

# 2010 U.S. Census Report 3

Deanery: Western Delaware County (2)

Pastoral Planning Area: 360

FS: 2175 DP: 8455

## St. Thomas the Apostle

### 1. Detailed Age Breakdown for ALL People Living Within the Parish Boundary

Church Trends	Generational/ Age	Birth Year	Age	Population Count		
				Total	Male	Female
	2,253	2006-10	under 5	926	486	440
	10.3 %	2001-05	5 to 9	1,327	679	648
<b>Post-Vatican II</b>	<b>Millennial</b>	1996-00	10 to 14	1,448	738	710
		1991-95	15 to 19	2,554	1,690	864
		1986-90	20 to 24	1,580	960	620
	29.5 %	1981-85	25 to 29	851	534	317
	13,995					
<b>Gen. X</b>		1976-80	30 to 34	878	484	394
	64.3 %	1971-75	35 to 39	1,108	566	542
		1966-70	40 to 44	1,645	840	805
		<b>Boomer</b>	1961-65	45 to 49	1,678	871
<b>Vatican II</b>		1956-60	50 to 54	1,712	860	852
		1951-55	55 to 59	1,448	721	727
	27.2 %	1946-50	60 to 64	1,093	531	562
5,110						
23.5 %	<b>Post War</b>	1941-45	65 to 69	857	396	461
<b>Pre-Vatican II</b>		1936-40	70 to 74	652	276	376
		1931-35	75 to 79	724	303	421
	13.4 %	1926-30	80 to 84	678	270	408
2,672						
12.3 %	<b>G.I.</b>					
	618	bef. 1925	85 and over	618	259	359
	2.8 %					
<b>21,777</b>	100 %	<b>21,777</b>	100 %	<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>21,777</b>	<b>11,464</b>
						<b>10,313</b>

Source: 2010 Census Summary File 1: 2010 Census of Population and Housing Technical Documentation. Issued June 2011.  
Table: P12. SEX BY AGE

Notes:

- (a) Data are calculated by assigning each census block to a geography and aggregating all data for that geography.
- (b) Percentages may not total to 100% due to rounding.
- (c) Age reported as of April 1, 2010; Birth Year calculated by approximation.

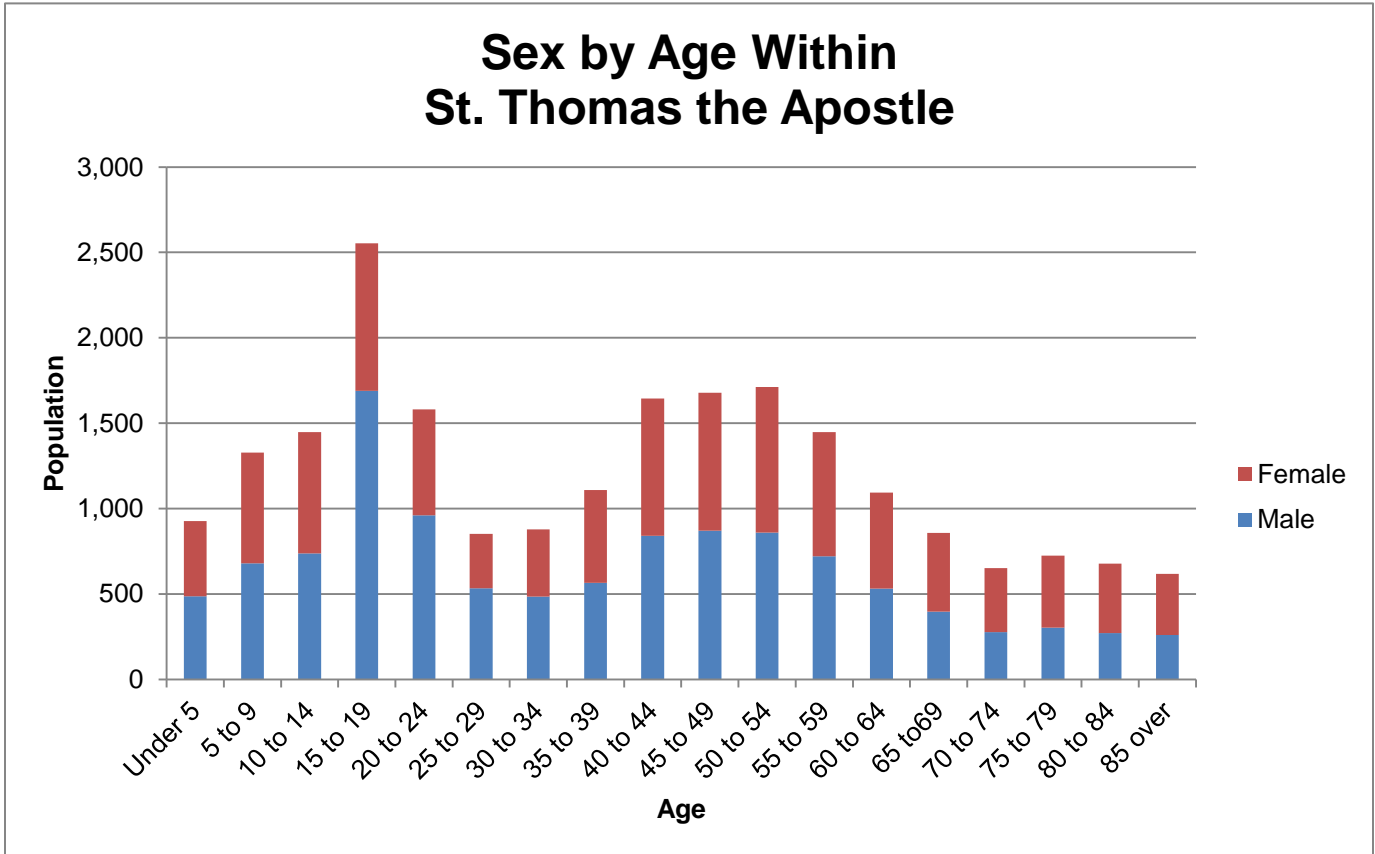
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# 2010 U.S. CENSUS DATA - REPORT 3

