

# FLOURISHING *families*

STRATEGIC PLANNING FOR A FLOURISHING FUTURE

## DIOCESE OF RAPID CITY

*“The parish is a community of communities, a sanctuary where the thirsty come to drink in the midst of their journey, and a center of constant missionary outreach.”*

-POPE FRANCIS, THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL



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DIOCESE OF RAPID CITY

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST (CUSTER)

2021 PARISH PROFILE

Current Pastor: Fr. Grant Gerlach



## ST. ISIDORE PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name.

With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts;

Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it.

We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder.

Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality  
influence our actions.

Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal  
life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right.

All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time, in the  
communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever.

Amen



# PURPOSE

- Develop informed predictions about the demographic trends and meet the challenges in our diocese.
- Ask parishes to discern their real needs in light of the needs of the entire diocese.
- Provide a framework through which to meet the needs of the faithful with the anticipated number of clergy available.



# AGENDA



## ① Background

~ Historical Perspective

~ Population Trends

## ② Status of Parish

~ Population Trends

~ Mass Attendance

~ Vitality, Involvement, & Financial Health

## ③ Workload & Vocations

## ④ Discussion



**DEANERY 5**

STANDING ROCK RESERVATION

**DEANERY 2**

CHEYENNE RIVER RESERVATION

**OUR DIOCESE**  
*DEANERIES*

**DEANERY 3**

LOWER BRULE  
RESERVATION

**DEANERY 1**

PINE RIDGE  
RESERVATION

**DEANERY 4**

ROSEBUD RESERVATION





# HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE



<b>Year/Category</b>	<b>1979</b>	<b>1990</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>Change (2021-1979)</b>	<b>Change (2021-1990)</b>
<b>Active Diocesan Priests</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>-10 (↓29%)</b>	<b>-15 (↓38%)</b>
<b>Retired Priests</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Religious Order Priests</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>-33 (↓73%)</b>	<b>-29 (↓71%)</b>
<b>Registered Catholics</b>	<b>40,138</b>	<b>35,191</b>	<b>21,588</b>	<b>-18,550 (↓46%)</b>	<b>-13,603 (↓39%)</b>
<b>Parishes</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>-32 (↓30%)</b>	<b>-39 (↓36%)</b>

