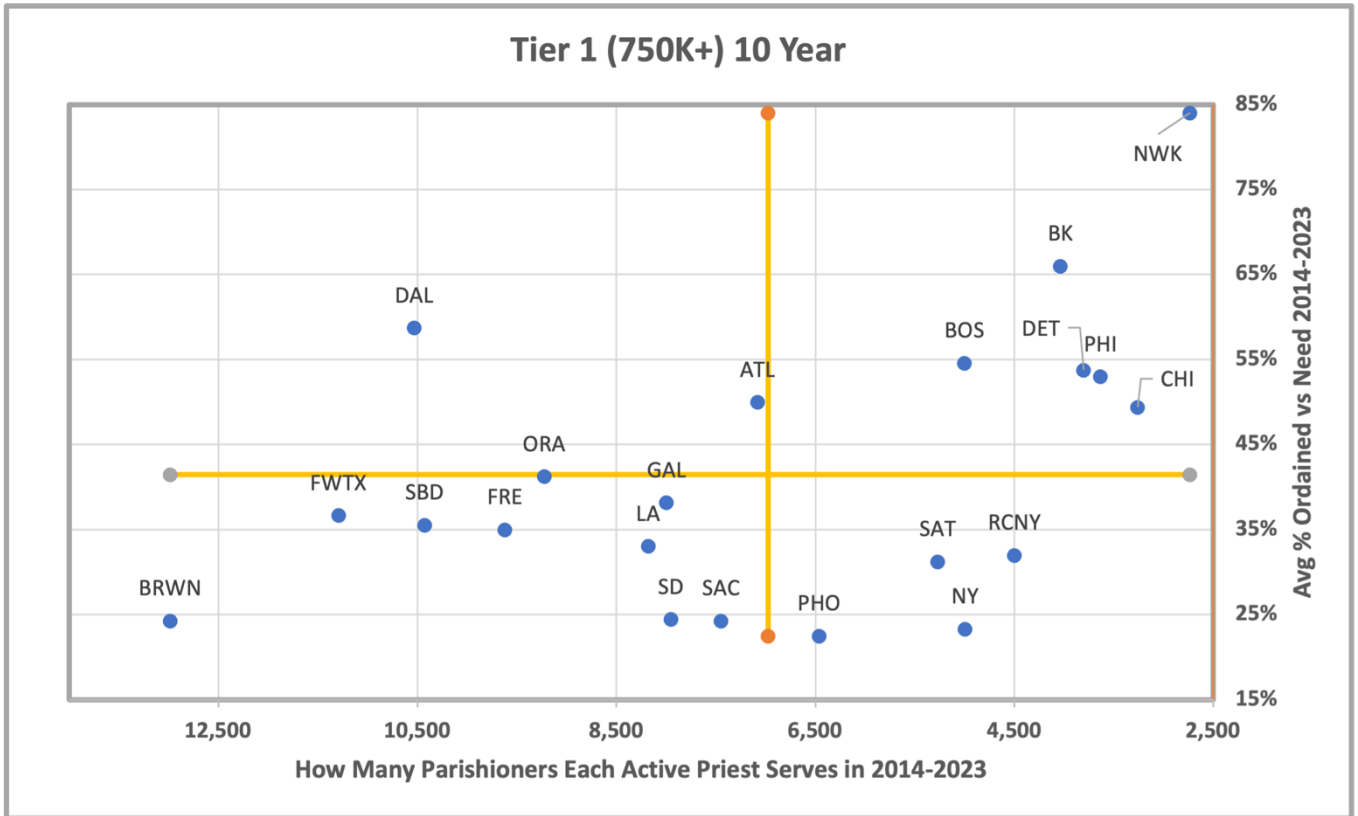




10-year Averages
Tier 1
750,00+ Catholics
21 Dioceses

(ARCH)DIOCESE	Diocese Abbrev.	Parishioners Each Active Priest Serves 2014-2023	Seminarian Average 2014-2023	Seminarians Needed 2023**	% of Total Seminarians 2014-2023 vs. Need**	Priestly Ordination Avg 2014-2023	Priestly Ordinations Needed 2023*	On Avg % Ordained vs Need 2014-2023
Los Angeles, California	LA	8,178	73	258	28%	8	23	33%
New York, New York	NY	4,993	36	235	15%	5	21	23%
Chicago, Illinois	CHI	3,258	53	179	29%	8	16	49%
Phoenix, Arizona	PHO	6,459	35	134	26%	3	12	23%
Boston, Massachusetts	BOS	5,000	61	146	42%	8	13	55%
Galveston-Houston, Texas	GAL	7,996	45	123	36%	5	11	38%
Dallas, Texas	DAL	10,529	62	90	69%	5	8	59%
San Diego, California	SD	7,951	13	101	12%	3	9	24%
San Bernardino, California	SBD	10,425	30	101	29%	4	9	36%
Orange, California	ORA	9,224	30	90	33%	4	8	41%
Brooklyn, New York	BK	4,034	47	112	42%	7	10	66%
Rockville Centre, New York	RCNY	4,499	20	112	18%	4	10	32%
Atlanta, Georgia	ATL	7,080	47	90	52%	4	8	50%
Brownsville, Texas	BRWN	12,981	14	78	17%	2	7	24%
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	PHI	3,634	65	112	57%	6	10	53%
San Antonio, Texas	SAT	5,268	22	90	24%	3	8	31%
Fort Worth, Texas	FWTX	11,291	29	67	42%	3	6	37%
Sacramento, California	SAC	7,448	15	78	19%	2	7	24%
Newark, New Jersey	NWK	2,734	62	112	55%	9	10	84%
Fresno, California	FRE	9,618	24	67	35%	3	6	35%
Detroit, Michigan	DET	3,801	32	90	35%	5	8	54%

* See formulas for calculations in the appendix.





Tier 1 – Quadrant Analysis

These Quadrant Charts are graphs of “How Many Parishioners Each Active Priest Serves” compared to “Average Ordination Rate vs. Need”. Each dot on these charts represents the data for a diocese. The vertical and horizontal orange lines provide the overall averages for all the dioceses in their group. Let’s define what each quadrant represents:

Upper Right Quadrant-

Current Situation: The dioceses in this quadrant generally have good numbers of active priests and smaller numbers of parishioners that each priest serves. Ordinations are relatively high compared to the other dioceses in the demographic group. Since each priest serves smaller numbers, access to priests is greater, and relationship potential, which has been shown to be necessary for the development of vocations, is more possible.

Future Situation: The dioceses in this quadrant, even though it may not be ordaining as many as it would like, is in the best situation of all the quadrants heading forward. Since ordination rates are higher, and the replacement of existing priests is ongoing, as we approach the high retirement rates of baby boomer priests, this group will most likely handle this situation the best of the four quadrants.

