America's Happiest Profession

So much for the image of the grumpy, emotionally-repressed clergyman: a new University of Chicago survey shows that being a "man of the cloth" is the most satisfying profession in the U.S.

The university's National Opinion Research Center found that 87% of America's clergy, spanning all religious backgrounds, are "very satisfied" with their chosen profession.

For Catholic priests, the numbers look even better. Five years ago — even while the entire priesthood was being slammed in the midst of the sex abuse scandal — the Los Angeles Times reported that 91% of priests claimed happiness with their vocation.