



Australian Catholic Bishops Conference - National Count of Attendance

To be held 2/3 May, 9/10 May, 16/17 May and 23/24 May 2026



SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING AGE AND SEX

1. Information about the **Sex** of attenders is asked during Weekend 3. Special Counter's Record Forms have been provided for Weekend 3 to help your counters with this task.
2. Information about the **Age** of attenders is asked during Weekend 4. This may seem like a difficult task, but it really is quite easy. One simple way to obtain this information is described here:
 - Arrange your counters around the church ready for this task. Select one person as an announcer.
 - After Communion or just before the end of each Mass, the announcer will ask each age group to stand up (or raise their hand) in turn.
 - Begin with the smallest group (usually age 0 – 17 years) and work your way up to the largest group. There are only five age groups: 0-17 years, 18-29 years, 30-49 years, 50-69 years and 70 years and over.
 - The counters record the number of people in each age group as they are called out. Special Counter's Record Forms have been provided for Weekend 4 to help your counters with this task.

The entire exercise should not take you more than 5-7 minutes, or at the most 10 minutes for very large parishes. If you think you'll find it difficult, perhaps be creative in obtaining the information.

3. For Fortnightly and Monthly Masses and Other assemblies:

- If your fortnightly or monthly Mass or Communion Service is held on Weekend 1 or 2 in May, you do not need to collect any age or sex information.
- If your fortnightly or monthly Mass or Communion Service is held on Weekend 3 in May, please collect the sex information of attenders at this service.
- If your fortnightly or monthly Mass or Communion Service is held on Weekend 4 in May, please collect the age information of attenders at this service.

Should you have any problems or require assistance, please contact one of the following:

Stephen Reid
Trudy Dantis

stephen.reid@catholic.org.au
trudy.dantis@catholic.org.au

Or by phone on: (02) 6201 9812