (not further defined) | 330 | 455 | 561 | 790 | 846 | 156.4 |
| Other Christian | 297 | 250 | 251 | 229 | 246 | -17.2 |
| Total Christian | 31,523 | 31,532 | 30,289 | 31,264 | 28,934 | -8.2 |
| Hinduism | 60 | 46 | 98 | 138 | 453 | 655.0 |
| Islam | 29 | 85 | 121 | 126 | 235 | 710.3 |
| Judaism | 14 | 15 | 10 | 18 | 17 | 21.4 |
| Other Religious Affiliation | 109 | 405 | 225 | 319 | 193 | 77.1 |
| No Religion | 2,526 | 2,652 | 3,266 | 4,676 | 7,572 | 199.8 |
| Religious Affiliation not stated | 2,666 | 2,766 | 3,773 | 2,776 | 3,803 | 42.6 |
| Total | 36,980 | 37,575 | 37,869 | 39,498 | 41,495 | 12.2 |

In **Section 3**, the age-sex profile of the Catholics in the parish is compared with that of Mass attenders and differences between these profiles are explored in greater detail. This often reveals a striking contrast for most parishes.

Section 4 offers information about the ethnicity and language of Catholics in different age groups in the parish from 1996 to 2016. The percentage of Catholics within the parish who are born in a non-English speaking country is compared with those from English-speaking countries, and further compared with the percentage of recent arrivals. Comparisons are also provided with Mass attenders, where this data is available.

2016 Extended Social Profile for Parishes



Section 5 looks at families and socio-economic indicators. It explains the family composition of couple families and one-parent families for the Catholics in a parish, and the number of dependent children in these families with facts of interest or concerns highlighted. Specific commentary on the socio-economic indicators within the parish, such as the percentages of Catholics in managerial or professional positions, the percentages of those with a university degree, and the median annual incomes of Catholic families is also provided.

Table I. SEIFA scores by Statistical Area 1s, 2016

| Statistical Area 1 | Index of Advantage/Disadvantage | Index of Disadvantage | Index of Economic Resources | Index of Education & Occupation |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1110001 | 1010 | 1034 | 1049 | 978 |
| 1110002 | 954 | 993 | 997 | 926 |
| 1110003 | 957 | 974 | 992 | 920 |
| 1110004 | 1001 | 1024 | 1009 | 985 |
| 1110005 | 973 | 1005 | 1021 | 952 |
| 1110006 | 945 | 980 | 941 | 918 |
| 1110007 | 1002 | 1030 | 998 | 1004 |
| 1110008 | 801 | 797 | 815 | 853 |
| 1110009 | 727 | 696 | 744 | 787 |
| 1110010 | 654 | 598 | 724 | 742 |
| 1110011 | 878 | 881 | 826 | 909 |

Socio-Economic Indicators for Areas (SEIFA) scores are provided for all statistical areas in the parish. The four indexes are: Index of Relative Socio-economic Advantage/Disadvantage, Index of Disadvantage, Index of Economic Resources, and Index of Education and Occupation.

Section 6 presents information on Catholic education, schooling and tertiary education. Commentary is provided on the percentage of Catholic students attending Catholic primary and secondary schools with comparisons to the

diocese and Australia as a whole. The table above provides an example of a detailed profile of all male and female persons (Catholic and not Catholic) attending primary and secondary schools for the period 1996 and 2001, with additional tables for 2006 to 2016 provided in the report. Notable trends are highlighted throughout the Extended Profile.

| Type of school | 1996 | | | 2001 | | |
|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | Males | Females | Persons | Males | Females | Persons |
| Pre-school | 283 | 281 | 564 | 299 | 289 | 588 |
| Infants/Primary: Government | 1,622 | 1,532 | 3,154 | 1,525 | 1,458 | 2,983 |
| Infants/Primary: Catholic | 464 | 448 | 912 | 496 | 397 | 893 |
| Infants/Primary: Other Non Government | 131 | 153 | 284 | 175 | 152 | 327 |
| Infants/Primary: Total | 2,500 | 2,414 | 4,914 | 2,495 | 2,296 | 4,791 |
| <i>Per cent attending Catholic primary schools</i> | <i>18.6</i> | <i>18.6</i> | <i>18.6</i> | <i>19.9</i> | <i>17.3</i> | <i>18.6</i> |
| | | | | | | |
| Secondary: Government | 997 | 1,018 | 2,015 | 902 | 969 | 1,871 |
| Secondary: Catholic | 267 | 279 | 546 | 312 | 331 | 643 |
| Secondary: Other Non Government | 112 | 113 | 225 | 130 | 162 | 292 |
| Secondary: Total | 1,376 | 1,410 | 2,786 | 1,344 | 1,462 | 2,806 |
| <i>Per cent attending Catholic secondary schools</i> | <i>19.4</i> | <i>19.8</i> | <i>19.6</i> | <i>23.2</i> | <i>22.6</i> | <i>22.9</i> |