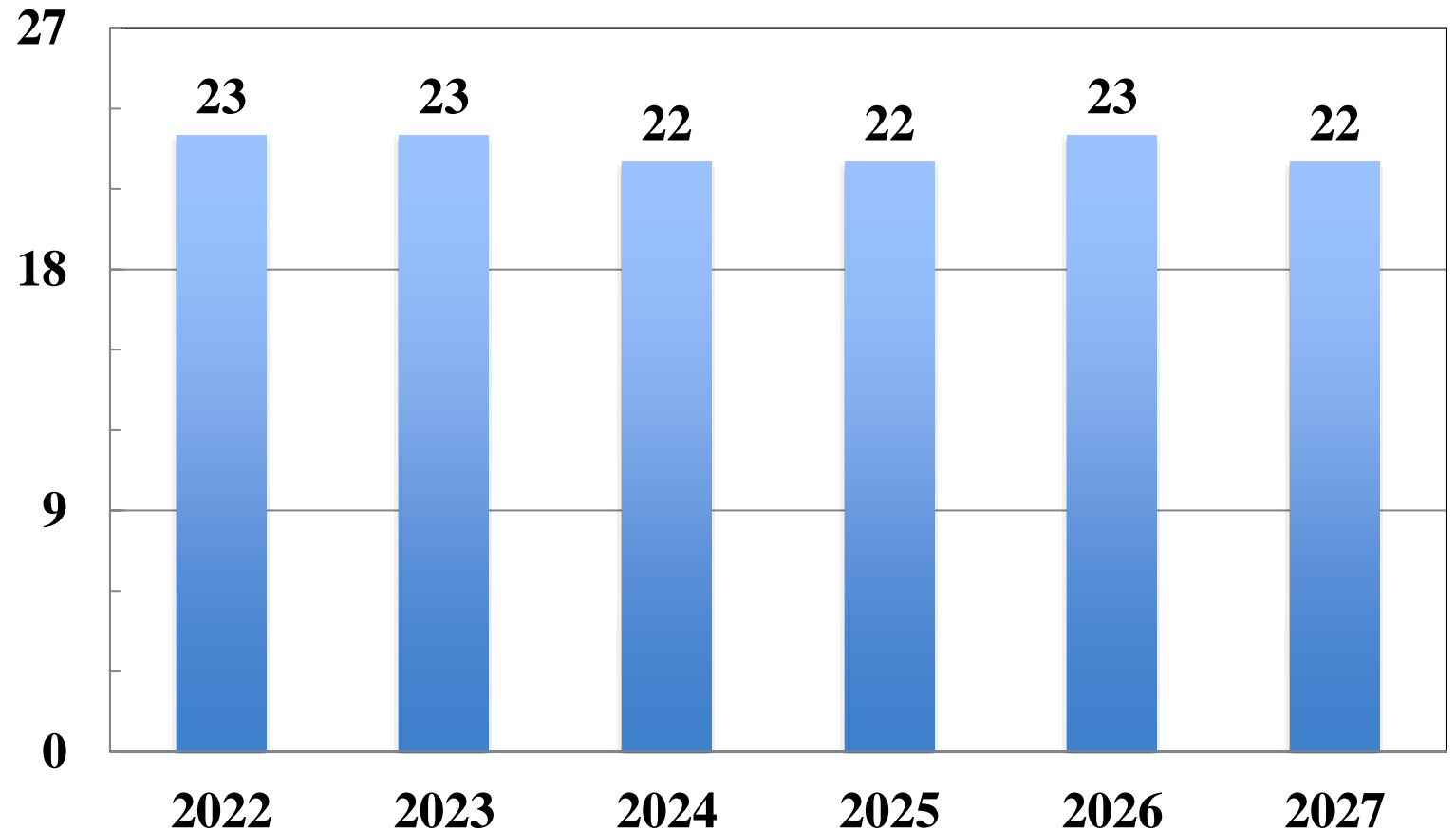


# CURRENT PRIESTS AND SEMINARIANS



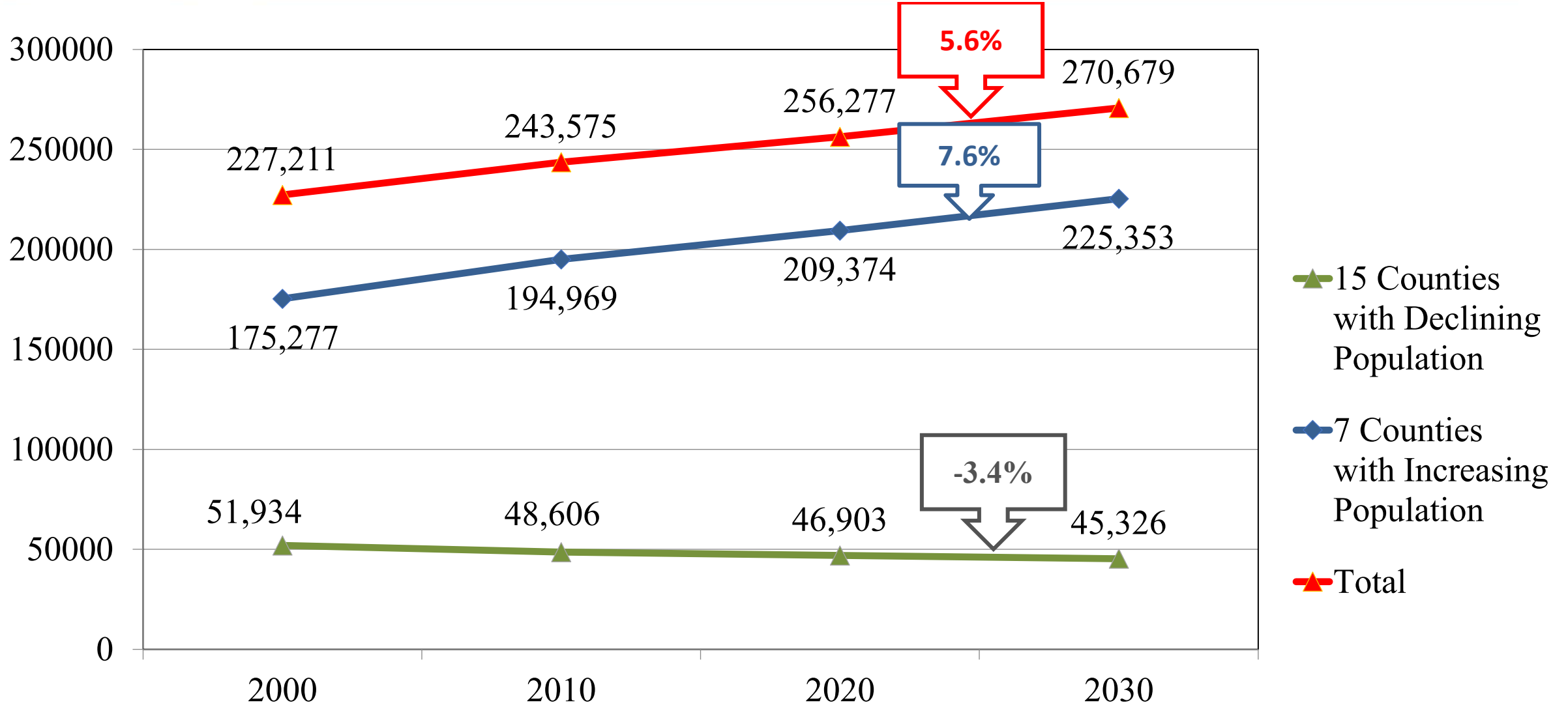
## Estimated Number of Diocesan Priests Available for Assignment

- **23 Active Priests**  
(not including 3 visiting priests)
- **9 Seminarians**
- **10 Retired Priests,**  
**3 that are active**