Pastoral leaders need to help people of every age and generation understand and appreciate the different gifts that each of them brings to the life of the parish. Age affects the way people think and act in two ways:

First, there is a “**life cycle experience**” of doing similar things at similar ages. We start out as children, we go to school, start working, leave home and frequently get married, have children, get older, retire, and die.

Second, there is a “**generational cohort effect**” which causes a group of people who have grown up (turned 18) around the same time to think and behave in ways that are different than their parents or their children.

Because of their ages, people differ not only in life cycle experience (some are buying houses and having babies while others are retiring and selling their houses), but also in the characteristics of their generation (some are attracted by institutions and are interested in preserving order; some are more interested in the individual and developing their own support networks).

This report describes the age of *all* the people living within the geographical territory, not just the Catholic people. It also associates the age of the people with their generation.

## Characteristics of Generational Cohorts in the U.S. in 2010

**G. I. Generation (age 85+)** - Born 1901-1925. Age 18 between 1919-1943.

*Heros*

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Civic Values and Building | <input type="radio"/> Institutions Over Individuals |
| <input type="radio"/> Expanding Affluence       | <input type="radio"/> Conserving Values             |

This “building generation” survived the Depression and fought World War II. They then created many of the social and religious institutions of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

**Post War Generation (age 65-84)** - Born 1926-1945. Age 18 between 1944-1963.

*Artisans*

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Loyalty to Order and Establishment | <input type="radio"/> Avoid Risk       |
| <input type="radio"/> Negotiators, Adaptive              | <input type="radio"/> Fine-tune change |
| <input type="radio"/> Compromise                         | <input type="radio"/> Preserve Values  |

Sometimes called the “Silent Generation” because they conformed to the world that their elder GI’s built.

Those born before 1940 can also be seen as the “**pre Vatican II Council**” generations. The Catholic people were frequently city dwellers who experienced many forms of anti-Catholicism which they combated by forming into “Catholic ghetto(s) comprised of Catholic neighborhoods, schools, hospitals, newspapers and social groups . . . Pre Vatican II Catholics grew up with Latin Masses, novenas, Benedictions, priests facing the altar (not the people) and Gregorian chant.”

**Boomer Generation (age 45-64)** - Born 1946-1965. Age 18 between 1964 -1983.

*Prophets*

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Focused on Individual Development | <input type="radio"/> Individuals Over Institutions |
| <input type="radio"/> Idealism                          | <input type="radio"/> Liberal Values                |
| <input type="radio"/> Start Change & Break From Past    | <input type="radio"/> Risk Takers                   |

This generation grew up in the turbulent 1960's and 1970's and rebelled against most things established by the GI generation.

Those born between 1941 and 1960 are also known as the “**Vatican II generation.**” They grew up in the pre Vatican II Church but, in their childhood through early adult years, the changes called for in Vatican II were implemented in their parishes just as the social movements of the 1960's plunged society into turmoil. This generation is most likely to have mixed feeling about authority (vs. making up their own mind) and institutional commitment (vs. personal spirituality).

**Generation X (age 30-44)** - Born 1966-1980. Age 18 between 1984 -1998. *Nomads*  
 Emphasis on Autonomy                       Reactive, Pragmatic and Creative  
 Sustaining Values                                       Self-forming Networks

This generation grew up during a period of high divorce rates, relatively low value placed on children, and serious social problems. This pragmatic group is pessimistic and interested in issues of identity. They are less likely to make long term commitments.

**Millennial Generation (10-29)** - (also known as Generation Y) *Civic*  
-Born 1981-2000. Age 18 between 1999 - 2018.

Also called Echo Boomers, due to the significant increase in birth rates through the 1980s and because many of them are children of boomers. Millennials grew up with technology and rely on it. They have been identified by some authors to be a confident, achievement oriented group, valuing teamwork, who seek the input and affirmation of others.

Those born since 1961 can also be recognized as “**post Vatican II Council**” generations. They have always had Mass in the language of the people. Their religious education was more likely to be conducted by lay persons, not priests or sisters. They have been encouraged to take responsibility for their own faith journeys. They are least likely to depend on Church authority and most likely to think of their faith in personal, not institutional, terms.

Note: The dividing lines between generations are rough approximations. The divisions in this report have been selected to accommodate the Census data available and approximate generational groups identified by various authors.

References:

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