

## ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY SURVEY Section II - Percentages

### **I. DEMOGRAPHICS**

#### **1. You are:**

562; 48.4% Male      599; 51.6% Female

#### **2. You currently attend:**

304; 26.3% High School      854; 73.7% College/University

#### **3. Do you currently attend a Catholic High School or College?**

1075; 93.2% Yes      79; 6.8% No

#### **4. Counting grade school, middle school, high school and college, approximately how many years of Catholic education have you had?**

128; 11.2% 1	43; 3.8% 5	36; 3.2% 9	55; 4.8% 13	32; 2.8% 17
124; 10.9% 2	41; 3.6% 6	45; 3.9% 10	59; 5.2% 14	15; 1.3% 18
114; 10.0% 3	37; 3.2% 7	62; 5.4% 11	46; 4.0% 15	9; 0.8% 19
114; 10.0% 4	51; 4.5% 8	87; 7.6% 12	37; 3.2% 16	5; 0.4% 20

#### **5. Which of the following best describes your ethnic background?**

600; 51.9% Non-Hispanic White/Anglo

162; 14.0% Hispanic/Latino

141; 12.2% Asian

94; 8.1% African American

160; 13.8% Other

#### **For "Other," students listed (Note: some categories were listed by more than one student):**

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Italian, Irish, Cuban, and English</li> <li>• European descent</li> <li>• West Indian</li> <li>• West Indian/Black</li> <li>• American</li> <li>• Pacific Islander</li> <li>• Multiracial</li> <li>• African, East Indian and Chinese</li> <li>• Italian</li> <li>• Caribbean</li> <li>• Italian American</li> <li>• Mixed Caribbean descent</li> <li>• Native American</li> <li>• Spaniard</li> <li>• Indo-Caribbean</li> <li>• Mixed Ethnicities</li> <li>• Filipino</li> <li>• East Indian</li> <li>• African</li> <li>• Guyanese</li> <li>• Italian and Colombian</li> <li>• Black Guyanese</li> <li>• Hispanic and White</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Indian</li> <li>• White, Asian, Hispanic</li> <li>• Egyptian</li> <li>• East Indian, Polynesian, Asian</li> <li>• Asian (Chinese)/Pacific Islander (Philippines)/European (Spain)</li> <li>• Nicaraguan/Brazilian/Pakistani</li> <li>• Sicilian French Jew</li> <li>• Arabian</li> <li>• Asian Indian</li> <li>• Mixed</li> <li>• Central Asian Jew</li> <li>• Caribbean/Black</li> <li>• Caucasian</li> <li>• South Indian</li> <li>• White/Italian</li> <li>• Arab/Middle Eastern</li> <li>• Prefer not to disclose</li> <li>• Combination of many different ethnicities</li> <li>• Indian-Asia Subminor</li> <li>• Puerto Rican &amp; Polish</li> <li>• Asian American</li> <li>• Caribbean black</li> <li>• Indian- (Asia)</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• White/Asian</li> <li>• Albanian</li> <li>• Caribbean Mixed</li> <li>• Afro Caribbean</li> <li>• Bangladeshi</li> <li>• Indian Subcontinent</li> <li>• Spanish</li> <li>• Guyanese West Indian</li> <li>• South Asian (Indian)</li> <li>• Anglo/Hispanic</li> <li>• Asian-Indian</li> <li>• Middle Eastern</li> <li>• Garifuna</li> <li>• Portuguese</li> <li>• Russian</li> <li>• Non-Hispanic White - European</li> <li>• East Indian (from the Caribbean)</li> <li>• Jamaican and German mix</li> <li>• Black/Hispanic</li> <li>• White Ukrainian</li> <li>• Black</li> <li>• 3/4 Italian ,Part American Indian, part Irish, part of some other things I'm not sure</li> </ul> |
|---|--|---|

- Haitian American
- Albanian
- White
- Hindu
- Greek
- Black West Indian

- Italian/Puerto Rican
- Ethiopian Indian
- Hispanic/Latino/White/Anglo
- Italian American/ Latino
- Haitian

- Native American and African American
- Bangladeshi/Portuguese
- Interracial
- Guyanese/Peruvian
- Mixed Latino and White

**6. Which of the following best represents your family structure when you are at home?**

815; 70.7% Your Mother and Father      200; 17.4% Your Mother Only  
 74; 6.4% Your Mother and other adult      27; 2.3% Your Father Only  
 8; 0.7% Your Father and other adult      28; 2.4% No parents, but other adults