# DIOCESAN POPULATION TREND



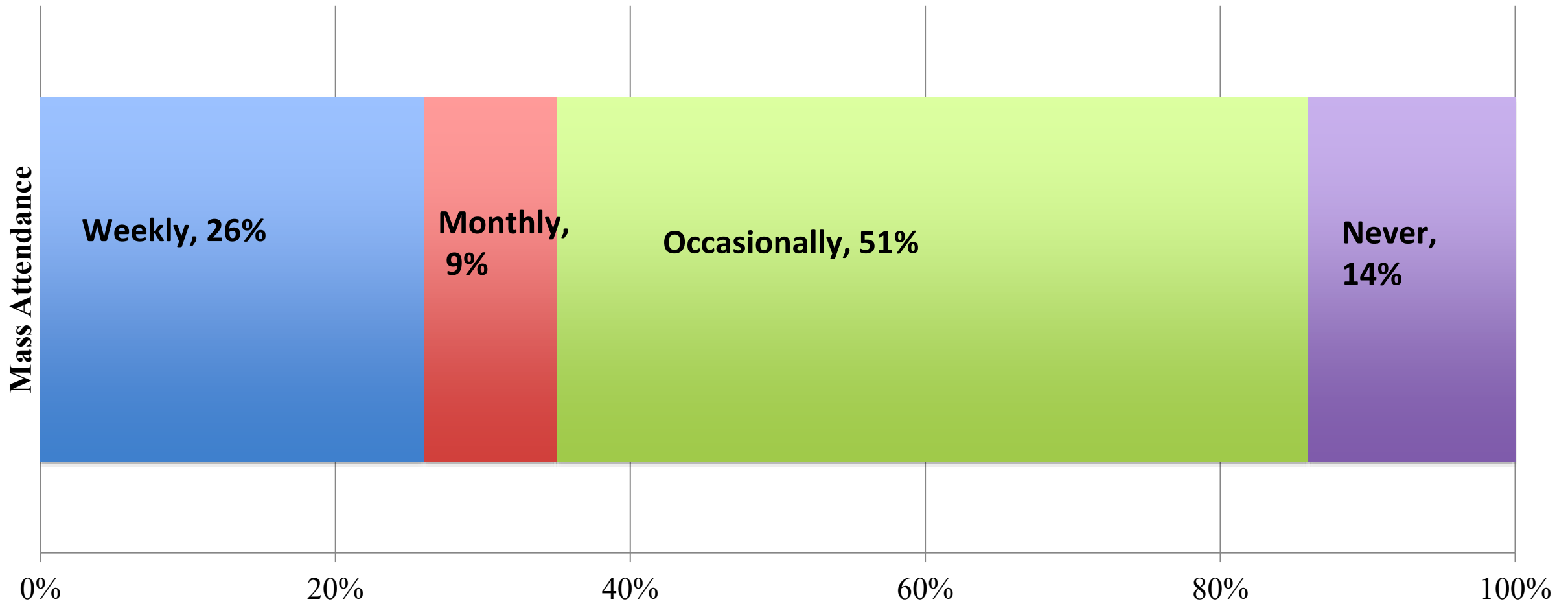
Sources: South Dakota Department of Education, US Census Bureau, South Dakota Demographic & Housing Report