Extended Social Profile for Parishes

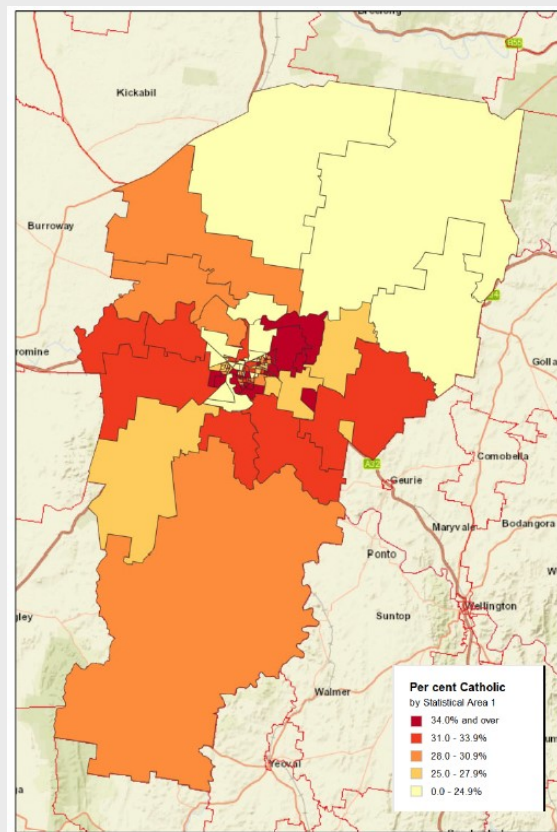
Section 7 concludes the Extended Profile report by offering pastoral strategies through commentary and prompting questions on the demographic situation and the needs of the parish. The analysis provided throughout the report is used to offer some important pastoral needs for the parish. These could be related to families, ministries and service or pastoral strategies, depending on the specific context and situation in each parish. The data also explores if the parish has particular strengths or challenges in terms of the resources available. For example, is it located in a relatively socio-economically advantaged area of the diocese, or, are there a lot of educated Catholics who live in the parish?

Left: An example of one of the maps in the Extended Social Profile.

Costs: Standard Extended Profile - \$500

Incorporating NCLS results - additional \$250

To order an extended social profile for your parish, or for more information, please contact our office at ncpr@catholic.edu.au or 02 62019812.



Knowing the Community Whom we are Called to Serve by Marilyn Chee

Knowing the Community Whom we are Called to Serve was a national webinar that took place on 25th August 2020, presented by Trudy Dantis (Director of the NCPR) and Stephen Reid (NCPR Senior Research Officer) with Richard McMahon (from the Diocese of Parramatta) as the facilitator. This 60-minute webinar, hosted by the Pastoral Ministry Network, drew upon the 2016 Parish Social Profiles to provide a picture of the local community with whom we are called to engage.

There were more than 200 participants from various dioceses, parishes and Catholic agencies. Interaction among the participants was enabled through two short breakout discussion sessions where attendees were assigned into small groups of five to six people to introduce themselves, share their ideas and experiences on ways to engage with their community better, and to share information they had found useful.

Prior to the webinar, a training video on 'Putting the Australian Census to work for your diocese and parishes: Understanding the Parish Social Profiles' was created by the NCPR and placed online to provide a guided introduction to the 32-page 2016 Parish Social Profiles that were published in July this year.

NATIONAL WEBINAR:

Knowing the community whom we are called to serve

In our mission to share the Good News of Jesus Christ, we are called to engage with the hopes and struggles of those in our local context. In this time of Covid-19, the need to connect has become even more pronounced. This webinar led by the NCPR addresses ways we can be informed and supported, drawing upon the Parish Social Profiles and in dialogue with community leaders.

