**2020 CENSUS: SAMPLE**

**BULLETINS ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**For use February 2020:**

**2020 Census: Count Begins in March**

In March, Michiganders will receive information in the mail from the federal government about the 2020 census and how to respond. This count occurs every ten years and will determine our state’s representation in Congress for the next decade, as well as the way legislative lines are drawn at the local levels. It will also play a significant role in how federal funding is distributed, impacting local schools, hospitals, road construction, and more. When people are not counted, communities lose out. Make sure you are included in this year’s census. Each household will be able to respond to the questionnaire via mail, phone, or online. Learn more at [www.micatholic.org/2020Census](http://www.micatholic.org/2020Census).

**2020 Census: Accurate Counts = Fair Representation**

The 2020 census begins in March. It will determine Michigan’s representation in Congress for the next decade—and Michigan is at risk of losing at least one of its fourteen seats. The count also influences how state legislative districts are formed. To ensure the voices of Michiganders are accurately reflected in government decisions, it is critical that the state’s population count is as precise as possible. Census numbers affect everyone, from seniors to students, kids and parents, and businesses and communities. Learn more at [www.micatholic.org/2020Census](http://www.micatholic.org/2020Census).

**2020 Census: Your Answers Are Confidential**

The U.S. census begins in March. This process gathers a count of every person living in the country as of April 1, 2020. Are you concerned about your privacy during this process? Under federal law, the U.S. Census Bureau must always keep your responses secure and encrypted. Those answers can only be used for statistical purposes and cannot be used against you or shared with others, including law enforcement or other government offices. Take a few minutes to be counted! Learn more at [www.micatholic.org/2020Census](http://www.micatholic.org/2020Census).

**2020 Census: Dates to Know**

Each decade, households participate in the U.S. census, which records population counts and characteristics. With the 2020 census beginning in March, here are important dates to know:

* March 2020-April 1, 2020: Households are invited to participate in the census by mail, phone, or online.
* April 2020: Census officials will begin visiting colleges, senior centers, transitory housing, and those who are experiencing homelessness to aid in the counting process.
* May-July 2020: The Census Bureau visits homes that have not yet responded.
* August 2020: The response portion of the 2020 census is completed.
* December 2020: The Census Bureau delivers counts to the White House and Congress.

To learn more, visit [www.micatholic.org/2020Census](http://www.micatholic.org/2020Census) and [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov).

**For use March/April 2020:**

**2020 Census: It’s Critical, Convenient, and Confidential**

From March until July, Michiganders will participate in the 2020 census. The census is critical for Michigan, as it determines federal funding for local communities and the state’s representation in government. Responding to the questions is more convenient than ever as people can respond one of three ways—by mail, phone, or online—and all information gathered will be kept confidential and secure. An invitation to record your responses should come from the federal government by April 1. Learn more at [www.micatholic.org/2020Census](http://www.micatholic.org/2020Census) and [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov).

**2020 Census: Be Counted!**

This month, you will receive a request from the federal government to participate in the 2020 census. Participation matters, as the census will impact whether Michigan has fair political representation in Congress. It will also impact whether the state’s roads, hospitals, schools, and fire departments have the funding they need to support Michigander’s health and well-being for the next decade. Please take the time to respond. A full and accurate count is needed to help our communities and families thrive. More information is available at [www.micatholic.org/2020Census](http://www.micatholic.org/2020Census) and [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov).

**2020 Census: The Numbers Matter**

Accurate census numbers are crucial for Michiganders across the state. These numbers determine how much federal funding is dispersed for public safety, schools, housing, health care, and more. Unfortunately, research shows low-income people, communities of color, rural communities, and young children are often undercounted. Help be a part of the change in Michigan; take the time to ensure you and your neighbors are included in this year’s census! More information is available at [www.micatholic.org/2020Census](http://www.micatholic.org/2020Census) and [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov).

**2020 Census: Have You Filled Out Your Response?**

By April 1, 2020, every household in Michigan should have received an invitation from the federal government to respond to the U.S. census. Completing the census is important for our state. It can easily be done one of three ways: by mail, by phone, or, for the first time ever, online. You can even respond on your mobile device. If you have questions about how to fill out your response, visit [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov) or call the Census Bureau Telephone Questionnaire Assistance Line at 1-800-354-7271.

**For use April-July:**

**2020 Census: Your Response Helps Serve Those in Need**

The Catholic Church and other service providers rely on an accurate census to more effectively serve those in need. The U.S. Bishops have called for all to be counted, as society “cannot risk missing this opportunity to give children and parents the tools they need to succeed.” Unfortunately, the census has too often undercounted households with young children; with higher rates of poverty, unemployment, or low educational attainment; with racial minorities; and with English as a second language, which leads to underfunding critical programs and services. Make sure you are counted by responding before July 2020. More information is available at [www.micatholic.org/2020Census](http://www.micatholic.org/2020Census) and [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov).