

FADICA

2005 Catholic Donor Attitude Survey



**Foundations and Donors Interested in Catholic Activities, Inc.
(FADICA)**

in association with

**The Center for the Study of Church Management
of
Villanova University College of Commerce & Finance**

and

Zogby International

FADICA Catholic Donor Attitude Survey

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FADICA, Inc.

Foundations and Donors Interested in Catholic Activities, Inc.

Organized in 1976, Foundations and Donors Interested in Catholic Activities, Inc. (FADICA) is a consortium of private funders. In addition to facilitating the exchange of information on important trends and needs relevant to the future of religious life, FADICA serves as a forum for the discussion of common grant requests and programs of mutual interest.

Production Manager: Sharon E. Marek
Cover Design: Big Fish Design Studio

“financial support ... places an obligation on the receiver to demonstrate transparency and accountability in the use made of such assistance”

***MESSAGE OF JOHN PAUL II
TO THE
PRESIDENT OF THE PONTIFICAL COUNCIL
FOR JUSTICE AND PEACE***

July, 2004

Introduction

The main donor base for the Catholic Church in the U.S. can be found in its parish pews every Sunday of the year. It is estimated that the Catholic faithful in this country contribute collectively in the range of six billion dollars annually through the collection basket.

While the major portion of these funds support local pastoral and social initiatives of the parish faith community, millions of dollars in contributions originating at Sunday worship are also sent on to advance diocesan, national, and international church-related missions and services.

In 2002, Foundations and Donors Interested in Catholic Activities inaugurated a series of national surveys to find out what core Catholic donors nationwide were thinking about their donations, and how charitable reporting is handled within the church.

With this, our fourth national opinion survey, we continue to find a consistently strong pattern of support for better financial accountability within the church. This year, for example, despite hundreds of millions of dollars raised for the victims of natural disasters in Southeast Asia and on the Gulf Coast of the United States, the church's overall performance rating on the question of keeping parish donors informed remains low. Just over a third of parish donors rated the church's efforts "above average" on this question. More generous parish donors, who tend to be even more involved in Catholic life, rate the church's efforts in the area of financial accountability significantly lower.

In reviewing this year's survey, one can readily imagine how a few simple steps would increase the charitable capacity of the nation's parishes. Introducing measures to engage the parish donor more fully and to foster an atmosphere of accountability is just the right positive direction that parishioners expect of their church at this time in its history.

In releasing this year's survey results we wish to thank Villanova's Professor Charles E. Zech whose research and work is contributing to more participatory financial management with the church. We are also grateful to Dr. John Zogby and his colleagues at Zogby International, for the consistently high quality of the survey research. Last, but not least, we thank the members of FADICA whose generosity and thought has made this survey possible.

Dr. Francis J. Butler, President
Foundations and Donors Interested in Catholic Activities, Inc.
Washington, DC
January, 2006

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Survey Highlights 2005

In our previous surveys we had found enormous support among Catholic laity for church financial transparency and accountability. Our 2005 annual survey of regular Mass attending Catholics confirms and continues this pattern, with most items falling within the plus or minus 4 percent margin of error of the surveys. Other important findings concerned the impact of the scandal and its aftermath on the willingness of the laity to contribute to the Church. The following contains highlights from the 2005 survey:

Catholic Church Financial Accountability and Transparency

- An overwhelming majority of regular Mass attending Catholics continued to agree that the church should be more accountable on church financial issues. The percent of the 2005 sample who agreed stood at 67%, within the margin of error of the 2004 figure of 70%.
- There was a significant decrease, from 49% in 2004 to 41% in 2005, in the percent of regular Mass-attending Catholics who rated the church as *above average* in its competence in the handling of money.
- In light of the millions of dollars that Catholic parishes contributed to aid victims of natural disasters like the Tsunami in Southeast Asia and Hurricane Katrina, we asked our 2005 sample of regular Mass-attending Catholics to rate the church's performance in keeping donors informed about how the funds are being used. Only 37% rated the church as *above average*.
- More than three-fifths of regular Mass attending Catholics agreed that there should be annual independent audits of church finances. In 2004, a general question was asked whether audits of church finances at every level with the results to be released publicly should be undertaken. Sixty one percent agreed. In 2005, when asked specifically about auditing parish and diocesan finances and releasing the results publicly; 63% agreed that independent audits should be done at the parish level and 67% agreed that they should be performed at the diocesan level.
- The proportion of regular Mass attending Catholics who agreed that their parish should hold an annual open forum where the parish's financial planning and fundraising methods can be aired, held steady (81% in 2004, 80% in 2005).
- Only 47% of the 2004 sample of regular Mass attending Catholics agreed that they have an adequate understanding of how their contributions to the Catholic Church are used. The figure for 2005 was 46%, within the margin of error and therefore considered to be about the same proportion as the previous year.