Tuesday, 25th August 2020, 11am - 12pm

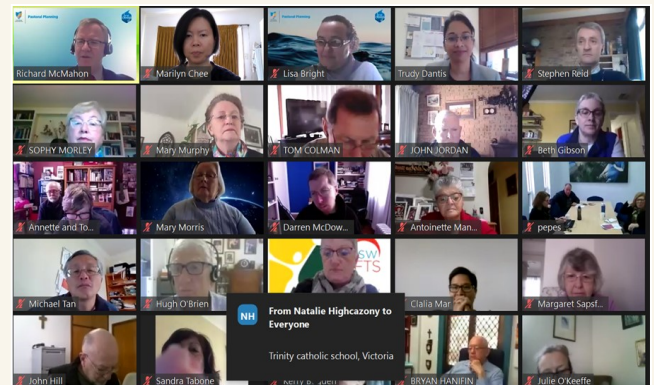
Via Zoom | Register at https://bit.ly/nationalwebinar_reg
You will receive a confirmation email upon registration and further information closer to the event.

Knowing the Community Whom we are Called to Serve

The purpose of the webinar was to demonstrate how to apply findings from the social profile, assist people to share their profiles with the key pastoral planning groups, and perhaps engage representatives from the Catholic primary and secondary schools within the parish.

As a participant myself, I was excited at the number of participants attending the webinar, and thankful there were no technical issues disrupting it when the platform had to support 200 people online. It was very helpful to be able to meet and interact with fellow participants during the breakout sessions. Paul, who also attended, commented:



Screen shot of the national webinar held on 25 August 2020

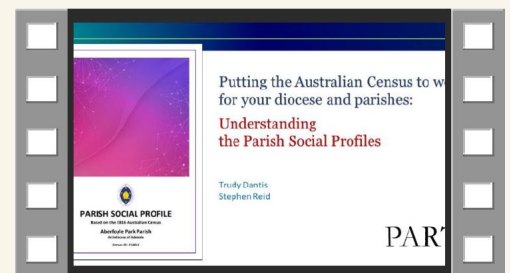
I was lucky enough to attend the Knowing the Community Whom we are Called to Serve webinar. It was great to go into the first breakout room and talk to a few people from around Australia who were interested in using the Social Profiles for pastoral planning in their parish, yet they wanted more qualitative data to complement the quantitative reports. In the second half of the webinar, the Extended Social Profiles were introduced, which offered much of the data that was mentioned in my breakout session. (Paul: Parish of Mernda)

Below are examples of some questions that can be brought into the discussions during pastoral planning and parish meetings through information from your Parish Social Profile:

- Do your ministries represent the age and sex demographics of your community?
- What are the areas of need in your community?
- Using the data, how can your parish plan for mission and outreach to Catholics and non-Catholics in your area?
- What are the ways you can engage with your broader community?

IMPORTANT LINKS:

- * Parish and diocesan social profiles are available from:
<https://ncpr.catholic.org.au/catholic-social-profiles/>
- * The pre-webinar training video, 'Putting the Australian Census to work for your diocese and parishes: Understanding the Parish Social Profiles' can be viewed at: <https://youtu.be/GULh3nF3veM>
- * A recording of the national webinar, 'Knowing the Community Whom we are Called to Serve,' can be accessed at: <https://youtu.be/w5TfAiiB4nA>



Best Practices for Pastoral Governance at the Service of Christ's Mission

SAVE THE DATE—National Webinar: Looking at Pastoral Leadership, Collaboration and Co-Responsibility and how we develop good governance practices to serve Christ's mission.

Tuesday 20th October 2020, 11am (AEDT)

Via Zoom

This event will be hosted by the Pastoral Ministry Network (formerly known as NAPPA) and supported by the Mission Planners Network of Oceania.
Register at <https://tinyurl.com/Service-of-Christ's-Mission>



Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA)

The Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) have been developed by the ABS to help understand levels of disadvantage and advantage within communities. SEIFA scores have four indexes, namely:

- Index of Relative Socio-economic Advantage and Disadvantage
- Index of Relative Socio-economic Disadvantage
- Index of Economic Resources
- Index of Education and Occupation

Each index measures a different aspect of socio-economic advantage and disadvantage. For each index, a higher score indicates a more advantaged area. When a SEIFA score is calculated for a diocese or a parish, it takes into consideration a population-weighted average of scores of the smallest Census statistical area (SA1s) that correspond to the respective larger area.