# PEW RESEARCH CENTER DATA



## 12.4% of Western South Dakotans are Catholic (varies by county)





# AGENDA



## ① Background

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- ~ Population Trends

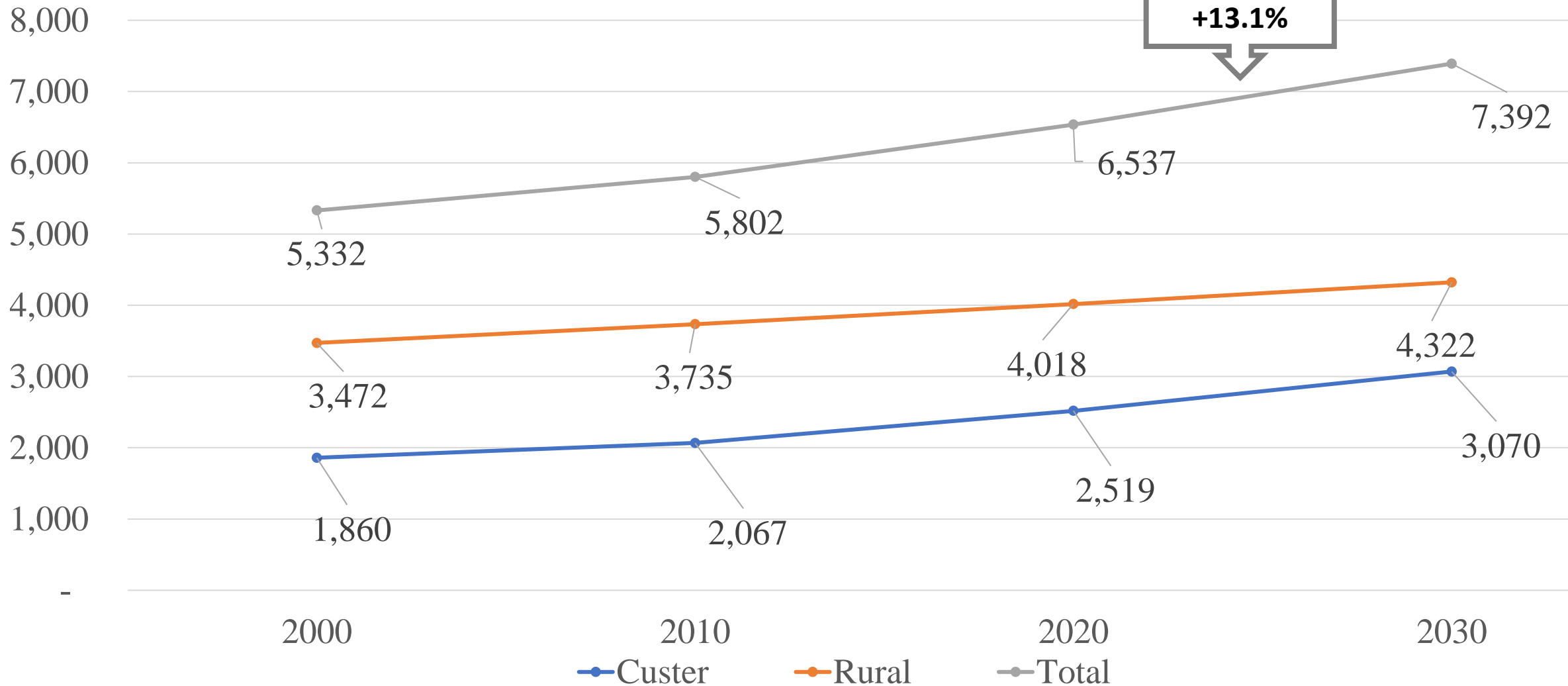
## ② Status of Parish

- ~ Population Trends
- ~ Mass Attendance
- ~ Vitality, Involvement, & Financial Health

## ③ Workload & Vocations

## ④ Discussion

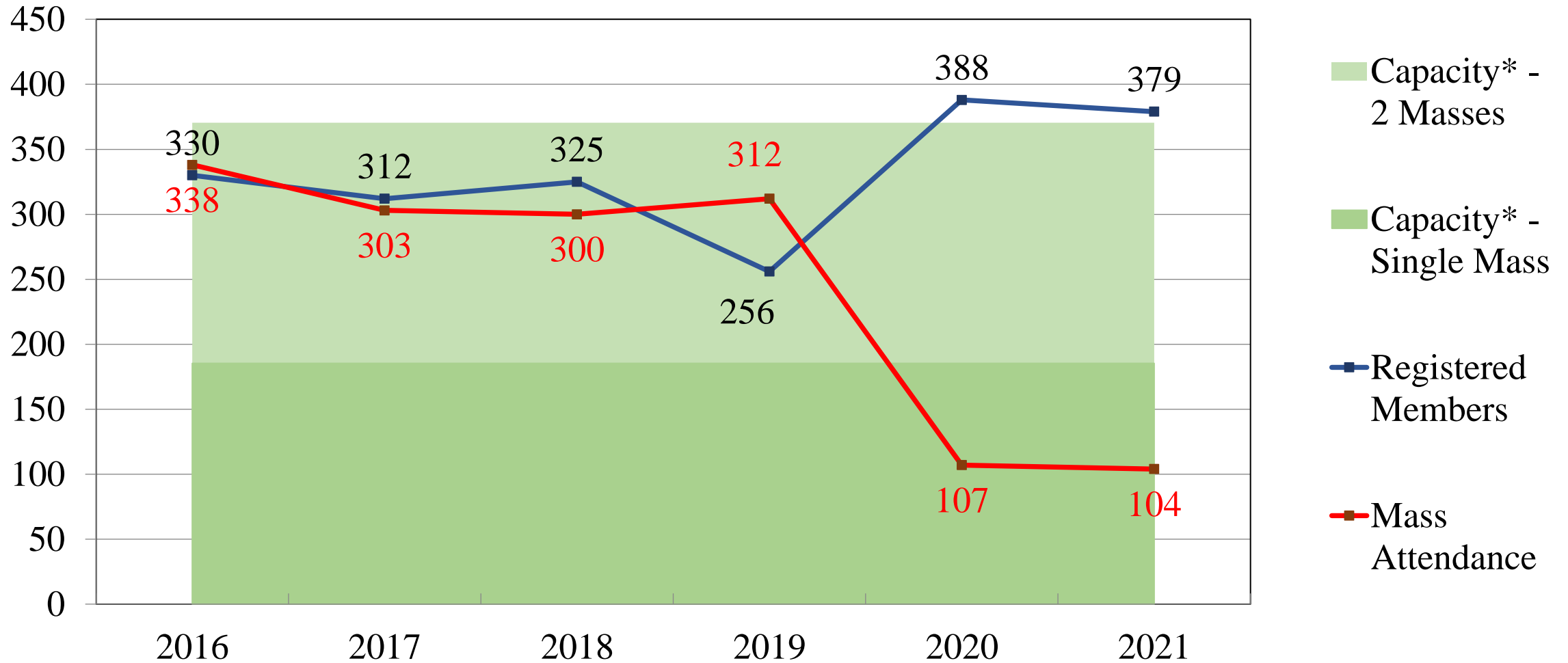
# PARISH POPULATION TRENDS



Sources: South Dakota Department of Education, US Census Bureau, South Dakota Demographic & Housing Report