Financial Impact of the Clergy Abuse Scandal

- We asked our sample of regular Mass-attending Catholics about acceptable options for dioceses to pay for the clergy abuse financial settlements. The most acceptable way, according to our 2005 respondents, was a diocesan-wide collection (supported by 44% of the sample), with the funds specifically designated to paying for the settlements. Other options also received some significant support, including: 38% favored the sale of church property; 33% favored a reduction in diocesan program offerings; 32% favored declaring bankruptcy; and 32% favored closing parishes in order to save money.
- In light of the court ruling in the bankruptcy case of the Spokane diocese to the effect that parish assets are owned by the diocese and subject to inclusion in any financial settlements with victims, we asked our sample of regular Mass attending Catholics how a decision of this nature would impact their contributions. Eleven percent indicated that they would increase their contributions, *but more than double that number, 26%, told us that they would contribute less to the church.*
- The percentage of regular Mass attending Catholics who were concerned that the financial impact of the settlements would affect the ability of the Church to meet its mission, held at 62% in 2005, again within the margin of error of the 2004 survey's finding of 65%.
- Catholics continue to indicate that the clergy abuse scandal has impacted their willingness to support the church financially. In the 2005 survey, nine percent of the respondents indicated that they had decreased their contributions to their parish in the last year; 14% had decreased their contributions to the diocese; and 12% had decreased their contributions to the national collections that are supported by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. In each case, the number one reason given for the decline was anger over the clergy abuse scandal.
- Those parish donors contributing more than \$5,000 annually to the church, showed significantly stronger opinion on the church's financial accountability. While 37% of the typical parish donors rated the church's emergency relief appeals above average in keeping them informed, only 12% of high donors did. While 39% of parish donors felt that the bishops were financial accountable, only 27% of the high donors agreed with this notion.

Financial Accountability and Catholic Church Support: Findings of the 2005 Donor Attitude Survey

**Dr. Charles E. Zech
Center for the Study of Church Management
College of Commerce and Finance
Villanova University**

This study reports the findings of a FADICA sponsored Zogby International poll which was a follow-up to similar polls conducted in the previous two years. In 2002, through a Gallup Poll, we surveyed 1001 Catholics, of whom 732 indicated that they were regular Mass attenders (i.e., attend Mass at least 2-3 times each month). In 2004, we worked with the Zogby International polling agency and surveyed a separate sample of 1000 Catholics, 803 of whom indicated that they were regular Mass-attenders. In November 2005, we again contracted with Zogby to survey 1000 Catholics. In this sample, 787 were regular Mass-attenders. Only the opinions of the regular Mass attending Catholics in our sample are analyzed in this report.

A number of forces impacted Catholic donors in 2005. Among these were the uncertainty in the economy, including record energy prices; the devastating impact of natural forces like the tsunami in Southeast Asia and Hurricane Katrina with the resulting call for voluntary contributions to support the victims; and divided opinions over the conduct of the war on terrorism and its impact on opinions concerning the trustworthiness of all institutions. Specifically church-related issues also played a role. These included the death of Pope John Paul II and the ascendancy of Pope Benedict XV; the ongoing impact of the clergy abuse scandal; such as the major financial settlements with victims as well as related parish and school closings in Boston; a court decision in the Spokane diocese bankruptcy case declaring that parish assets are owned by the diocese and could be considered as part of any financial settlement; and the continued reconfiguration of parishes in light of the persistent decline in priestly vocations and in some cases, the need to raise funds to pay for settlements associated with the scandal.

The findings from the 2005 survey confirm our conclusions from the 2004 survey: *the financial implications of the clergy sexual abuse scandal have continued to linger*. This is true for both the laity's expressed desire for greater church financial accountability and transparency and for the impact of the scandal on Catholics' willingness to support their church financially.

It is important to remember that the analysis in this report is based on the opinions of regular Mass attending Catholics, those who attend Mass daily, weekly, or almost every week. The opinions of those disaffected parishioners who only attend Mass twice a year (Easter and Christmas) or perhaps twice a lifetime (weddings and funerals), while of interest from the perspective of evangelization, are not included here. The views of regular Mass attending Catholics are represented here and this fact confers some additional weight to these findings. This population can be considered the major source of donor support for the church.