◆ Index of Relative Socio-economic Advantage and Disadvantage (IRSAD)

A high score indicates a relative lack of disadvantage and greater advantage in general. An area may have a high score when there are:

- many households with high incomes, or many people in skilled occupations, AND
- few households with low incomes, or few people in unskilled occupations.

In IRSAD, high income is an important indicator of advantage while low income is an important indicator of disadvantage.

◆ Index of Relative Socio-economic Disadvantage (IRSD)

A low score indicates greater disadvantage within an area which has:

- many households with low incomes,
- many people with no qualifications, or
- many people in low skilled occupations.

◆ Index of Economic Resources (IER)

IER covers variables related to income, home ownership and levels of rent. However, it does not consider assets such as savings or other equities, as this information was not asked in the 2016 Census.

A high score indicates relatively greater access to economic resources, observed in an area with:

- many households with high income, or many owned homes, AND
- few low income households, or few households paying low rent.

◆ Index of Education and Occupation (IEO)

The Index of Education and Occupation (IEO) reflects the educational and occupational level within a community.

A low score indicates relatively higher education and occupation status of people in the area. An area with a high score would indicate there are:

- many people without qualifications, many in low skilled occupations, or high unemployment, AND,
- few people with a high level of qualifications or few in highly skilled occupations.

One should keep in mind that when a parish has a SEIFA score of 800, it cannot be regarded as having two-thirds the resources of a parish with a score of 1200. SEIFA scores are meant to be tools which are more appropriate for ranking areas or relative comparison.

For more information, see our report on Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas 2016 (SEIFA), now available on the NCPR website at:

<https://ncpr.catholic.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/SEIFA-2016-Background-information.pdf>



Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas 2016 (SEIFA)

Background information from the website of the Australian Bureau of Statistics

for users of
the indexes for Catholic parishes and dioceses

July 2020

Journey to Plenary Council 2018-2022 Update

Newsletter Plenary Council New Timeline

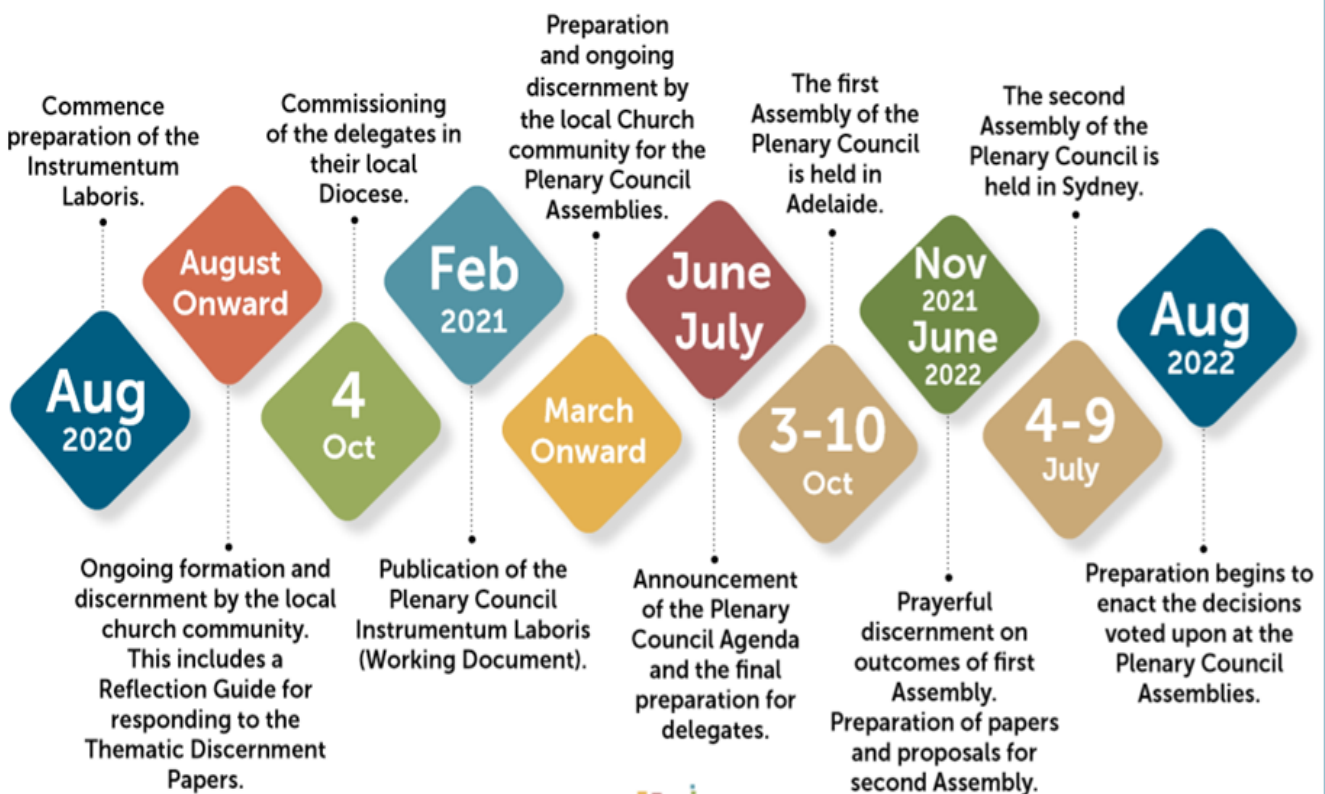
Due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the Plenary Council assemblies have had to be rescheduled to October 3–7 2021 in Adelaide, and July 4–9 2022 in Sydney. Given the rescheduling of dates for both Plenary Council assemblies, a new timeline has been developed to help everyone understand the revised journey of the Plenary Council over the next two years. Along with the two assemblies, key upcoming dates include the commissioning of local

diocesan delegates on the 4 October 2020, the publication of the Plenary Council *Instrumentum Laboris* in February 2021 and the announcement of the Plenary Council agenda in June/July 2021. While the postponement of the Plenary Council is challenging and disappointing, Archbishop Timothy Costelloe sees it as a blessing, commenting that the time given to us is an opportunity to invite people to better understand the practice of discernment. This is the topic of his new paper "A Journey of Discernment" which can be accessed at:

<https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/a-journey-of-discernment-The-Plenary-Council.pdf>.



THE PLENARY COUNCIL JOURNEY 2020 - 2022



<https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/>



Whilst every effort has been made to project accurate dates, changes may arise. Please check the Plenary Council website for the most recent version.

*** NCPR Resources and Services ***

The National Centre for Pastoral Research offers a wealth of information to assist parishes and dioceses with their pastoral planning and ministry needs. The NCPR website has a number of freely available resources including Catholic Social Profiles, diocesan-level Mass attendance figures, and results from previous National Church Life Surveys. While some older information is no longer available online, such as the 2006 Catholic Social Profiles, they are still available directly from the office.

In addition to the online resources, we offer a number of services for a small fee. These include:

- ◆ **2016 Parish Social Profile data** in Excel spreadsheet format for dioceses and agencies
- ◆ One-on-one **in-person or online consultations** about unpacking your Parish Social Profile
- ◆ **Extended Parish Social profiles** (see the article on page 2 for more information)
- ◆ **SEIFA scores** for parishes and dioceses (see the article on page 6)
- ◆ **Longitudinal Census or Mass attendance data** for parishes and dioceses
- ◆ Online and/or in-person **presentations for groups** about the Catholic community in Australia
- ◆ Other customised reports, combining data from different research projects.

You can also engage us for short or long-term research projects.

For more information on our range of services or to discuss your specific research needs, please contact us at **02 6201 9812**, or at **ncpr@catholic.org.au**

NCPR Staff

Trudy Dantis
Director
trudy.dantis@catholic.org.au
(02) 6201 9812

Leith Dudfield
Research Assistant
leith.dudfield@catholic.org.au

Marilyn Chee
Research Assistant
marilyn.chee@catholic.org.au

For more information, please contact:
National Centre for Pastoral Research
Australian Catholic Bishops Conference
GPO Box 368
Canberra ACT 2601
P: (02) 6201 9812
E: ncpr@catholic.org.au
W: www.ncpr.catholic.org.au

Stephen Reid
Senior Researcher
stephen.reid@catholic.org.au

Lavina Thomas
Volunteer Research Assistant

Paul Bowell
Research Assistant
(Plenary Council)
paul.bowell@catholic.org.au

Note: The previous Melbourne office phone number has been disconnected. All Melbourne staff can be reached at their email addresses.

Please direct all phone enquiries to our Canberra office at 02 6201 9812.