**7. At any time in your life, did your parents get divorced?**

236; 20.5% Yes      915; 79.5% No

**8. Were you born in the United States?**

968; 83.4% Yes      192; 16.6% No

**II. SPIRITUALITY/RELIGIOSITY**

**9. What is your religious denomination?**

782; 67.5% Catholic  
 77; 6.6% Protestant  
 18; 1.6% Jewish  
 25; 2.2% Muslim  
 268; 22.9% Other or no answer

For "Other," students listed (Note: some categories were listed by more than one student):

- African Methodist Episcopal Zion
- Agnostic
- Agnostic Atheist
- Agnostic; raised Catholic
- Anglican
- Apostolic
- Atheist
- Baptist
- Believe in God, not organized religion.
- Born with Buddhism but have been thinking to convert it to Christian
- Buddhist
- Buddhist/Spiritual
- Bulgarian Orthodox
- Cherubim and Seraphim
- Christian
- Christian (Lutheran)
- Christian Nondenominational
- Christian Orthodox
- Christian with an undecided denomination
- Christian-Marthomite

- Christian: Congregationalist/ Bible based
- Converting to Catholicism
- Coptic Orthodox
- East orthodox Christian
- Eastern
- Eastern Orthodox
- Episcopalian
- Gnostic
- Greek Orthodox
- Greek Orthodox Christian
- Gregorian
- Hindu
- Hindu/Muslim
- I do not practice any 1 religious faith
- I don't affiliate myself with any religion, but I am not an atheist.
- I was raised as a Baptist
- I was raised Catholic, and my family is very active within in the Church, but I determined that my beliefs do not coincide with Catholicism

- I was raised Catholic, but I'm not sure what religious category I would fall under at this point in my life
- I am spiritual
- Indian Christian Orthodox (Eastern Orthodox)
- Jainist
- Just Christian
- Just plain Christian-It is ridiculous that Christianity has been divided into so many branches
- Latter-day Saint (Mormon)
- The Light of the World
- Lutheran
- Methodist
- Muslim, Hindu, Sikh, Buddhist
- No affiliation
- No religion
- No religion/Recently left the Church
- Non-religious Taoist-Buddhist
- Non-denominational
- Non-denominational Christian

- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Non-religious</li> <li>• None</li> <li>• Not determined</li> <li>• Orthodox</li> <li>• Orthodox Christian</li> <li>• Orthodox-Greek</li> <li>• Pentecostal</li> <li>• Protestant Christian</li> <li>• Raised Catholic- no longer Catholic, but I attend a non-denominational Christian</li> </ul> | <p>church every week and teach Sunday school</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Raised Protestant by father and converted to Catholicism in high school for mother</li> <li>• Rastafarian</li> <li>• Russian Orthodox</li> <li>• Secular</li> <li>• Seventh day Adventist</li> <li>• Sikh</li> <li>• Spiritual not religious</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Studying to be a confirmed Catholic</li> <li>• Syrian Orthodox</li> <li>• Syrian Orthodox Christian</li> <li>• Theist</li> <li>• Transcendentalist</li> <li>• United Methodist</li> <li>• Wiccan</li> </ul> |
|--|---|--|

**10. Do you belong to a Church, Mosque, Synagogue or other religious community?**

873; 75.6% Yes      281; 24.4% No

**11. Are you a member of a youth group that is affiliated with a Church, Mosque, Synagogue, or other religious community?**

280; 24.2% Yes      877; 75.8% No

**12. In general, how important is religion in your life?**

99; 8.6% Not at all important      492; 42.6% Moderately important  
 150; 13.0% Not too important      414; 35.8% Very important

**13. How often do you attend religious services?**

123; 10.6% Never      305; 26.4% Sometimes      194; 16.8% Always  
 282; 24.4% Rarely      251; 21.7% Often

**14. How often do you turn to your religion or spiritual beliefs to help you deal with your daily problems?**

125; 10.9% Never      310; 27.0% Sometimes      220; 19.1% Always  
 151; 13.1% Rarely      344; 29.9% Often

**15. How often do you pray?**

115; 9.9% Never      388; 33.5% Once a day  
 239; 20.7% Rarely      228; 19.7% More than once a day  
 187; 16.2% Once a week

**16. How strong would you say is your religious faith?**

113; 9.8% Not strong at all      511; 44.3% Moderately strong  
 195; 16.9% Not too strong      334; 29.0% Very strong

**17. I currently know (or knew in the past) a priest or religious brother or sister on a personal level, that is someone whom I could easily talk to comfortably outside of church.**

635; 54.9% Yes      521; 45.1% No

**18. I believe being a priest, brother, sister brings structure and a sense of purpose to one's life.**

167; 14.4% Not at all true      608; 52.5% Somewhat true      383; 33.1% Very true