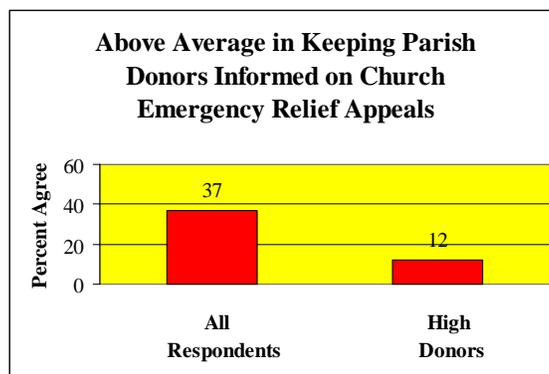
We further delineate our findings by reporting on patterns that should be of great interest to church leaders: the opinions of high-giving donors to the church. Ten percent of our sample of regular Mass-attending Catholics contributed more than \$5000 to the Church last year. Their responses are also analyzed.

The margin of error in each of our polls is plus or minus four percent.

Financial Accountability and Transparency

Each of our surveys of regular Mass--attending Catholics has found a heightened interest in issues surrounding Church financial accountability and transparency in the wake of the on-going clergy sexual abuse scandal. This is true at every level (parish, diocese, national Church). This trend continued in our 2005 survey. For example, in 2002, only 46 percent of our sample rated the bishops as a group as above average on their financial accountability. By 2004 that figure had fallen to 38 percent. In 2005 it held steady at 39 percent (within the margin of error). Among our 2005 sample of high-donors (contribute \$5000 a year or more to the Church), only 27 percent rated the bishops as above-average on their financial accountability.

Likewise, in 2002, 65 percent of the sample agreed that the church needed to be more accountable on its finances. By 2004 that figure had risen to 70 percent and that figure held at 67 percent in 2005. The 2005 high-donors were even more insistent on this point, with 77 percent agreeing on the need for greater financial accountability.



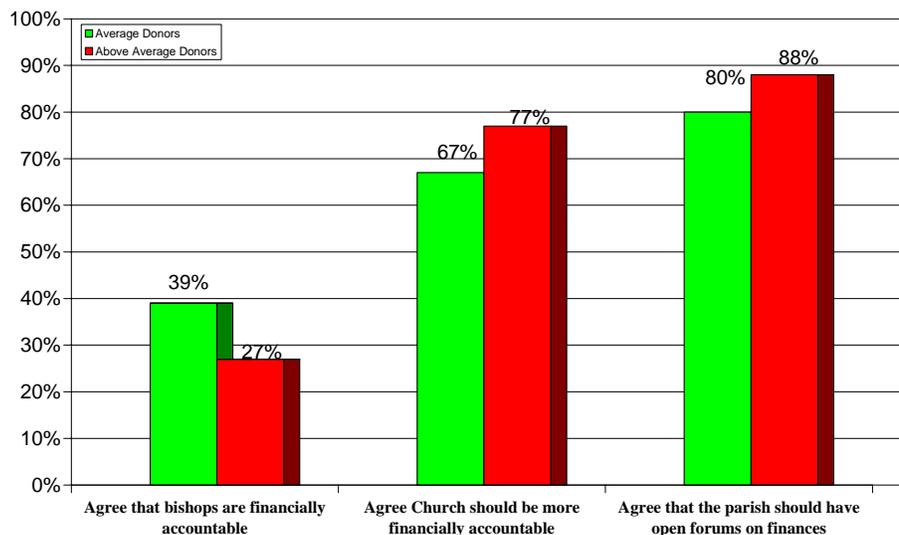
Specifically, what kinds of accountability and transparency are the laity expecting? In both 2002 and 2004 we asked a general question about support for publicly released annual independent audits at every level. We found that concept to be supported by 66 percent of the sample in 2002 and by 61 percent in 2004. In 2005, we asked about publicly released independent audits at specifically the parish and diocesan levels. We found that 63 percent agreed that parishes should undergo and publicly release annual independent audits and 67 percent agreed that this should

occur at the diocesan level. Once again, the high-donors outpaced the other members of our sample, with 73 percent favoring parish audits and 76 percent supporting audits at the diocesan level.

Are Catholic parish donors receiving sufficient information on how their contributions are used? Only 47% of the 2004 sample believed that they had an adequate understanding of how their contributions to the Church are used. This figure held steady at 46 percent in 2005. But among 2005 high-donors, it was only 42 percent. This is especially noteworthy, since the USCCB has issued national standards for financial reporting. (*Diocesan Financial Issues, USCCB, Dec., 2002*).

The world experienced a series of national disasters in 2005, including a tsunami; a series of hurricanes that hit the United States, including Hurricane Katrina; and the earthquake in Pakistan. Along with other groups, agencies supported by the U.S. Catholic Church collected aid for relief in these devastated areas. Catholic Charities USA has raised more than \$133 million to help respond to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, while Catholic Relief Services raised more than \$188 million to embark upon a five year rebuilding effort in Southeast Asia. We asked our 2005 sample to rate the church's performance in keeping donors informed about how these funds are used. Only 37 percent of our sample of regular Mass attending Catholics rated the church as above average on this issue. The results were even more dramatic among 2005 high-donors. Only 12 percent of this group rated the Church agencies' performance in this area as above-average.

