



SALA STAMPA DELLA SANTA SEDE
BOLLETTINO

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Apostolic Trip of His Holiness Francis to Bulgaria and North Macedonia (5 to 7 May 2019)

Statistics of the Catholic Church in Bulgaria and North Macedonia as of 31 December 2017 (from the Central Office for Church Statistics)

Table 1 – Population and ecclesiastical structure

Table 2 – People engaged in activities of the apostolate

Table 3 – Indicators of pastoral workload

Table 4 – Priestly vocations

Table 5 – Educational centres owned / managed by ecclesiastics or religious

Table 6 – Charitable and social centres owned / managed by ecclesiastics or religious

The following are some statistical data relating to the situation of the Catholic Church in Bulgaria and North Macedonia as of 31 December 2017:

Table 1 – Population and ecclesiastical structure

	Bulgaria	North Macedonia
Area (km ²)	110,912	25,713
Population (in thousands)	7076	2075

Density (inhabitants/km ²)	64	81
Catholics (in thousands)	68	15
Catholics per 100 inhabitants	0.96	0.72
Ecclesiastical circumscriptions	3	2
Parishes	55	10
Other pastoral centres	-	9
Catholics per pastoral centre	1236	789

Table 2 – People engaged in activities of the apostolate

	Bulgaria	North Macedonia
Bishops (<i>situation on 31.03.2019</i>)	4	1
Diocesan priests	21	21
Religious priests	36	1
Total priests	57	22
Permanent deacons	1	-
Men religious (other than priests)	5	-
Professed women religious	63	30
Members of secular Institutes	2	-
Lay missionaries	3	6
Catechists	74	13

Table 3 – Indicators of pastoral workload

	Bulgaria	North Macedonia
Catholics per priest	1193	682
Catholics per pastoral worker	325	208
Priests per pastoral centre	1.04	1.16
Priests per 100 people engaged in activities of the apostolate	29.19	31.1

Table 4 – Priestly vocations

	Bulgaria	North Macedonia
Minor seminarians	-	2
Major seminarians	1	5
Major seminarians per 100,000 inhabitants	0.001	0.24
Major seminarians per 100,000 Catholics	1.47	33.3

Table 5 – Educational centres owned / managed by ecclesiastics or religious

	Bulgaria	North Macedonia
Schools:		
Pre-school and primary	2	-
Lower middle and secondary	-	-
Higher and university	-	-
Students in:		
Pre-school and primary schools	63	-
Lower middle and secondary schools	-	-
Higher and university institutes	-	-

Table 6 – Charitable and social centres owned / managed by ecclesiastics or religious

	Bulgaria	North Macedonia
Hospitals	-	-
Clinics	2	-
Leper colonies	-	-
Homes for the elderly and disabled	2	1
Orphanages and nurseries	4	1
Family consultation centres	2	-
Special centres of social education or rehabilitation	-	-
Other institutions	-	-