Upper Left Quadrant-

Current Situation: The dioceses in this quadrant generally have smaller numbers of active priests and large numbers of parishioners that each priest serves. This reason can be different in the tiers. Some dioceses are Catholic population dense in a smaller geographic area; others may simply have a small number of priests serving very large numbers of parishioners. Either way, the result is that access to priests is reduced. We generally see very few dioceses in the quadrant, which means it is almost impossible to develop a strong, nurturing vocational environment. This doesn’t mean that individual parishes are not able to do this successfully, but dioceses that average high parishioner numbers have found it almost impossible to generate more than 60% of the ordinations needed in this quadrant.

Future Situation: Since there are very few dioceses in this quadrant with a high number of parishioners that each priest serves and a high ordination rate, it’s hard to see a model that shows us what success looks like.

Bottom Right Quadrant-

Current Situation: The dioceses in this quadrant generally have good numbers of active priests and smaller numbers of parishioners that each priest serves. Ordinations are

relatively low compared to the other dioceses in the demographic group. Since each priest serves smaller numbers, access to priests is greater, and relationship potential, which has been shown to be necessary for the development of vocations, is more possible.

Future Situation: If the addressable steps are taken, it will take time to see positive change in these dioceses because of the number of years needed for priestly formation. But this group has all the tools and inputs necessary for revival at hand

Bottom Left Quadrant-

Current Situation: Dioceses in this quadrant are struggling in many cases with a lack of existing priests and each existing priest is serving large numbers of parishioners. Ordination rates are very low, compared to the other dioceses in their demographic group. With all the demands of handling these large parishes, priests are finding it very challenging to create a vocational environment to develop sustaining numbers of vocations to the priesthood. Therefore, very few ordinations are fostered in these dioceses.

Future Situation: The question is what changes can be made to make it possible to create a more vocational environment. The first step is awareness. Changes of some priorities from administrative to vocational are possible. Defining roles where religious priests, lay people, and retired religious can fill gaps to alleviate the situation outlined can help create a vocational environment.