**Survey of Parish Catholics
Attitudes toward Financial Accountability
Comparison of All Parish Donors to High Parish Donors**



Finally, Catholics want to be consulted on church financial matters. This is most practical at the parish level. A substantial majority, 81 percent of the 2004 sample of regular Mass attenders, agrees that parishes should provide open forums where parishioners can have an input into the parish's financial planning and methods of fundraising. In 2005 that figure held at 80 percent for the entire sample, but rose to 88 percent for the sample of high-donors.

Decisions on Individual Household Contributions

Both the 2002 and the 2004 surveys asked about the impact of the clergy abuse scandal on parishioners' decisions to contribute financially at three different levels: to support their parish; for diocesan collections such as Catholic Charities, or the Bishops' Annual Appeal; or to support the national collections sponsored by the USCCB, such as *Aid to the Church in Central and Eastern Europe*. The questions across the years were not identical, so the results are not exactly equivalent, but some insights can still be gleaned. At the parish level in 2002, 12 percent of the respondents chose a response that indicated that they had either given less or had ceased to contribute to their parish altogether. In 2004, 14 percent of the respondents selected comparable options. For diocesan giving, the figures were 19 percent in 2002 and 17 percent in 2004. When asked about second collections sponsored by the U.S. hierarchy as a group, 19 percent of the sample in both 2002 and 2004 selected responses that revealed either a decrease in contributions or an unwillingness to contribute at all.

At the same time, some parishioners responded to the scandal by increasing their financial support to the church. In 2002, 3 percent of the respondents told us that they had increased their contributions to the parish, with 2 percent increasing their donations to the diocese, and 2 percent giving more to national collections. In 2004, eight percent of the sample was giving more to their parish while five percent was contributing more to the diocese, and five percent increasing their donations to the national collections. These findings are consistent with some national tallies that reported a decrease in the number of givers at each level while dollar giving has remained fairly constant.

We asked the question in a different form in 2005, merely asking whether the respondents had changed their giving patterns at each level, and their reasons. At the parish level, one-third of our sample indicated that they had increased parish giving in 2005. The reasons most cited were an improvement in their personal financial situation (35 percent) and the recognition that parish programs depended on their contributions (29 percent). At the same time nine percent of our respondents had decreased their parish contributions in 2005. Of this group, some cited a decline in their personal financial situation (28 percent), but the majority (56 percent) cited their anger over the clergy sexual abuse scandal. Among the sample of high-donors, 46 percent had increased their parish contributions, while 28 percent had decreased their donations to their parish.

At the diocesan level, 11 percent of our 2005 sample had increased their diocesan contributions and 14 percent had decreased them. The reasons were essentially the same as for parish

donations. Of those who had increased their giving, 42 percent cited diocesan program needs and 26 percent credited an improvement in their personal financial situation. Those who contributed less to diocesan collections attributed their lower giving to anger over the scandal (37 percent) and deterioration in their personal financial situation (25 percent). High donors followed essentially the same pattern as the others in the sample. Of this group, 11 percent gave more to diocesan collections and 14 percent contributed less.

Finally, we asked about changes in giving to the national collections, such as the American Bishops' Overseas Relief Fund, that are sponsored by the American bishops as a group. Within the overall sample of regular Mass attenders, 7 percent had increased their donations to the national collections while 12 percent gave less. The reasons were consistent with the reasons stated for the other two levels of giving. Those who gave more did so in recognition of ministry needs (51 percent) or because of a healthier personal financial situation (34 percent). Lower giving was primarily caused by anger over the scandal (37 percent) or a diminished ability to donate (36 percent). Among the high donors, 18 percent contributed more, and 18 percent contributed less to the national collections.

Paying for the Scandal

In both the 2004 and 2005 surveys we asked the respondents about a number of options available to dioceses to pay the costs resulting from the scandal. None of them received the endorsement of a majority of the respondents, but some were viewed more favorably than others. The most popular 2005 option was to hold a special diocesan-wide collection, with the funds specifically devoted to paying the settlements. A total of 44 percent of our 2005 sample thought that this approach was acceptable (compared to 36 percent in 2004). This figure probably understates the support for this type of approach, since another 8 percent of the sample also found holding special fund-raisers to be acceptable. Among the high-donor sample, this approach was found to be acceptable by 52 percent of the respondents.