# PARISH MEMBERS & MASS ATTENDANCE

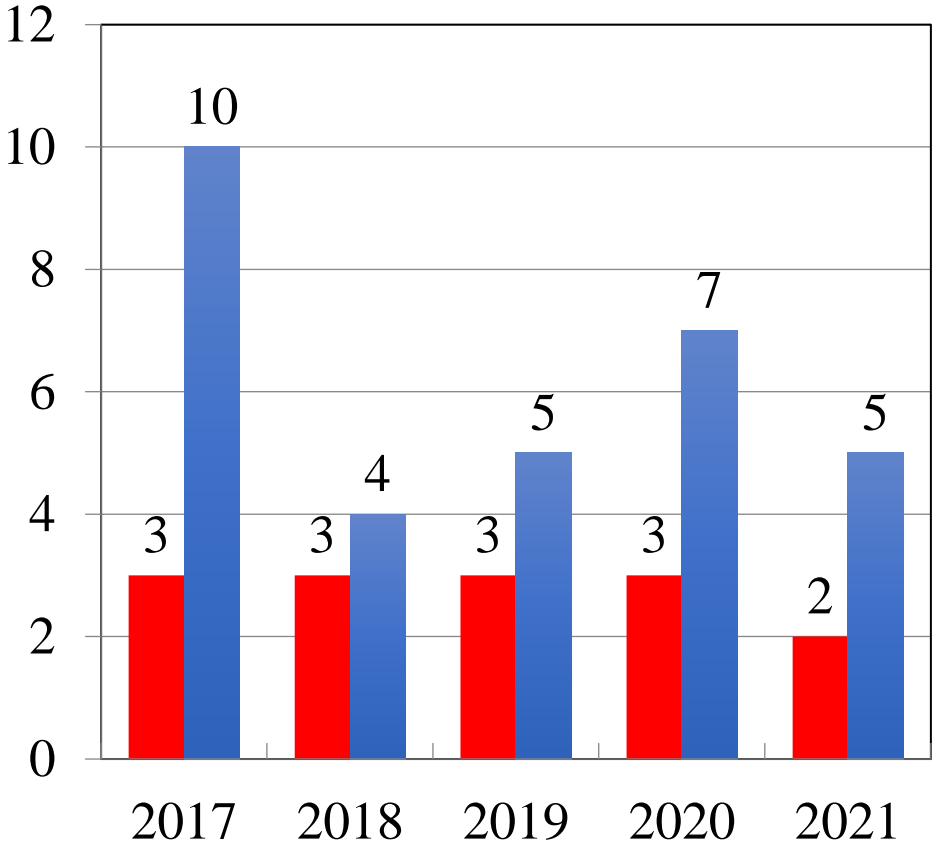


\* - 75% of capacity based on 18 inches per person

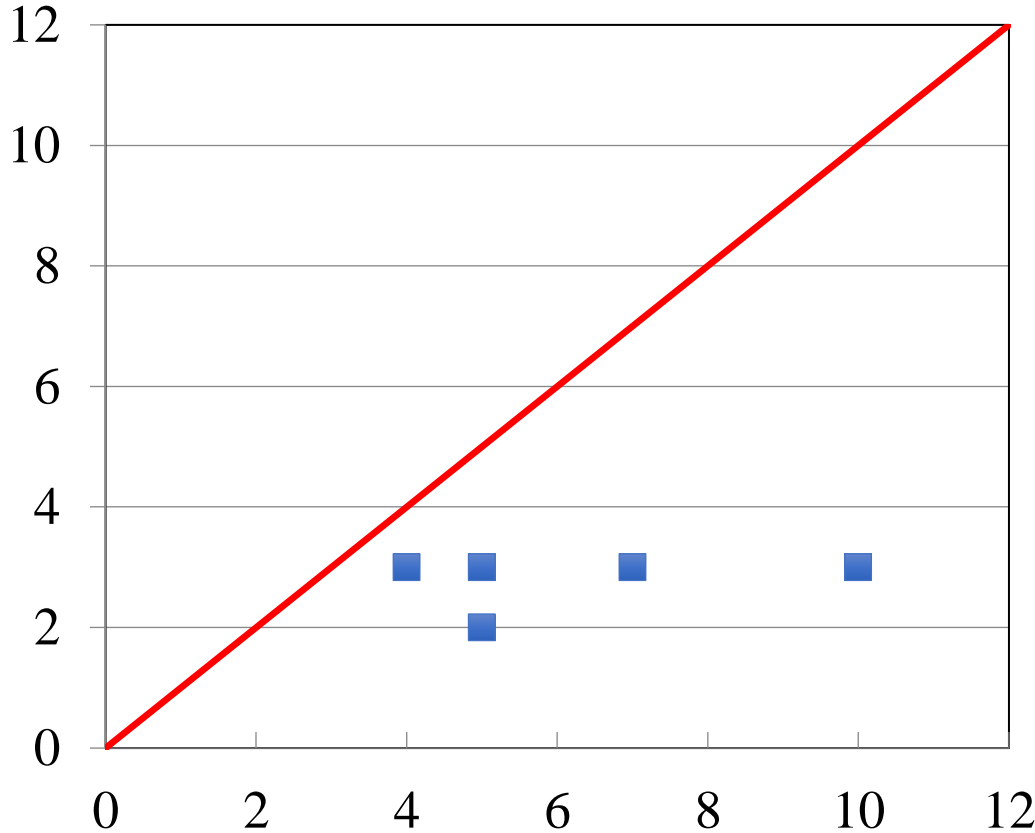
# BAPTISMS & DEATHS



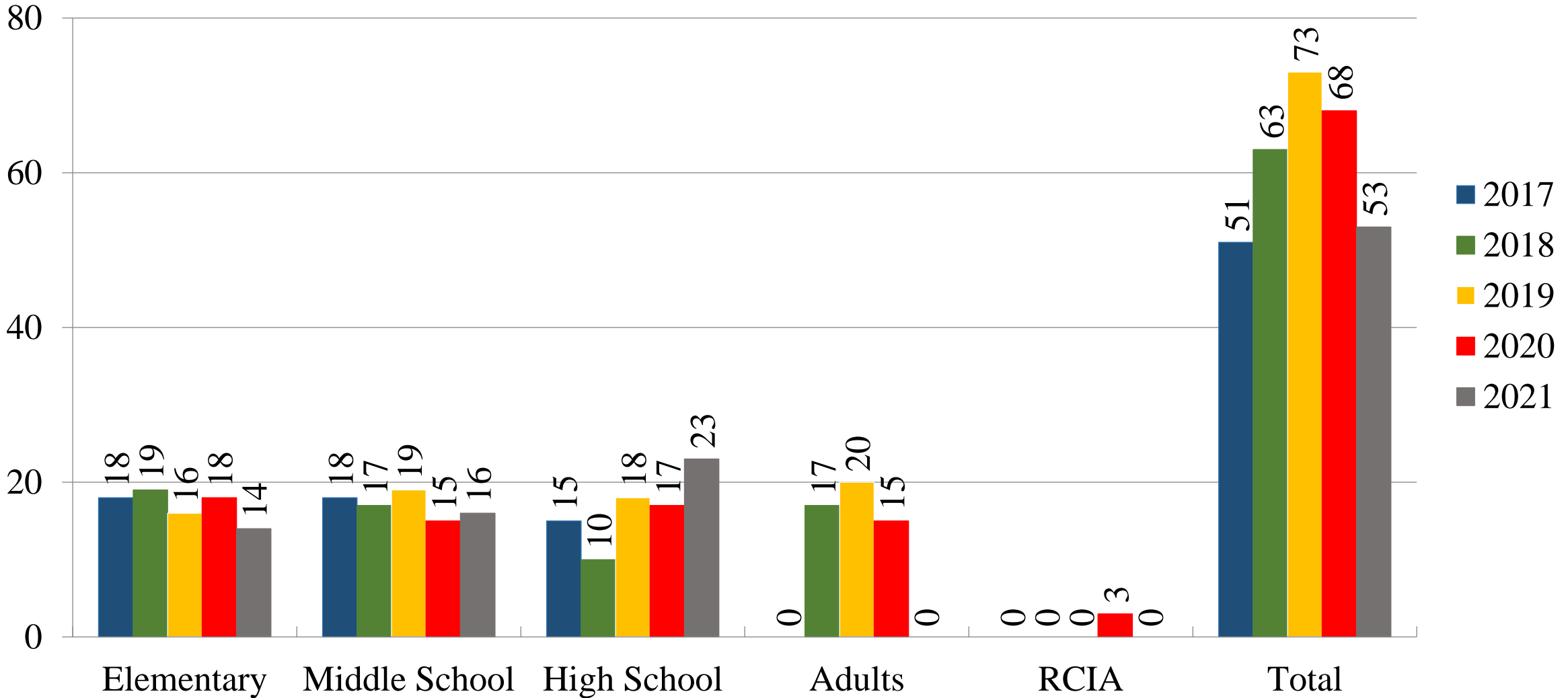
■ Baptisms      ■ Deaths



■ Baptisms vs Deaths — Line of Equal

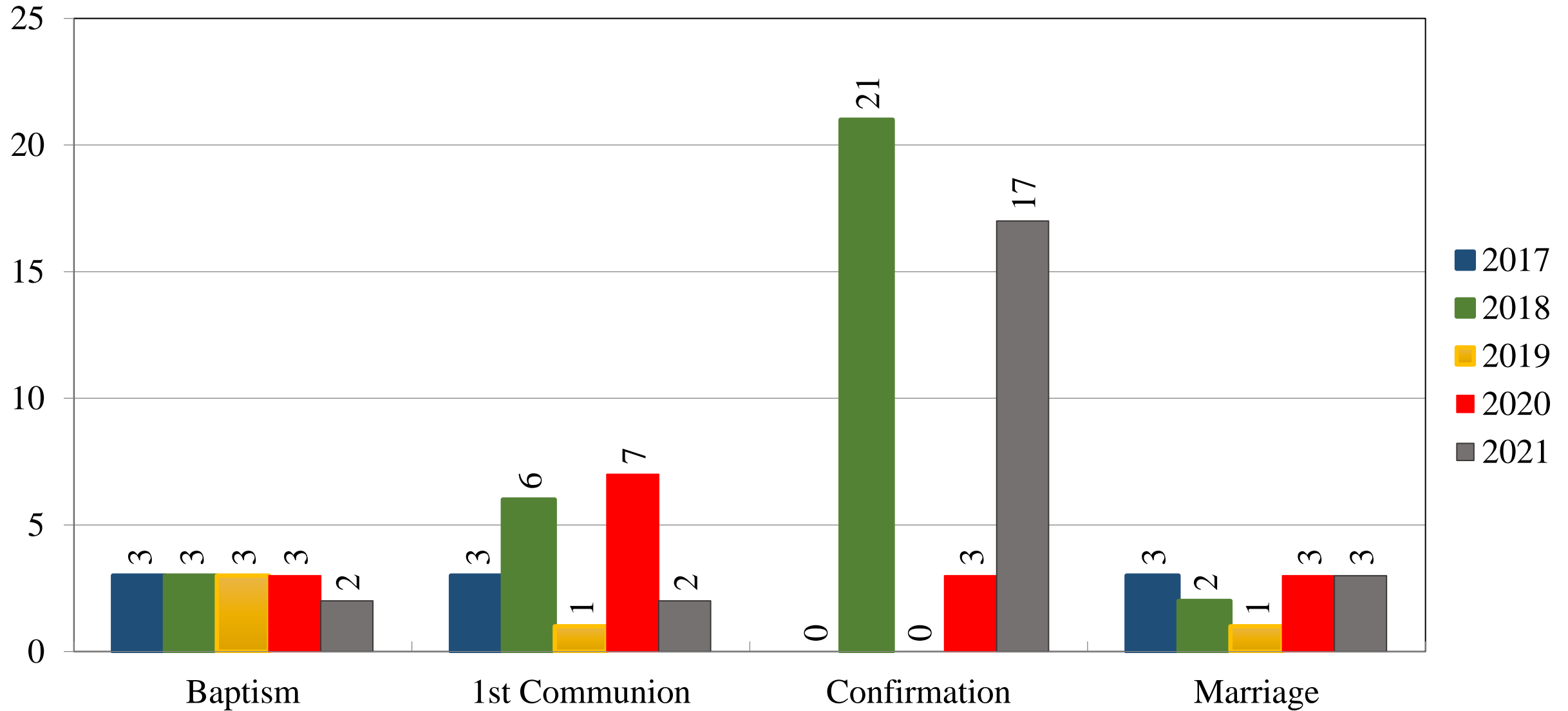


# FAITH FORMATION





# SACRAMENTS ADMINISTERED



# LAY ORGANIZATIONS

<b>Lay Organization</b>	<b>Count</b>
<b>Knights of Columbus</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>Catholic Daughters of America</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Altar Society</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Federation of North American