

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS**  
**MARCH 2013 POLITICAL SURVEY**  
**FINAL TOPLINE**  
**March 13-17, 2013**  
**N=1,501**

**NOTE: OTHER QUESTIONS FROM THIS POLL HAVE BEEN HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**

**ASK ALL:**

On another subject...

RELIG What is your present religion, if any? Are you Protestant, Roman Catholic, Mormon, Orthodox such as Greek or Russian Orthodox, Jewish, Muslim, Buddhist, Hindu, atheist, agnostic, something else, or nothing in particular?

**[INTERVIEWER: IF R VOLUNTEERS "nothing in particular, none, no religion, etc." BEFORE REACHING END OF LIST, PROMPT WITH: And would you say that's atheist, agnostic, or just nothing in particular?]**

Mar 13-17  
2013

37	Protestant (Baptist, Methodist, Non-denominational, Lutheran, Presbyterian, Pentecostal, Episcopalian, Reformed, Church of Christ, Jehovah's Witness, etc.)
22	Roman Catholic (Catholic)
1	Mormon (Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints/LDS)
1	Orthodox (Greek, Russian, or some other orthodox church)
1	Jewish (Judaism)
*	Muslim (Islam)
1	Buddhist
1	Hindu
2	Atheist (do not believe in God)
3	Agnostic (not sure if there is a God)
2	Something else
14	Nothing in particular
14	Christian <b>(VOL.)</b>
*	Unitarian (Universalist) <b>(VOL.)</b>
1	Don't Know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>

**ASK ALL:**

ATTEND Aside from weddings and funerals, how often do you attend religious services... more than once a week, once a week, once or twice a month, a few times a year, seldom, or never?

Mar 13-17, 2013	Based on		
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Catholics</u>	
	12	8	More than once a week
	24	32	Once a week
	14	20	Once or twice a month
	21	24	A few times a year
	16	12	Seldom
	13	6	Never
	1	*	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

**ASK ALL FROM MARCH 14-17 [N=1067]:**

As you may know Pope Francis was just selected to lead the Catholic Church...

Q.98 In general, are you very happy, happy, unhappy or very unhappy about the selection of Pope Francis as the new leader of the Catholic Church, or haven't you heard enough to say?

Mar 13-17		
<u>2013</u>		
13	Very happy	
31	Happy	
2	Unhappy	
1	Very unhappy	
43	Haven't heard enough to say	
10	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	

**ASK ALL FROM MARCH 14-17 [N=1067]:**

Q.99 Do you see Francis becoming Pope as a major change for the Catholic Church or only a minor change?

Mar 13-17		
<u>2013</u>		
29	Major change	
45	Minor change	
3	No change (VOL.)	
23	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	

**ASK IF CATHOLIC (RELIG=2) [N=325]:**

Q.100 I'd like to ask you about priorities for the new Pope in the coming years. (First,) should [INSERT FIRST ITEM; RANDOMIZE] be a top priority for Pope Francis, important but lower priority, not too important, or should it not be done? What about... [INSERT NEXT ITEM]? [REPEAT AS NECESSARY TO BE SURE RESPONDENT UNDERSTANDS SCALE: should this be a top priority, important but lower priority, not too important, or should it not be done?]<sup>1</sup>

		Important but	Not too	Should not	(VOL.)	
		<u>Top priority</u>	<u>lower priority</u>	<u>important</u>	<u>be done</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
a.	Spreading the Catholic faith Mar 13-17, 2013	39	43	11	3	3
b.	Addressing the sex abuse scandal in the Catholic Church Mar 13-17, 2013	70	22	3	2	2
c.	Addressing the priest shortage Mar 13-17, 2013	36	46	10	1	7
d.	Reforming the Vatican bureaucracy Mar 13-17, 2013	35	40	10	3	11

<sup>1</sup> When this question was asked Wednesday, March 14, the wording began, "As you may know Pope Francis was just selected to lead the Catholic Church..."

