

CHURCH LIFE Profile

Maitland Parish Catholic Church

This dynamic report contains your survey results. It celebrates your strengths, helps you build vision and direction, and move forward together into the future.

LISTEN TO EVERY *voice*

You will hear the responses from all your attenders summarised clearly in one report

SEE EMERGING *trends*

You will see how your church has progressed, grown, or changed in trends over time

UNDERSTAND THE BIG *picture*

You will know how your church ranks next to others in clear comparisons and benchmarks

Your Profile results are based on:

Attender Surveys (aged 15+): **120 forms**
Church Code: **TAN025**

Dear local church,


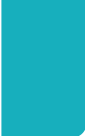

This Church Life Profile contains your church's unique results from your participation in a 2025 Church Life Survey.

We provide this profile to you, along with supporting resources, to help you strengthen the vitality of your church, grow an owned vision and plan for the future. This profile is part of a Church Life Pack of resources, including the Church Life Survey Workbook, to help you and your church make best use of your results.

Our hope and prayer is that these resources will help, encourage and equip your church in it's mission and ministry.

- The NCLS Research Team

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	A detailed look at each of the nine core qualities that shape church health and vitality.	



Weighing up Your Survey Results

It is always important to consider who participated in the survey and in what context. Compare the number of people surveyed (shown at the bottom of each results page) with the total number in the church. Consider what else was happening in the life of the church at the time of the survey and whether/how it might have influenced their responses.

Maitland Parish in:

2025 - **120 forms**

2011 - **152 forms** 2006 - **219 forms** 2001 - **289 forms**

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Dashboard

Maitland Parish

120 adult attender forms



The People of this Church

Average age (years)	67
Female	55%
University degree	34%
Non-English speaking background	12%
New arrivals in last 5 years	15%
Young people aged 15 to 19	0%



What We Value and Prioritise

Value: Celebrating the Eucharist/ receiving Holy Communion	62%
Value: Praying for one another	37%
Prioritise: Building a strong sense of community	36%
Prioritise: Liturgies that are nurturing to people's faith	33%



How We Relate to God

Experienced much growth in faith in past 12 months	40%
Private devotions at least weekly	74%
Agree faith in God is an important part of who I am	95%
Worship services always/usually challenge me to take action	52%



How We Relate to Each Other

Strong sense of belonging	92%
Found it easy to make friends	89%
Involved in group activities at church	49%
Satisfied with activities for children under 12 years	54%



How We Relate to Community

Helped others in 3 or more informal ways in last year	67%
Involved in local church service, justice or welfare activities	22%
Part of community groups not connected to local church	48%
Feel at ease sharing faith with others	75%



Our Vision and Leadership

Aware of and strongly committed to church's vision	29%
Agree this church is ready to try something new	65%
Attendees who perform at least one leadership or ministry role here	N/A
Leaders encourage use of gifts & skills to a great extent	20%



People of This Church

This Summary Profile contains a snapshot of your church's unique results from your 2025 Church Life Survey. This profile is based on 120 responses from attenders aged 15+ .

Supporting resources available at ncls.org.au may also help you to make best use of your results, to strengthen the vitality of your church, grow an owned vision and plan for the future.



Demographic Profile



Gender

55% are female

45% are male

N.B. The percent for those who chose 'other' will be included in denominational and national reports. Figures have been rounded to 100%.

Marital status

73% are currently married

Ethnicity

83% are born in Australia

17% are born overseas

14% are migrants to Australia

8% speak a language other than English at home

Employment

24% are employed full-time (30 hours plus)