Explorers</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Scouting (BSA or Cub)</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Other</b>	<b>113</b>



# COMMUNAL PRAYER & SPIRITUAL PROGRAMS



<b>Liturgy of the Hours</b>	✓	<b>Eucharistic Exposition and Adoration</b>	✓
<b>Stations of the Cross</b>	✓	<b>Parish Mission</b>	
<b>Rosary and other Marian Devotions</b>	✓	<b>Devotion to a Saint</b>	
<b>Days of Recollection</b>		<b>Religious Procession</b>	
<b>Retreats</b>		<b>Rogation Blessing</b>	
<b>Divine Mercy</b>	✓	<b>Communal Penances (e.g., “MERCY!”)</b>	✓

# SPECIAL MINISTRIES FOR THE POOR



<b>Ministry</b>	<b>Parish Involvement</b>
<b>St. Vincent De Paul Society</b>	
<b>Coats for Kids (KCs)</b>	✓
<b>Food Pantry</b>	✓
<b>Travel Assistance</b>	✓
<b>Housing Assistance</b>	✓
<b>Parish <i>ANAWIM</i> Fund</b>	✓



# FINANCIAL HEALTH



	Yes	Sometimes	No
<b>Operates on a balanced budget</b>	✓		
<b>Parish has an operating budget deficit</b>			✓
<b>Using savings to address a deficit</b>			✓
<b>The parish is currently in debt</b>			✓
<b>What Type of Savings Plan: Contingency</b>	✓		
<b>Parishioners who donate \$100 or more per year</b>			<b>94 (25%)</b>



# FACILITY CONDITION



	<b>Good</b>	<b>Needs Some Repair</b>	<b>Needs Serious Repair</b>	<b>Needs Immediate Repair</b>
<b>Church</b>	✓			
<b>Rectory</b>	✓			
<b>Parish Center (Offices/Classrooms)</b>		✓		
<b>Garage/Meeting Room</b>		✓		
<b>Shed (Garage)</b>		✓		

