

APPENDIX I

Table 1. Women's Congregations' Vocations Stats 1999-2009

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	Average per annum over 11 years
Contemplative with some apostolic mission	2	3	0	2	1	4	0	2	4	3	5	2.4
	0	0	0	2	1	4	0	1	4	3	5	1.8
	0	0	0	100	100	100	0	50	100	100	100	77% average retention
Apostolic	25	11	12	9	17	7	12	13	14	14	9	12.5
	4	0	6	6	10	1	9	6	11	12	7	7.3
	16	0	50	67	59	14	75	46	79	86	89	50.3% Average Retention
Contemplative	10	6	5	3	4	6	6	3	6	8	7	7.2
	2	1	4	3	4	2	4	2	5	7	7	3.9
	20	17	80	100	100	33	67	67	83	88	100	64% Average Retention
	37	20	17	14	22	17	18	18	22	22	21	22.0
	6	1	10	11	15	7	13	9	20	16	19	13.1
	16	5	58	78	68	41	72	50	90	73	90	

59.80% Total Average Retention (long term retention)
For period 1999-07 Av. 52.50%

For each type of congregation/ community, the top row indicates the total number of entrants for that year. The second row shows the number of those remaining as members of that same congregation to date. The third row in blue shows the retention for that year as a [percentage](#).

Table 2. Men's Congregations' Vocations Stats 1999-2009

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	Average per annum over 11 years	
Contemplative with some apostolic ministry (Clerical).	4	1	2	2	2	5	1	1	2	4	6	2.7	
	1	1	1	0	0	2	0	1	0	4	5	1.4	
	25	100	50	0	0	40	0	100	0	100	83	Av. 45.3%	
Contemplative	5	6	2	3	4	4	3	2	1	2	8	3.5	
	3	3	1	1	4	1	2	1	1	2	7	2.2	
	60	50	50	33	100	25	67	50	100	100	88	Av. 66%	
Apostolic (Clerical)	6	10	6	7	5	5	7	1	17	13	12	7.6	
	2	7	2	5	0	4	3	1	14	8	11	5.2	
	33	70	33	71	0	80	43	100	82	61	92	Av. 60%	
Apostolic (Lay Brothers)	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0.1	
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Av. 0%	
	~	~	~	~	~	0	~	~	~	~	~		
	15	17	10	12	11	13	11	4	20	19	26	14.5	
	6	11	4	6	5	7	5	3	15	14	23	8.8	
	40	65	40	50	45	54	43	75	75	100	88	Av. 61.3%	
												For period 1999-07	Av. 54.1%

For each type of congregation/ community, the top row indicates the total number of entrants for that year. The second row shows the number of those remaining as members of that same congregation to date. The third row in blue shows the retention for that year as a percentage.

Appendix II – Breakdown by Age

AGE	<30	30s	40s	50s	60s	70s	80<	TOTAL
Female Apostolic	17	37	64	156	280	819	1512	2885
Female Contemplative	8	42	43	47	67	90	72	369
Total Female	25	79	107	203	347	909	1584	3254
Percentage of total	0.76%	2.42%	3.28%	6.33%	10.66%	27.93%	48.68%	(100%)
AGE	<30	30s	40s	50s	60s	70s	80<	TOTAL
Male Apostolic	22	60	50	160	204	304	260	1060
Male Contemplative	4	7	22	46	29	29	18	155
Total Male	26	67	72	206	233	333	278	1215
Percentage of total	2.14%	5.51%	5.93%	16.95%	19.18%	27.40%	22.88%	(100%)

Appendix III

Calculation of Percentage of Discerners Entering Formation

Approximately 10% of the country's 4.25 million Catholics are aged 18-30 (420K) [1] and 8% (33.6K) attend Mass with varying regularity. Since people marry later, with the average age of marriage now over 30 for both men and women, it would be reasonable to suppose that most are unmarried and perhaps a third are not in a serious relationship (the latter is harder to ascertain since the Office for National Statistics only measure marital status and living arrangements). Of this third which would be around 11K, our survey suggests, half of them will consider the possibility of religious vocation in the ten year age range who will be discerning. In a twelve year period, that translates to 5.5K single young men and 5.5K single young women discerning over a 12 year period (a twelve year period for a twelve year age group captures a generation spanning 24- 25 birth years). Since discernment takes some years in many cases, those discerning aged 18-30 are likely to begin formation aged 25-38.

At the present time approximately 20 women join religious orders each year. Disregarding older vocations, 187 women in their twenties and thirties could be expected to join orders over this twelve year period representing **3.4%** of female discerners.

At the present time, approximately 20 men join religious orders and 55 enter formation for the diocesan priesthood each year. Disregarding older vocations, 236 men in their twenties and thirties could be expected to join orders over this twelve year period representing **4.3%** of male discerners

Disregarding older vocations, 450 men in their twenties and thirties could be expected to enter formation for the diocesan priesthood over this twelve year period representing **8.2%** of male discerners.

These very approximate estimates are illustrative only, are based on current trends (which are very likely to change). This is not a prediction of future numbers.

However, with continued efforts of targeted ministry and discernment programmes it is possible to reach the stage where all young practising Catholics are discerning and responding to the Lord's call. It is estimated that this would foster a 75% increase in numbers of seminarians and novices. When this point is reached, increasing the numbers of religious vocations has to be achieved through an increase the number of young people practising the faith.

For men's congregations to receive an average of two new members each every year, the numbers of vocations would need to rise by a multiple of six from current levels. For women's congregations, numbers would have to rise by a multiple of twenty-two times current levels. Even with dramatic increases in numbers entering, because there are so many congregations, it is not likely that *every* congregation or even most congregations can attract new members in significant numbers in the near future although it is quite possible to significantly increase numbers overall. Vocations ministry has to be viewed as a unified mission of the Church and supported for the whole Church and not just 'our diocese' or 'our congregation'. It is encouraging that those orders which are

receiving new members are strongly engaged in evangelisation, preaching and catechesis. Should their ministry engender an increase in the practise of the faith, then a natural consequence of this will be more young people discerning and joining religious congregations and hopefully create a 'spill-over' effect where other congregations benefit from this.

1. Based on a breakdown published by the Department for Work and Pensions.
2. The latest published statistics from the ONS identified the average age for first marriage as 29.9 for women and 32.1 for men. These are provisional statistics from 2008. The trend has been upwards for over a decade (with a rise of 0.1 years for both men and women between 2007 and 2008) so it is likely the figure for women has now risen above 30.