## Q.100 CONTINUED...

		<u>Top priority</u>	<u>Important but lower priority</u>	<u>Not too important</u>	<u>Should not be done</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>DK/Ref</u>
e.	Standing up for traditional moral values Mar 13-17, 2013	49	38	7	2	4

## ASK IF CATHOLIC (RELIG=2) [N=325]:

Next...

Q.101 Do you think the Catholic Church should or should not **[INSERT FIRST ITEM; RANDOMIZE]**? And do you think the Catholic Church should or should not **[INSERT NEXT ITEM]**?

		<u>Should</u>	<u>Should not</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>DK/Ref</u>
a.	Allow priests to get married Mar 13-17, 2013	64	30	6
b.	Allow women to become priests Mar 13-17, 2013	59	35	6
c.	Allow Catholics to use birth control Mar 13-17, 2013	76	18	7

## ASK IF CATHOLIC (RELIG=2) [N=325]:

Q.102 Regardless of what you'd like to see, how likely do you think each of the following is to happen in the next 40 years, that is by the year 2050 **[PRONOUNCED: "twenty-fifty"]**. (First,) How likely do you think it is that **[INSERT IN SAME ORDER AS Q.101]**? Do you think this will definitely happen, will probably happen, will probably NOT happen, or will definitely not happen, in about the next 40 years? How about **[INSERT NEXT ITEM]**? **[READ AS NECESSARY]**: Do you think this will definitely happen, will probably happen, will probably NOT happen, or will definitely not happen, in the next 40 years?<sup>2</sup>

		<u>-----Will happen -----</u>			<u>----- Will not happen -----</u>			<b>(VOL.)</b>
		<u>Total</u>	<u>Def-initely</u>	<u>Probably</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Def-initely</u>	<u>Probably</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
a.	the Catholic Church will allow priests to marry Mar 13-17, 2013	39	7	32	57	18	39	4
	<b>TREND FOR COMPARISON:</b> May, 1999	43	6	36	54	22	33	3
b.	the Catholic Church will ordain women as priests Mar 13-17, 2013	37	6	31	60	17	44	3
	<b>TREND FOR COMPARISON:</b> May, 1999	45	6	39	54	15	39	1
c.	the Catholic Church will change its position on family planning to allow birth control Mar 13-17, 2013	53	8	46	44	10	34	3

<sup>2</sup> In May 1999 survey began, "Now I'm going to read you a list of things that may or may not happen in the next 50 years. Please tell me how likely you think it is that each will happen."

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER**  
**March 14-17, 2013 OMNIBUS**  
**FINAL TOPLINE**  
**N=924**

**NOTE: OTHER QUESTIONS FROM THIS POLL HAVE BEEN PREVIOUSLY RELEASED OR HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**

**ASK ALL:**

PEW.1 As I read a list of some stories covered by news organizations this past week, please tell me if you happened to follow each news story very closely, fairly closely, not too closely, or not at all closely. First, **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE] [IF NECESSARY "Did you follow [ITEM] very closely, fairly closely, not too closely or not at all closely?"]**

	<u>Very closely</u>	<u>Fairly closely</u>	<u>Not too closely</u>	<u>Not at all closely</u>	<b>(VOL.) DK/Ref</b>
c. The selection of the new Pope					
March 14-17, 2013	21	28	21	28	1
May, 2005	22	33	23	20	2

**TRENDS FOR COMPARISON:**

March 7-10, 2013: <i>Catholic cardinals meeting in Rome to select a new pope</i>	14	23	26	36	*
February 14-17, 2013: <i>Pope Benedict announcing that he would step down as head of the Catholic Church</i>	18	26	27	29	1
March 29-April 1, 2012: <i>Pope Benedict's visit to Cuba and Mexico</i>	5	15	23	57	*
September 16-19, 2010: <i>Pope Benedict's visit to Great Britain and his comments on the Catholic Church's handling of sex-abuse scandals</i>	10	16	26	47	1