The second most popular approach to paying for the scandal in 2005 was to sell church property, supported by 38 percent of the sample (it was also supported by 38 percent in 2004). Again, this figure perhaps understates the respondents' sentiments, since another 5 percent indicated that the church should sell other (presumably financial) assets. Selling property was an acceptable approach to 41 percent of the high donors.

Paying for the scandal by cutting diocesan programs was acceptable to 33 percent of the 2005 sample (30 percent in 2004). Another 3 percent supported some unspecified reduction in diocesan expenses. Only 23 percent of the high donors favored cutting programs.

Two of the more controversial approaches received surprising support from our respondents. In 2005, 32 percent of the sample supported closing parishes in order to save money and a similar proportion supported declaring bankruptcy as an appropriate way to protect Church assets (comparable figures in 2004 were 28 percent and 35 percent). The figures for the high donors on these two issues were comparable to those of the entire sample.

Finally, we asked the impact on giving in light of a judge's ruling that parish assets belong to the diocese and could be used to fund settlements emanating from the clergy abuse scandal. Of our sample of regular Mass attending Catholics, 11 percent indicated that if this occurred in their diocese, they would increase their contributions. More than double that number, 26 percent, told us that they would reduce their contributions if this happened. The impact was even greater among the sample of high donors. Only 5 percent of this group would give more, while 36 percent would decrease their contributions.

Recommendations

Clearly, nearly three years after the clergy sexual abuse scandal broke open, parishioners are still not content with the financial stewardship of the church. Dioceses and parishes that seek to live by the values of Christian stewardship should consider constructive measures that help parishioners understand where their donations go and how parishioners can become more familiar and informed about the financial dimensions of Catholic life.

Constructive steps that might be taken could include:

- The publication of diocesan and parish audits in their entirety. To insure greater transparency, each diocese and parish should publish a “reader friendly” annual financial statement, as well as an approved budget and strategic plan for the coming years.
- Educational efforts should be sponsored regularly for professional church employees, clergy, financial council members and parishioners on accounting standards and church policies on the use of donations
- Parish and diocesan forums with finance council members present who can explain and respond to parishioner questions. Bishops should provide ongoing forums where financial issues and decisions of the dioceses and the parishes can be discussed.
- Every diocese should provide competent centralized resources to assist every parish within its territory in development and fundraising.
- Financially experienced parishioners should be selected for the parish finance councils and should be engaged in training and developing additional members.
- A study should be undertaken examining fundraising processes of the church in the U.S. at all levels with a view toward better national coordination of nation-wide appeals, more complete accounting on where funds are going, improved methods of fundraising beyond the traditional collection basket, better ways for Catholic foundations and charitable agencies to work together and bringing in people with expertise in fundraising.

- Diocesan compliance with all USCCB approved financial standards and practices and fundraising policies. Catholic funding agencies (e.g, the American Board of Catholic Missions) with the assistance of other private and community foundations should work together to ensure that dioceses and parishes have adopted these standards. The USCCB should consider using its website to deliver online financial management training to diocesan and parish finance councils.

Questionnaire Survey and Answers from Zogby International

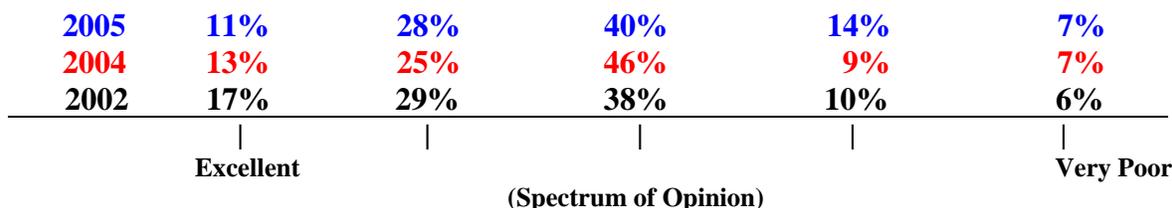
Percent of Frequent Mass Attenders Familiar with Clergy Sexual Abuse Who Expressed an Opinion

How to read the data: The figures in blue represent Zogby International polling data for 2005. The red figures represent the findings from the 2004 Zogby poll. The black figures represent a national survey taken in 2002 by The Gallup Organization. Note: Not all questions were asked every year

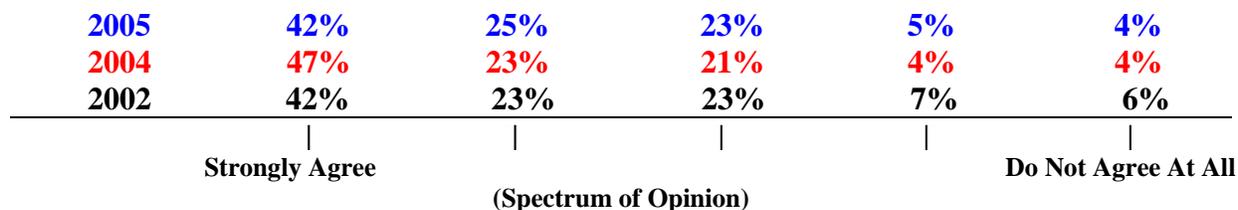
1. How many hours per month do you spend participating in activities at your parish?

