

# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



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January 19, 2020

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

With this letter, I take the opportunity to urge you to participate in the upcoming 2020 Decennial Census. The Census provides a snapshot of the entire population of the U.S. and occurs only once every 10 years, so it is important that everyone be counted.

Census counts determine political representation, the allocation of billions of dollars and volumes of statistics to allow organizations like ours to plan for the future. The Census is a count of every man, woman and child living in the United States. Neither U.S. Citizenship nor legal residency is a requirement for participation. Under federal law, all individual information is kept confidential for 72 years and is not shared with other government agencies. Underserved neighborhoods particularly need accurate counts so that they can receive their fair share of political representation and funds for much needed infrastructure improvements and services.

Census Day is April 1, 2020, and census questionnaires will arrive to all households in March of 2020. Also, for your convenience and for the first time ever, the Census Bureau will accept responses online and by phone.

Included with this letter is my signed proclamation of support for this nationwide initiative. Please consider sharing it with family and friends.

Please know that you are in my prayers and I ask that you keep me in yours.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

  
Archbishop of Chicago



# CENSUS PROCLAMATION

Whereas the Decennial Census determines political representation to the United States House of Representatives, state legislatures and local governments;

Whereas, census statistics determine the allocation of over 675 billion dollars annually to the states for various government human service programs;

Whereas, these determinations affect every aspect of life in the Archdiocese of Chicago – employment, social and health delivery services and community resources;

Whereas, the Archdiocese of Chicago, serving more than 2.2 million Catholics in 316 parishes and 205 elementary and secondary schools, is committed to engaging, educating, and encouraging historically undercounted populations to self-respond online, by phone or paper questionnaire by April 1, 2020;

Whereas, the Archdiocese of Chicago recognizes that a complete and accurate census count is necessary for the greater good of all residents;

Whereas, the Archdiocese of Chicago continues to demonstrate a genuine concern and desire to improve the quality of life for all people;

Whereas, the Archdiocese of Chicago enthusiastically endorses the efforts of the United States Census Bureau to make every resident aware of the importance of the Decennial Census;

Whereas, the Church recognizes that each and every resident, from the smallest rural community to the largest metropolitan area, is equally important to Illinois in the 2020 Census count;

Whereas, the Archdiocese of Chicago encourages all businesses, private and public institutions, media outlets, service organizations, community groups, clubs and individual residents of the state to lend full support to all aspects of the 2020 Census;

Whereas, the Archdiocese of Chicago encourages all members of the Church to cooperate with census takers as they go door to door to count all residents.

Therefore, I Card. Blase Cupich, hereby proclaim support for a successful census in the Archdiocese of Chicago.

January 19, 2020