**Facilities are ADA compliant and handicap accessible**

**Recent Renovations: shingled all buildings in May, 2022 (\$##,####)**



# PARISH PROPERTY APPRAISAL



Building Name	Building Value	Contents %	Contents Value	Total Value
Church	\$ 2,171,472	12%	\$ 260,577	\$ 2,432,049
Garage & Meeting Room	\$ 40,320	30%	\$ 12,096	\$ 52,416
Rectory	\$ 349,054	30%	\$ 104,716	\$ 453,770
Shed	\$ 18,295	30%	\$ 5,489	\$ 23,784
Office/Classroom	\$ 1,236,453	20%	\$ 247,291	\$ 1,483,744
	<b>\$ 3,815,594</b>		<b>\$ 630,169</b>	<b>\$ 4,445,763</b>





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# PRIEST DUTIES & ACTIVITIES



## **ADMINISTRATIVE**

Supervision of staff, Council and Committee meetings, budgets, maintenance

## **PASTORAL**

Counseling; spiritual direction for others; visiting hospitals, nursing homes, homebound

## **LITURGICAL PREPARATION AND CELEBRATION**

Masses, Penance/Reconciliation, Anointing of the Sick, Eucharistic Adoration,  
Liturgy of the Hours

## **FAITH FORMATION:**

Providing Faith Formation instruction, participation in youth activities

## **WORK RELATED TRAVEL**

## **PERSONAL SPIRITUAL GROWTH:**

Holy Hour, spiritual direction, religious reading, private prayer

## **DIOCESAN DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

Diocesan Committees / positions, retreat, Clergy Convocation Days, Pastoral Ministry Days



# PRIEST DUTIES & ACTIVITIES



- **Travel miles per year: 12,852**
  - **Range for rural priests: 6,500 to 26,000 miles**
- **Diocesan Duties:**
  - **Committee for the Ongoing Formation of Priests,**
  - **DRC Liturgy Commission,**
  - **Board Member of Catholic Parish Association Contingency Fund, Inc.**



# HOW OUR DEACONS HELP



## Our Parish Has 1 Active Deacon

Assist at Sunday Masses	✓	Heart-to-Heart Retreats	
Assist at Weekday Masses		Training of Lay Ministers	✓
Baptismal Prep / Baptisms	✓	Marriage Prep / JF Marriage	✓
Funeral Vigils / Committals	✓	Couple meetings	✓
Assist at Funeral Masses		Serve as P-12 catechist	✓
Deliver Homilies	✓	Serve as adult catechist	✓
Eucharistic communal services	✓	RCIA	✓
Eucharistic Exposition / Benediction	✓	Devotions (Divine Mercy, Pentecost)	✓



# PREPARERS FOR THE SACRAMENTS



Who	Infant Baptism	First Penance & First Communion	Confirmation	Marriage	Nullity Studies	RCIA
Pastor	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Deacon	✓			✓	✓	✓
Lay Staff						
VSI Catechist						
P-12 Catechist		✓	✓			
Lay Volunteers		✓	✓			✓
Parents						
Couples						



# PARISHIONER TIME & TALENT



<b>Liturgy</b>	<b>#</b>
<b>Greeters / Ushers</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Sacristans</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Servers</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Readers</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Extraordinary Ministers (XMs) of H.C.</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Choir Members</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Accompanist</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Cantors</b>	<b>4</b>

<b>Catechesis</b>	<b>#</b>
<b>P-12 Catechists</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Adult Catechists</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>VSI Certified Catechists</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Commissioned Lay Ministers</b>	<b>4</b>



# VOCATION PROMOTION



## Possible Activities

## Parish Participation

*Totus Tuus*

✓

(4 girls, 2 boys)

**Vocation Committee**

**Adopt-a-Seminarian**

✓

**Seminary Visitations**

**Nun Run or Convent Visitation**

**Annual Seminarian Suppers**

**RSVP (Knights of Columbus)**





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# DISCUSSION GUIDELINES



- **Everyone's opinion is important, show respect for all**
- **Honor the absent – many may not be able to be here so please keep them in mind during this discussion**
- **Stay on track – keep the goal in mind of looking out 5-10 years**



# OPEN DISCUSSION



- **What are our needs, in light of the needs of the entire diocese?**
  - We are doing some things very well, where do we need to do better?
  - What is most important for 5-10 years out? 10-15-20 years out?
- **How do we meet the needs of the faithful across the Diocese**
  - What actions can we take to help with the decreasing number of Catholics and priests in our diocese?
- **What do we want to ensure gets passed on to the next discussion level?**

# DIOCESAN PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Heavenly Father, we beg you for an increase in religious vocations and holy marriages in the Diocese of Rapid City. Look upon us with favor and choose from our homes those who are needed for your work. Send your Spirit to strengthen us and give us open hearts and minds ready to say 'Yes' when you call. Help our parishes and families encourage vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, and consecrated life. We commend our prayers to our Patroness, Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

Through Christ our Lord.

Amen