	<u>2002</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>
• None/Less than one hour	27%	46%	40%
• 1 to 3 hours	25%	29%	33%
• 4 to 7 hours	23%	10%	15%
• 8 to 10 hours	10%	8%	5%
• 11 hours or more	14%	7%	8%

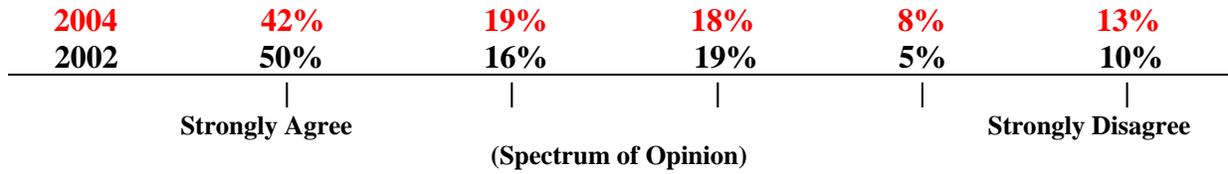
2. Using a five-point scale where 5 means excellent and 1 means very poor, how would you rate the U.S. bishops as a group on their accountability on issues such as church finances?



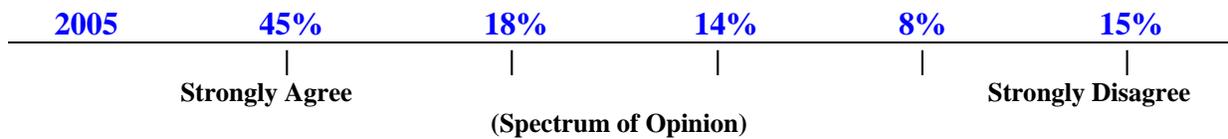
3. Using a five-point scale where 5 means you strongly agree and 1 means you do not agree at all, to what extent do you agree that the church should be made more accountable on issues such as church finances?



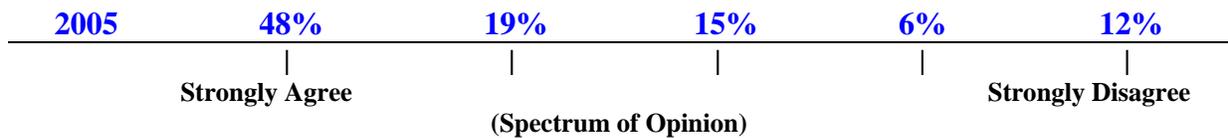
4. Using a five-point scale where 5 means strongly agree and 1 means strongly disagree, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the statement that there should be an annual independent audit of church finances at every level, with the results to be released publicly?



4a. Using a five-point scale where 5 means strongly agree and 1 means strongly disagree, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the statement that there should be an annual independent audit of church finances at the PARISH, with the results to be released publicly?



4b. Using a five-point scale where 5 means strongly agree and 1 means strongly disagree, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the statement that there should be an annual independent audit of church finances at the DIOCESAN, with the results to be released publicly?



5. Which of the following would be the (“acceptable way” – 2004, 2005) (“best way” – 2002) for a diocese to pay for the financial settlements resulting from the sexual abuse by priests, once all diocesan insurance has been exhausted? (2004 and 2005 respondents permitted to offer more than one option.)

	2002	2004	2005
• The sale of church property	33%	38%	38%
• A special diocesan-wide collection with funds specifically devoted to paying for the settlements	22%	36%	44%
• A reduction in diocesan program offerings	11%	30%	33%
• Declaring bankruptcy as an appropriate way to protect church assets		35%	32%
• Closing parishes as a way to save money		28%	32%

6. Using a five-point scale where 5 means strongly agree and 1 means strongly disagree, to what extent do you agree or disagree that the financial impact of the settlements will affect the ability of the church to meet its mission, including programs that assist the disadvantaged members of society?

2005	44%	18%	20%	6%	12%
2004	46%	19%	20%	6%	9%
2002	37%	18%	24%	10%	12%

Strongly Agree | | | | Strongly Disagree
 (Spectrum of Opinion)

7. Which of the following best describes how your household has contributed to your local parish since the recent sexual abuse of young people by Catholic priests?

