

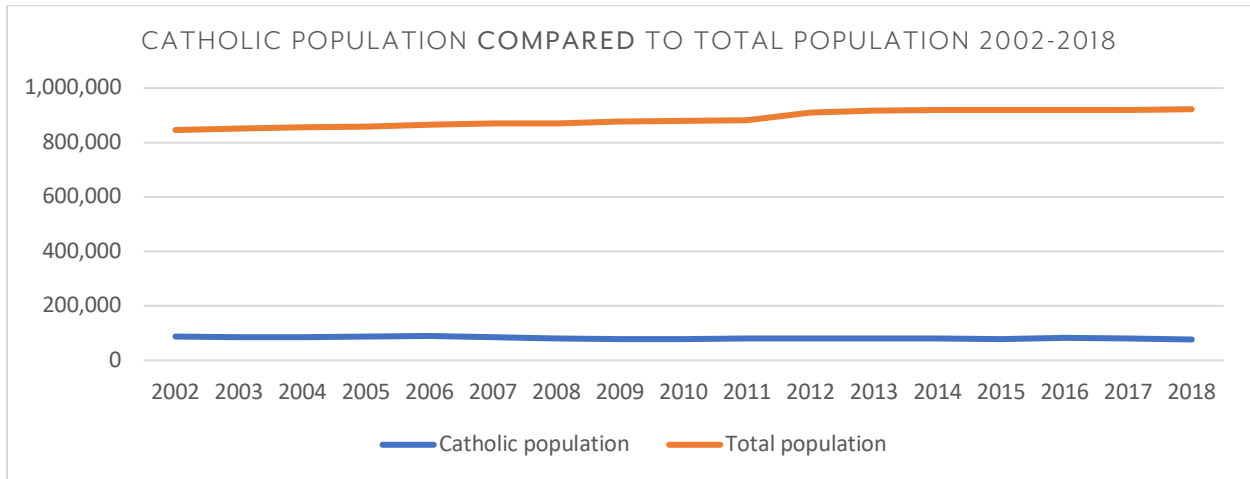


# Sacramental Practices

COLUMBIA DEANERY

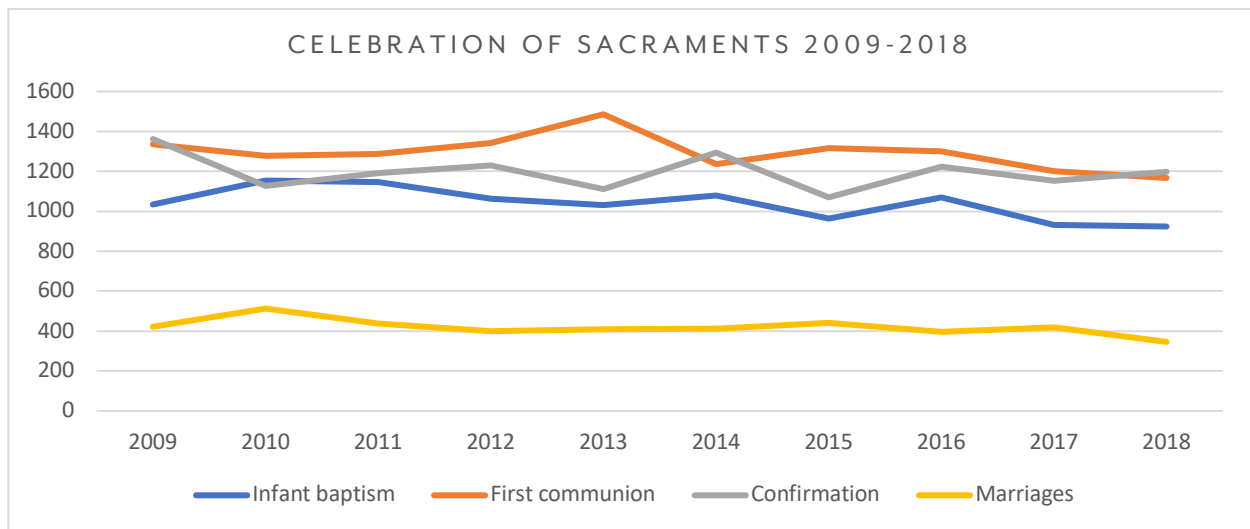
## CATHOLIC POPULATION COMPARED TO TOTAL POPULATION

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.



