

Gallup Poll: American Catholics Favor Married Priesthood

Princeton, N.J. (NC) -- American Catholics favor permitting priests to marry and continue functioning as priests, according to a Gallup Poll released July 25.

The survey, which was conducted between April 15 and May 16, showed that 58 percent of U.S. Catholics said they favored married priests, while 33 percent were opposed to them and 9 percent did not offer an opinion.

The strongest support for a married priesthood, a Gallup statement said, was found among groups from which vocations to the priesthood have come in the past, younger survey respondents between the ages of 18 and 29, college graduates and single persons.

More women (62 percent) than men (54 percent) favored married priests, the statement added.

Those interviewed were asked, "Would you favor or oppose allowing Catholic priests to marry and continue to function as priests?"

The survey was sponsored by the Corps of Reserve

Priests United for Service, a national organization representing married priests who are willing to return to the active ministry, and the National Federation of Priests' Councils.

The findings were based on in-person interviews with 1,326 Catholic adults 18 and older. The interviews were conducted in more than 300 scientifically selected localities across the nation, the statement said.

At least a 2-to-1 ratio in favor of married priests was also found among women, people between 30 and 49, high school graduates, those from upper-income homes, persons living in households in which the chief wage earner was employed in business, the professions or blue-collar jobs.

"For results based on a sample of this size, one can say with 95 percent confidence that the error attributable to sampling and other random effects could be three percentage points in either direction," the statement said.

Chicago Pastor

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out. Within 15 minutes we were getting protest calls and we knew something was going to happen."

On Palm Sunday, "I said the Mass at 8:30 a.m. and there they were, 150 protesters, most of whom I didn't recognize. Washington was delayed and came (at the same time as fellow Democrat Walter Mondale with his entourage of members of the national media) at Communion time.

"He and Mondale wanted to go on to the next stop. They stood about a block down the street. I felt they should not run away. Then the crowd surged out after them. They did very, very well. There was a lot of confusion in front of the church. We couldn't find one spot to stand. We went outside the church just to find

some space. Then we gave up and the candidates and I walked back to the car."

"I don't think much attention would have been given to it if Mondale hadn't come.

"But it showed the courage that Washington had — walking down that row of people, the anger vented by those people. People spit, and clenched their fists."

"Then he was elected. And now we have our own problems with him and some of the aldermen. And I've been in contact with him by letter. I asked him to be sure in choosing enough whites in his cabinet so he doesn't appear prejudiced himself."

Home at St. Pascal, "I was hoping enough homiles have been given that will teach the lesson. Oh, we feel the incident was a good one for us in as much as our people,

though they have a similar feeling with the protesters, but our people are ashamed of that feeling. And they are warmer to us.

"We 'twin' with a Spanish-speaking parish, and there was a good number who said 'Why don't we change parishes?'"

"So we're now twinning with a black parish, then hoping to meet socially with them.

"Our people love their priests more than before and are ashamed of what happened. That's one thing that's also representative.

"One of the things that's happened is that we received 500 protesting letters, but 300 complimentary letters. We tried to answer or acknowledge them, if we could.

"One of the things that's happened, we got about \$650 to make up the loss in our collection 'because of our courage.'"

Father Ciezadlo is very concerned "not to let this thing be a dead incident." He said that he has met with an ecumenical group of clergy. Though that meeting was only an initial one, he said, and "we didn't get very far,"

the group decided, "we have to play a part in the government instead of being a silent partner. We churches should speak out on essential, important matters."

NFP Info

Elmira — Natural Family Planning of the Southern Tier will hold an information session, 2-3:30 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 14, at St. Joseph's Hospital.

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Catholics Attend WCC

Vancouver, British Columbia (NC) -- Although the Catholic Church is not a member of the World Council of Churches, Catholics were present and active at the WCC's sixth assembly July 24-Aug. 10 in Vancouver.

Catholic presence at the worldwide ecumenical gathering, held every seven years, symbolizes the dramatic progress which has taken place since the Second Vatican Council encouraged Catholic participation in the ecumenical movement.

Official Catholic involvement at the sixth assembly stands in marked contrast with its almost total absence in 1948 when the WCC was founded in Amsterdam, Netherlands, and in 1954 when the Vatican's Holy Office forbade Catholics to be present when the council met at Evanston, Ill.

Since Vatican II, however, the church has reversed its previous anti-ecumenical stance. It has become an active, indeed even aggressive, ecumenical partner with the members of the WCC.

The Vatican Secretariat for Promoting Christian Unity has appointed 18 "delegated observers" to attend and participate in the assembly sessions, but they have no voting power on official actions. They participate in the various "cluster groups" which bring reports and recommendations to the floor of the assembly for official action.

The Catholic observers are also available for consultation with the delegates at informal gatherings, where much of the assembly's work is done.

The Catholic observers in-

Pope to Pilgrims

Vatican City (NC) — Following is the text of Pope John Paul II's English-language remarks during his weekly general audience July 20.

Dear brothers and sisters, I am happy to welcome all the English-speaking visitors who are present at the audience this morning, in particular those who have come on pilgrimage to the tombs of the apostles Peter and Paul.

We are celebrating this year the jubilee of the redemption, seeking in this way to understand more profoundly the mystery of our salvation and to participate more fully in the redemption of Christ which enables us to accomplish good works. In fact, whatever good we do is the fruit of the redemption. The grace of our redeemer enlightens our minds and elevates our wills, and thereby it makes us capable of acting in justice and in truth.

I would like to extend a special word of welcome to the visitors who have come from South Africa: the members of the Living Word Pilgrimage, the pilgrims from the Mount Edmund Christian Brothers' College, and the members of the Drakensberg Boys Choir. I also offer very cordial greetings to the Chinese pilgrims from Hong Kong, and I assure you that your presence here today is deeply appreciated. Please know that my prayers are with you and with your families and friends at home.

I extend a special word of welcome to the seminarians from Scotland. As you prepare for the priesthood, I hope that your visit to Rome will deepen your love for the church and your desire to serve Christ with a generous and loving heart. May God bless you all.

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