Sacramental Practices
COLUMBIA DEANERY

CATHOLIC POPULATION COMPARED TO TOTAL POPULATION
Catholics represent less than nine percent of the population in the 38 counties which comprise the Diocese of Jefferson City. While there is a growth in the overall population, the number of Catholics has been decreasing slightly.

CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENTS
The celebration of the sacraments reflects relative stability or a gradual downward shift in the celebration of infant baptisms, first communions, confirmation and marriages. However, we have seen a 29% decline in Mass attendance since 2001. Every October, parishes are asked to count Mass attendance. The graph on the next page illustrates those numbers for the parishes in a deanery. There are eight deaneries in the diocese.