

# Conducting a Multicultural Survey

## I. Reasons to conduct a multicultural survey

- Helps a parish and the diocese to quantify the multicultural presence in a faith community.
- Helps a parish to identify the ethnicity, country of origin, number of adults, and children living in a household and languages spoken by members of its faith community. The questions in this survey are written in English, Spanish, Vietnamese and Tagalog.
- Asks questions in an anonymous manner, which will appeal to those in the faith community who haven't or aren't willing to register at a parish.
- Helps to promote awareness of cultural diversity in a faith community and ultimately a welcoming atmosphere for all.

## II. Pastors/Parish Life Facilitators need to decide:

- What is a good date/time to conduct the survey?
- What is the most effective and efficient way to distribute the survey? Or,
- What other alternatives are available for the parish to gather information about its multicultural presence.

## III. Suggested parish process

1. Form a census committee (could be the parish's welcoming or social committee). Include a member of the Encuentro team if your parish has a representative.
2. Determine which distribution method best suits your parish. Here are some *suggested* ways to distribute the survey:
  - Distribute the survey after the homily, ushers then collect response in the collection baskets;
  - Include the survey in the parish bulletin for families to take home and return;
  - Have a social gathering (coffee and donuts) after Mass with tables representing each ethnic group and representatives to help parishioners complete the data.
3. The committee chair or the pastor/parish life facilitator reviews instructions with the congregation beforehand on why we are asking this information, how it will be used, who needs to complete the survey, how to complete the survey. This can be done in the previous week's bulletin, right before the survey is disseminated or whenever and however the pastor/parish life facilitator feels it would be most effective.
4. Survey is conducted on a set date/time/location.

5. Committee collects the surveys and prepares a summary of the responses (using the format in item IV.) for their parish's use and to report to the diocese. See sample report, attached.

**IV. Matrix of information to be reported by the parishes (SEE SAMPLE ATTACHED)**

<b>Ethnicity Languages Spoken</b>	<b>Country of Origin</b>	<b>Adults</b>	<b>Children</b>
English only			
English and _____			
Spanish only			
Spanish and English			
Vietnamese only			
Vietnamese and English			
Tagalog only			
Tagalog and English			

# MULTICULTURAL PARISH SURVEY SUMMARY

**Name of Parish:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Deanery:** \_\_\_\_\_

Name and telephone number of person to contact regarding the information reported on this form:

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Telephone**

**Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THIS FORM:** Use/add as many lines as needed to accurately represent the “Ethnicity/Country of Origin/Languages Spoken” for your parish. “Languages Spoken” refers to languages which are spoken fluently.

Ethnicity Languages Spoken	Country of Origin	# Adults	# Children
English only	_____	_____	_____
English only	_____	_____	_____
English only	_____	_____	_____
English only	_____	_____	_____
English/ _____	_____	_____	_____
English/ _____	_____	_____	_____
Spanish only	_____	_____	_____
Spanish only	_____	_____	_____
Spanish only	_____	_____	_____
Spanish and English	_____	_____	_____
Spanish and English	_____	_____	_____
Spanish and English	_____	_____	_____
Vietnamese only	_____	_____	_____
Vietnamese and English	_____	_____	_____

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Tagalog only

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Tagalog and English

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