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Statistics of the Catholic Church in Poland

Vatican City, 20 July 2016 – In view of the Pope's upcoming apostolic trip to Poland (27 to 31 July) for World Youth Day, the Central Church Statistics Office has published the statistics relating to the Catholic Church in this country, current as of 31 December 2015. The number of bishops is current as of 22 June 2016.

Poland has a surface area of 323,250 km² and a population of 37,507,000 inhabitants, of whom 36,607,000 are Catholics, representing 97.6 per cent of the population. There are 45 ecclesiastical circumscriptions, 10,379 parishes and 786 pastoral centres. There are currently 156 bishops, 30,661 priests, 21,174 men and women religious, 1,075 members of secular institutes and 14,154 catechists. There are 125 minor and 3,388 major seminarians.

The Church has 1,425 centres for Catholic education, at all levels, with 213,940 students, as well as 39 centres for special education. There are also 3,129 charitable and social centres belonging to the Church or directed by ecclesiastics or religious: 54 hospitals, 283 clinics, two leper colonies, 214 homes for the elderly or disabled, 383 orphanages and nurseries, 2,154 family advisory centres and other centres for the protection of life, and 2,190 institutions of other types.