	<u>2002</u>	<u>2004</u>
• I am contributing more to my parish	3%	8%
• It has had no impact on my household's decision to support my parish financially	64%	60%
• It has had no impact, but my household will reduce contributions if it is learned that collection money will be used to pay lawsuits	22%	19%
• I contribute less to my parish		5%
• My household has given parish funds to other Catholic causes	6%	6%
• My household is not inclined to support my parish right now	6%	3%

7a. In the last year, have your financial contributions to your PARISH increased, decreased, or remained about the same?

	<u>2005</u>
Increased	33%
Decreased	9%
Same	57%

7b. If **Increased**, which of the following best explains the reason for the increase

	<u>2005</u>
Personal financial situation	35%
Funding needed for church ministry	29%
Overall satisfaction with parish/pastor	16%
Stewardship	16%
Anger over press treatment of church	1%
Other	4%

7c. If **Decreased**, which of the following best explains the reason for the decrease?

	<u>2005</u>
Personal financial situation	28%
Anger over clergy sexual abuse scandal	56%
Lack of accountability in church finances	4%
Dissatisfaction with parish/pastor	9%
Other	3%

8. Which of the following best describes how your household has contributed to church national collections, such as the American Bishops' Overseas Appeal or the Catholic Campaign for Human Development, in the wake of the crisis of sexual abuse by priests?

	<u>2002</u>	<u>2004</u>
• I am contributing <u>more</u> to church national collections	2%	5%
• I have <u>not changed</u> my contributions because I support the bishops	31%	37%
• I have <u>not changed</u> my contributions because I didn't want to punish church-sponsored charities	23%	23%
• I have <u>not changed</u> my contributions but I will change if I learn that the funds will be used to pay lawsuits	25%	17%
• I now contribute less to national collections		10%
• I <u>did not want to support</u> these appeals this year	19%	9%

8a. In the last year, have your financial contributions to CHURCH NATIONAL COLLECTIONS, such as the American Bishops' Overseas Appeal or the Catholic Campaign for Human Development, increased, decreased, or remained about the same?

	<u>2005</u>
Increased	7%
Decreased	12%
Same	81%

8b. If **Increased**, which of the following best explains the reason for the increase

	<u>2005</u>
Personal financial situation	34%
Funding needed for church ministry	51%
Overall satisfaction with the Catholic church	4%
Stewardship	9%
Other	2%

8c. If **Decreased**, which of the following best explains the reason for the decrease?

	<u>2005</u>
Personal financial situation	36%
Anger over clergy sexual abuse scandal	37%
Anger over parish closing decisions	1%
Lack of accountability in church finances	5%
Dissatisfaction with church or Bishop's Conference	8%
Other	12%

9. Which of the following best describes how your household has contributed to diocesan collections such as Catholic Charities or the Bishops' Annual Appeal, in the wake of the crisis of the sexual abuse by priests?

	<u>2002</u>	<u>2004</u>
• I am contributing <u>more</u> to diocesan collections	2%	5%
• I have <u>not changed</u> my contributions because I support my bishop	31%	40%
• I have <u>not changed</u> my contributions <u>because I didn't want to punish diocesan charities</u>	22%	21%
• I have <u>not changed</u> my contributions <u>but I will change</u> if I learn that the funds will be used to pay lawsuits	25%	17%
• I now contribute less to diocesan collections		9%
• I have <u>given diocesan funds to other Catholic causes</u>	6%	4%
• <u>I did not want to support</u> the appeal this year	13%	4%

9a. In the last year, have your financial contributions to DIOCESAN COLLECTIONS such as Catholic Charities or the Bishops' Annual Appeal increased, decreased, or remained about the same?

	<u>2005</u>
Increased	12%
Decreased	14%
Same	74%

9b. If **Increased**, which of the following best explains the reason for the increase

	<u>2005</u>
Personal financial situation	26%
Funding needed for church ministry	42%
Overall satisfaction with my diocese/bishop	5%
Stewardship	20%
Other	6%

9c. If **Decreased**, which of the following best explains the reason for the decrease?

	<u>2005</u>
Personal financial situation	25%
Anger over clergy sexual abuse scandal	37%
Anger over parish closing decisions	1%
Lack of accountability in diocesan finances	12%
Dissatisfaction with my diocese/bishop	18%
Other	8%

10. Using a 5 point scale where 5 means you strongly agree and 1 means you strongly disagree: “I have an adequate understanding of how my contributions to the Catholic church are used”.

	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>
5. Strongly agree	34%	28%
4	13%	18%
3	24%	28%
2	11%	9%
1. Strongly disagree	15%	15%
Don't Know	2%	2%

11. Using a 5 point scale where 5 means excellent and 1 means poor, how would you rate the competence of the church, in general, with regards to the handling of money?