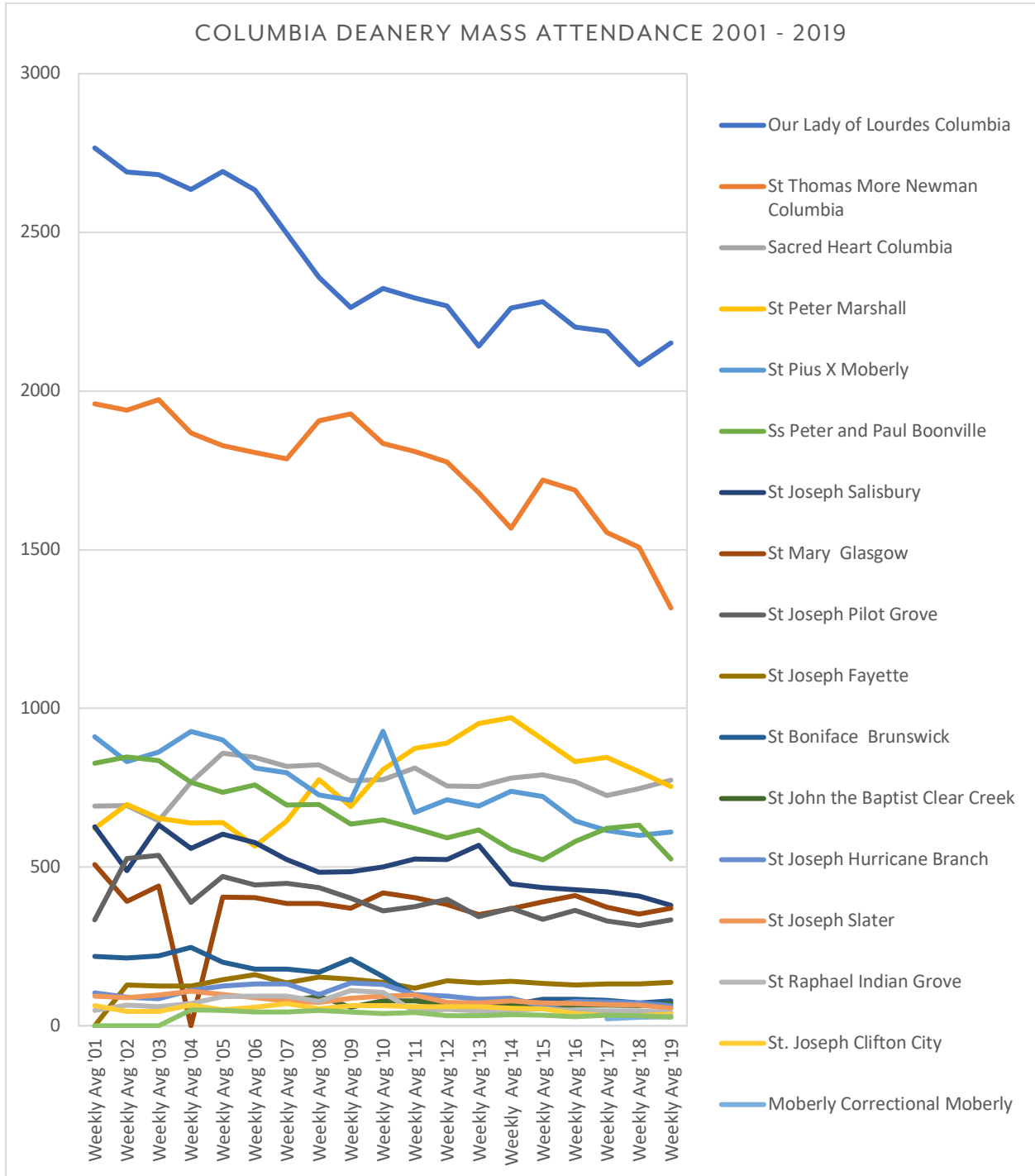
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