### **III. FAMILY VIEWS**

**19. Is a member of your family (aunt, uncle, brother, sister) a priest, brother or sister/nun within the Catholic Church? This includes those who may have been in the past.**

157; 13.7% Yes      988; 86.3% No

**20. How often have members of your family encouraged you to consider a religious vocation?**

805; 69.7% Never      98; 8.5% More than a few times  
212; 18.4% Once or twice      40; 3.5% All the time

**21a-c. In general, what reaction would your family have if you told them you were seriously considering a religious vocation? They would**

**21a. encourage me.**

683; 61.3% Yes      431; 38.7% No

**21b. take me seriously.**

664; 59.1% Yes      459; 40.9% No

**21c. talk me out of it.**

315; 28.5% Yes      791; 71.5% No

**22. Is a Catholic priest, brother, or sister/nun a close friend of your family?**

413; 36.1% Yes      732; 63.9% No

**23. In the past year or so, how often have members of your family talked to a priest, brother, or sister/nun to discuss problems and/or to get spiritual guidance?**

516; 44.8% Never      196; 17.0% More than a few times  
348; 30.2% Once or twice      91; 7.9% Frequently

### **IV. FRIENDS' VIEWS**

**24a-c. In general, how would your closest friends react if you told them you wanted to become a priest or brother (or sister/nun for female respondents). They would**

**24a. encourage me.**

410; 37.2% Yes      692; 62.8% No

**24b. take me seriously.**

353; 31.8% Yes      758; 68.2% No

**24c. talk me out of it.**

533; 47.5% Yes      589; 52.5% No

**V. YOUR THOUGHTS AND FEELINGS ABOUT RECENT ISSUES WITHIN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH**

**25. How knowledgeable are you of the sexual abuse scandal within the church?**

38; 3.3% Not at all      693; 60.1% Somewhat      422; 36.6% Very

**26. How true is the following statement to you: "The recent sex scandals in the church have discouraged me from considering a religious vocation."**

780; 67.5% Not at all true      270; 23.4% Somewhat true      106; 9.2% Very true

**27. What impact has the sexual abuse scandal in the Church had on your personal faith?**

175; 15.2% Diminished my faith      47; 4.1% Increased my faith  
931; 80.7% No impact

**28a-k. "More young people my age would consider becoming a priest, brother, or sister/nun if**

**28a. they could get married and have a family.**

118; 10.2% Not at All True      437; 37.8% Somewhat True  
600; 51.9% Very True

**28b. they did not have to take a vow of poverty.**

280; 24.3% Not at All True      559; 48.6% Somewhat True  
312; 27.1% Very True

**28c. the Church did not have so many rules of obedience.**

322; 28.1% Not at All True      508; 44.3% Somewhat True  
317; 27.6% Very True

**28d. the Church did not require giving up so many personal freedoms.**

201; 17.6% Not at All True      512; 44.8% Somewhat True  
430; 37.6% Very True

**28e. commitments to religious life could be time-limited and less permanent.**

367; 32.2% Not at All True  
260; 22.8% Very True

513; 45.0% Somewhat True

**28f. the Church was more permissive of a woman's right to abortion.**

531; 46.3% Not at All True  
194; 16.9% Very True

422; 36.8% Somewhat True

**28g. the Church was more permissive of homosexual lifestyles.**

494; 43.1% Not at All True  
228; 19.9% Very True

424; 37.0% Somewhat True

**28h. the Church was more permissive of the use of contraception/birth control.**

297; 25.8% Not at All True  
389; 33.8% Very True

464; 40.3% Somewhat True

**28i. the Church was more supportive of sexual relations between non-married couples.**

387; 33.7% Not at All True  
318; 27.7% Very True

442; 38.5% Somewhat True

**28j. women were able to be ordained as priests.**

272; 23.7% Not at All True  
38.6% Very True

434; 37.7% Somewhat True 444;

**28k. they were not required to live in a religious community.**

358; 31.1% Not at All True  
269; 23.4% Very True

523; 45.5% Somewhat True

**VI. YOUTH CULTURE**

**29. I believe that the Catholic Church, in general, is in touch with the ideas, views and feelings of young people today?**

471; 40.9% Do Not Agree  
101; 8.8% Strongly Agree

579; 50.3% Somewhat Agree

**30. I believe that the Priests in my parish try to understand the thoughts and feelings of young people of my age?**

274; 23.9% Do Not Agree  
276; 24.1% Strongly Agree

596; 52.0% Somewhat Agree

**31. How often do you talk with a priest, brother, or sister/nun to discuss problems and get spiritual guidance?**

602; 52.4% Never  
356; 31.0% Once or twice

116; 10.1% More than a few times  
75; 6.5% Frequently

**32. In the past few years, how often have you been invited to engage in religious/spiritual based activities, whether through your church, your school or your community?**