	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>
5. Excellent	22%	12%
4	27%	29%
3	38%	44%
2	7%	9%
1. Very poor	6%	6%

12. Using a 5 point scale, where 5 means strongly agree and 1 means you do not agree at all, to what extent do you agree that the church makes good use of the managerial and financial expertise of its parishioners?

	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>
5. Strongly agree	35%	20%
4	28%	24%
3	27%	34%
2	5%	15%
1. Strongly disagree	5%	7%

13. Using a five-point scale where 5 means you strongly agree and 1 means you do not agree at all, to what extent do you agree that the Catholic church needs to develop more modern methods of fundraising to complement the traditional collection basket? (2005 survey mentions electronic transfers from checking accounts as one example).

	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>
5. Strongly agree	40%	23%
4	20%	11%
3	23%	18%
2	6%	11%
1. Strongly disagree	10%	37%

14. Using a five-point scale where 5 means you strongly agree and 1 means you do not agree at all, to what extent do you agree that **parishes** should provide an annual open forum for parishioners where the **parish's** financial planning and methods of fundraising can be aired?

	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>
5. Strongly agree	63%	55%
4	18%	25%
3	13%	12%
2	4%	3%
1. Do not agree at all	3%	5%

15. In two diocesan bankruptcy cases precipitated by lawsuits over the clergy sexual abuse scandal, legal effort is being made by plaintiffs to include in the financial settlements not only diocesan assets, but also those of Catholic parishes and schools. If this occurred, how would it affect your decision to contribute to the church?

	<u>2005</u>
Give more	11%
Give less	26%
No effect	63%

16. During the past year, Catholic parishes have contributed many millions of dollars to aid victims of natural disasters like Hurricane Katrina. How would you rate the church's performance in keeping its donors informed about how the funds are being used using a five-point scale where 1 is very poor and 5 is excellent?

	<u>2005</u>
5. Excellent	17%
4.	20%
3.	32%
2.	17%
1. Very Poor	15%

Demographics

	<u>2002</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>
1. Gender: Male	31%	46%	43%
Female	69%	54%	57%
2. Age: Under 30	6%	13%	14%
30-44	28%	30%	
30-49			42%
50-65			20%
45-65	44%	33%	
Over 65	21%	24%	24%

3. Race: What is your race? Are you white, African-American, Asian, Native American, or some other race?

	<u>2002</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>
White	83%	75%	77%
African-American/black	2%	2%	2%
Asian	2%	1%	1%
Native American	1%		
Hispanic	11%	17%	16%
Other		5%	4%

4. Income:	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>
Less than \$15,000	9%	7%
\$15,000 to less than \$25,000	12%	10%
\$25,000 to less than \$35,000	16%	12%
\$35,000 to less than \$50,000	16%	19%
\$50,000 to less than \$75,000	22%	22%
\$75,000 or more	26%	
\$75,000 to less than \$100,000		14%
\$100,000 to less than \$150,000		13%
\$150,000 to less than \$200,000		3%
\$200,000 or more		1%

	<u>2002</u>
Less than \$10,000	2%
\$10,000 to less than \$15,000	3%
\$15,000 to less than \$20,000	5%
\$20,000 to less than \$30,000	11%
\$30,000 to less than \$50,000	25%
\$50,000 to less than \$75,000	23%
\$75,000 to less than \$100,000	14%
\$100,000 or more	17%

Notations on Methodology

Sampling Technique

The data supporting this report was collected through three telephone surveys. The first was conducted by The Gallup Organization, Inc. during the first three weeks of October, 2002. The second was conducted by Zogby International during the first week of December, 2004, and the third by Zogby in the latter part of November, 2005.

Dr. Francis J. Butler of FADICA and Dr. Charles E. Zech of Villanova University's Center for the Study of Church Management developed the survey questionnaires. While many of the questions were identical in order to allow for some inter-temporal comparisons, a few were added to the 2005 survey instrument to capture attitudes on issues that were topical at that time.

The 2002 Gallup Poll surveyed 1001 Catholics, of whom 732 indicated that they were regular Mass attenders (i.e., attend Mass at least 2-3 times each month). The 2004 Zogby International Poll surveyed 1000 Catholics, 803 of whom were regular Mass attenders. The 2005 Zogby Poll surveyed 1000 Catholics, including 787 regular Mass attenders. Only the opinions of the regular Mass attending Catholics in our sample are analyzed in this report.

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Attitude Survey

Please contact:

FADICA

1350 Connecticut Avenue, NW

Suite 825

Washington, DC 20036

Phone: (202) 223-3550

Fax: (202) 296-9295

Email: info@FADICA.org

www.FADICA.org