10-Year Averages of Marriages

(ARCH)DIOCESE	Total Catholic Marriages 2014	Total Catholic Marriages 2015	Total Catholic Marriages 2016	Total Catholic Marriages 2017	Total Catholic Marriages 2018	Total Catholic Marriages 2019	Total Catholic Marriages 2020	Total Catholic Marriages 2021	Total Catholic Marriages 2022	Total Catholic Marriages 2023	Percent Change Over 10 Years
Los Angeles, California	7,192	6,931	6,855	6,786	6,682	6,397	5,209	4,766	5214	5096	-19.0%
New York, New York	3,846	3,509	3,487	3,310	3,168	3,009	1,505	1,553	2676	2914	-38.9%
Chicago, Illinois	6,664	5,306	5,102	4,999	4,751	3,984	2,820	2,560	3635	3400	-45.9%
Phoenix, Arizona	958	991	1,061	1,055	860	1,541	1,061	781	1175	864	-48.4%
Boston, Massachusetts	2,615	2,585	2,677	2,545	2,559	2,304	1,417	1,174	1708	1426	-40.8%
Galveston-Houston, Texas	3,317	3,377	3,585	3,460	3,323	3,118	2,666	2,311	2718	2432	-27.3%
Dallas, Texas	1,733	1,826	1,901	1,984	1,907	1,979	1,477	1,525	1733	1699	-12.2%
San Diego, California	1,535	1,524	1,580	1,590	1,676	1,458	918	1,408	1406	1215	-42.6%
San Bernardino, California	1,728	1,743	1,710	1,925	1,761	1,722	1,166	994	1522	1550	7.6%
Orange, California	2,141	2,066	2,056	2,084	2,108	2,156	1,671	1,731	1913	1891	0.9%
Brooklyn, New York	2,267	2,206	2,051	1,993	1,851	3,053	1,164	1,164	1685	1337	-30.4%
Rockville Centre, New York	3,188	3,267	3,134	3,038	3,056	2,934	2,600	1,483	2745	2453	-14.4%
Atlanta, Georgia	1,851	1,389	1,885	1,693	1,421	1,646	1,207	1,436	1380	1443	-35.0%
Brownsville, Texas	1,196	1,121	1,235	1,243	1,036	1,030	727	818	828	758	-40.3%
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	3,452	3,573	3,381	3,444	3,119	3,111	2,837	1,757	2658	2611	-6.7%
San Antonio, Texas	1,768	1,946	1,746	1,420	1,566	1,849	1,398	1,260	1247	1245	-53.8%
Fort Worth, Texas	980	1,124	932	998	930	1,154	647	761	941	785	-46.5%
Sacramento, California	1,032	1,149	1,234	1,079	1,171	1,012	649	654	960	889	-18.8%
Newark, New Jersey	1,986	1,999	1,999	1,949	1,877	1,624	1,542	806	1441	1418	-7.2%
Fresno, California	1,942	1,950	1,864	2,062	1,910	1,971	1,106	1,587	1676	1832	19.3%
Detroit, Michigan	1,846	2,206	2,130	2,103	2,119	1,983	1,501	1,715	1695	1695	24.0%

* See formulas for calculations in appendix.



Appendix

Formulas Used for This Report

Base Need Ordination Rate—To determine how many ordinations are needed by dioceses, Vocation Ministry used the average of two factors:

1. Population Factor equals one ordination per 120,000 Catholics in a diocese
2. Replacement Rate of Priests (see below).

Replacement Rate of Priests—The replacement rate of priests is the number of ordinations needed annually simply to replace the current number of priests in a diocese. The rate used in this report is 2.7 percent. This rate was arrived at by determining the average years of ministry for priests in the US.

Subtracting the average ordination age of priests (34) from the average retirement age (71), the average length of ministry is 37 years. Considering a priest's length of ministry to be a unit, divide that unit by the number of years. Thus, the annual rate of replacement necessary to retain the current number of priests over a given time period ($1/37 = 0.027$ or 2.7%).

Thus, if a diocese has 83 priests, each year they will need to ordain an average of 2.241 ($83 * 0.027$) new priests yearly just to replace the current number as they retire.

Depending on a diocese's particular need, a higher replacement rate may be necessary. This calculation does not include other factors of attrition which may cause a decrease in priests, such as a higher than the average normal rate of retirement.

Base Need Seminarian Rate—To determine the number of seminarians needed, the Base Need Ordination Rate was multiplied by the average length of seminary formation (seven years), then increased by the average discern-out rate of 40 percent.

Priestly Availability Index — $((\text{Total Active Priests})/(\text{Total Catholics in Diocese}/\text{Total Parishes in Diocese}))*1000$

Total Catholic Marriages—To determine the number of total Catholic marriages, the number of marriages between two Catholics is added to the number of interfaith marriages (one spouse is Catholic, and one is of a different faith).