



Office of Catechesis MEMO

TO: Parish Administrators of Religious Education
Catholic School Administrators
Youth Ministry Administrators

FROM: Gabriela Ross, Coordinator of
Catechetical Resources

DATE: June 21, 2017

RE: 2016 - 2017 ACRE Archdiocesan Results

Greetings in Christ the Teacher,

Each year during the month of January, every school, parish, and youth ministry program is asked to formally assess their religious education efforts through the use of the *NCEA IFG: ACRE* instrument (ACRE). Enclosed are the Archdiocese of Indianapolis' average score results for Catholic schools, parishes, and youth ministry programs based on testing that took place during January, 2017. This data is intended to be a reference as you analyze and apply your particular ACRE results to Catholic identity and faith formation efforts at your location.

Please note:

- These are standardized scores and should not be compared to those on a typical grading scale where 95% = A, 86% = B etc.
- Scores should be read in light of hours available for instruction. In schools this is typically 60-120 hours annually (in addition to Mass) depending on grade level. Parish catechetical programs offer a minimum of 30 instructional hours annually.
- Assessment occurs in the context of Archdiocesan content standards, approved textbooks and catechetical certification for instructors.
- Individual Student Reports should be ordered from NCEA and sent home to parents as primary educators of their children. Student data often says as much about catechist formation and overall program traits as it does about each student's progress in knowledge of the Faith.
- ACRE national averages were included in your individual ACRE results and should be referenced for comparison, in conjunction with Archdiocesan averages.

Questions about ACRE administration in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis may be referred to Gabriela Ross, Coordinator of Catechetical Resources: gross@archindy.org. More information is available at www.archindy.org/acre. Thank you for your good use of the ACRE instrument.

**Archdiocese of Indianapolis
2016-2017 ACRE Results | Parish Edition
Grade 8**

PART I: Knowledge of the Faith

DOMAIN	ARCHDIOCESAN AVERAGE
Knowledge of the Faith	51.6%
Liturgical Life	56.7%
Moral Formation	68.2%
Prayer	62.1%
Communal Life	44.9%
Missionary Spirit	59.5%

PILLAR	ARCHDIOCESAN AVERAGE
Creed	49.0%
Liturgy and Sacraments	55.1%
Morality	65.3%
Prayer	62.1%

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PART II: Affective Statements

STATEMENT	PERCENT OF PREFERRED RESPONSES
CATEGORY 1: RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS	
I believe that Jesus rose from the dead to bring salvation to me and the whole world.	97%
I have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.	88%
I think of God as a loving father.	93%
I read the Bible.	44%
CATEGORY 2: IMAGES OF GOD	
When I pray, God really does listen to me.	90%
Even when I sin, God still loves me.	97%
I pray.	91%
CATEGORY 3: CATHOLIC IDENTITY	
I believe that Jesus is the Son of God.	97%
Being a Catholic is important to me.	91%
The Catholic faith affects my everyday life.	77%
I have thought about becoming a sister, brother, or priest.	25%
I take time to think about whether my actions are right or wrong.	83%
It is all right for people my age to drink alcohol at a party with friends.	92%
I have learned enough about the Catholic faith to explain it to others.	79%
I participate in the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation (going to confession).	51%
Which statement best describes how regularly you attend Saturday evening/Sunday Mass?	86%
CATEGORY 4: MORALITY	
My faith helps me understand what God's call is for me in this world.	87%
I am willing to confront friends who are doing something wrong.	88%
I am responsible for helping to make the world a better place.	90%
It is all right to copy someone else's homework and call it my own.	91%
It is all right to try drugs for fun.	92%
It is all right for a couple to live together before getting married.	25%
It is important to me to wait until marriage before having sex.	85%
I think euthanasia is wrong under any condition.	70%
I value the cultural, racial, and ethnic diversity in the global Catholic Church.	92%
In the past year, I have performed acts of service (for example, helping at a soup kitchen).	78%
In the past year, I have participated in acts of justice (for example, attending a social justice rally).	31%
CATEGORY 5: RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHERS	
I care about the people here.	94%
If I thought someone I am close to was becoming addicted to drugs or having a problem with alcohol, I would talk to an adult I trust.	82%
I talk with others about my faith.	72%

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I belong to a youth-friendly parish.	90%
The pastor really cares about me.	92%
My friends and I talk about whether actions are right or wrong.	65%
My family gathers together for meals.	88%
My family prays together at home.	58%
I talk about serious issues with one or both of my parents/guardians.	74%
CATEGORY 6: PERCEPTIONS ABOUT YOUR SCHOOL/PARISH PROGRAM	
I like my parish (church).	95%
I belong to a youth-friendly parish.	90%
Students here really care about one another.	84%
People in my parish (church) care about helping others.	95%
My school/parish religion program helps me grow in my Catholic faith.	89%
I participate in youth activities at my parish.	61%

PART III: Student Concerns

The ACRE survey asks students to respond to a series of statements by choosing whether the issue is: A) Not a problem B) A minor problem C) A big problem or D) No response was given. The following chart includes each of the areas of concern and lists the percentage of students who believe this issue is a problem in their school/parish.

AREAS OF CONCERN	STUDENTS INDICATING A PROBLEM
Cursing, blasphemy, swearing	75%
Cheating, lack of honesty	69%
Teasing, bullying, name-calling	64%
Drugs	49%
Fighting	48%
Racism	48%
Alcohol	44%
Personal safety	38%