148; 12.8% Never  
328; 28.5% Once or twice

412; 35.8% More than a few times  
264; 22.9% Frequently

**VII. RECRUITMENT**

**33. I have received promotional materials encouraging me to consider joining a religious vocation?**

685; 59.7% Never

393; 34.2% Once in a while

70; 6.1% Frequently

**34. A priest, brother, sister/nun has personally talked to me about the possibility of becoming a priest, brother, sister/nun.**

830; 72.4% Never  
218; 19.0% Once or twice

69; 6.0% More than a few times  
29; 2.5% Frequently

**35. I believe that the Church has done a good job of reaching out to me in an effort to educate me about religious vocations.**

523; 45.6% Not all true  
140; 12.2% Very true

484; 42.2% Somewhat true

**36. I believe being a priest, brother, or sister/nun is a fulfilling career choice.**

307; 26.6% Not at all true  
318; 27.6% Very true

527; 45.7% Somewhat true

**37. About how many priests can you honestly say that you look up to as "role models"?**

416; 36.2% None  
310; 27.0% One

234; 20.4% Two  
189; 16.4% Three or more

**38. I have attended a Vocations Recruitment Program where I learned about religious life.**

123; 10.8% Yes      1015; 89.2% No

**If YES to Question 38:**

**38a. I seriously listened to what the vocation directors/presenters said.**

137; 49.1% Yes      142; 50.9% No

**38b. I had serious talk with my parents about what the vocation directors/presenters said.**

60; 22.9% Yes      202; 77.1% No

**38c. I had serious talk with my friends about what the vocation directors/presenters said.**

62; 23.7% Yes      200; 76.3% No

## **VIII. MY FUTURE CAREER**

39a-l. When you consider your future career, how important are the following issues: A job

**39a. that pays very well.**

69; 6.0% Not Important      645; 55.9% Very Important  
440; 38.1% Somewhat Important

**39b. that is satisfying to me spiritually.**

163; 14.2% Not Important      524; 45.6% Very Important  
462; 40.2% Somewhat Important

**39c. where I can directly help people.**

67; 5.8% Not Important      708; 61.5% Very Important  
377; 32.7% Somewhat Important

**39d. where I feel good about myself.**

20; 1.7% Not Important      998; 86.9% Very Important  
131; 11.4% Somewhat Important

**39e. that is exciting.**

18; 1.6% Not Important      864; 74.9% Very Important  
271; 23.5% Somewhat Important

**39f. that is fulfilling.**

13; 1.1% Not Important      1011; 87.6% Very Important  
130; 11.3% Somewhat Important

**39g. that offers long-term stability.**

27; 2.3% Not Important      915; 79.6% Very Important  
207; 18.0% Somewhat Important

**39h. that offers travel throughout the world.**

379; 32.9% Not Important      326; 28.3% Very Important  
447; 38.8% Somewhat Important



**39i. that allows me to help my community.**

102; 8.9% Not Important  
469; 40.7% Somewhat Important

581; 50.4% Very Important

**39j. that gives me a lot of personal freedom.**

46; 4.0% Not Important  
384; 33.3% Somewhat Important

723; 62.7% Very Important

**39k. that provides me and my future family with financial security.**

15; 1.3% Not Important  
137; 11.9% Somewhat Important

997; 86.8% Very Important

**39l. that provides me with opportunities to share my feelings about God and the Catholic faith.**

480; 41.7% Not Important  
440; 38.3% Somewhat Important

230; 20.0% Very Important

**40. I believe I understand what priests, brothers, or sisters/nuns do on a day to day basis.**

251; 21.9% Not at all agree  
217; 18.9% Strongly agree

680; 59.2% Somewhat agree

**41. I believe I understand what type of professional training it takes to become a priest, brother, or sister/nun.**

389; 33.9% Not at all agree  
192; 16.7% Strongly agree

567; 49.4% Somewhat agree

**42. I am not sure I would be accepted into a religious vocation even if I wanted to because of the things I have done in the past.**

707; 61.7% Not at all agree  
115; 10.0% Strongly agree

323; 28.2% Somewhat agree

**43. I believe that young people do not necessarily choose to enter a religious vocation, but do so because of a calling from God.**

224; 19.6% Not at all agree  
324; 28.3% Strongly agree

597; 52.1% Somewhat agree

**44. Looking into the future, how likely are you to explore the possibility of becoming a priest, brother, or sister/nun?**

907; 79.1% Not at all agree  
47; 4.1% Strongly agree

192; 16.8% Somewhat agree