61% are retired

Education

34% have a university degree

38% have a trade certificate, diploma or associate diploma



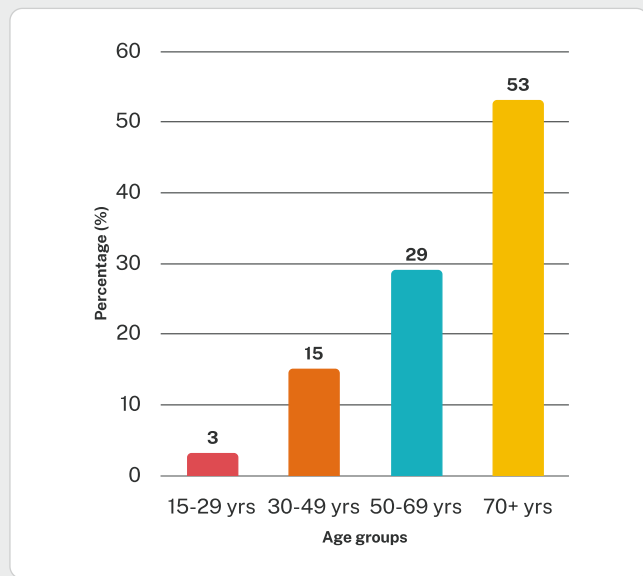
Age and Intergenerational Ministry

67 is the average age of adult attenders

54% are satisfied with what is offered for children aged under 12 years

46% are satisfied with what is offered for youth aged 12 to 18

79% agree that people of all ages are encouraged to get involved at this local church

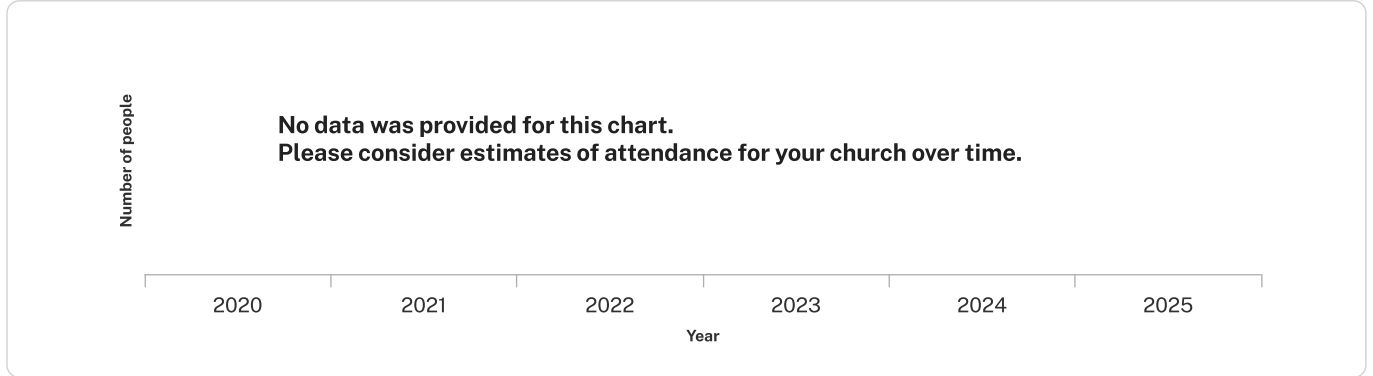


Church Attendance and Background



Attendance Patterns

Estimated attendance



Source: Maitland, NCLS 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025

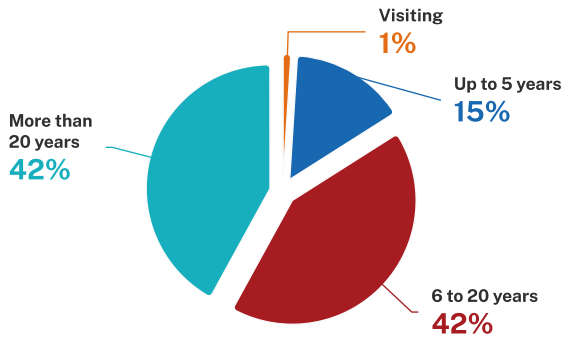
Attendance at this local church (including online)

- 97%** are frequent attenders (monthly or more)
- 86%** attend weekly or more
- 84%** have attended this church for more than five years

Attendance elsewhere (in person and online)⁺

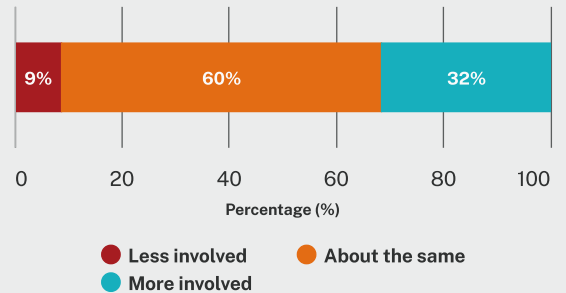
- 51%** do not attend any other church
- 47%** attend elsewhere, in person
- 3%** attend elsewhere, via online services

⁺Note attenders could choose more than one option



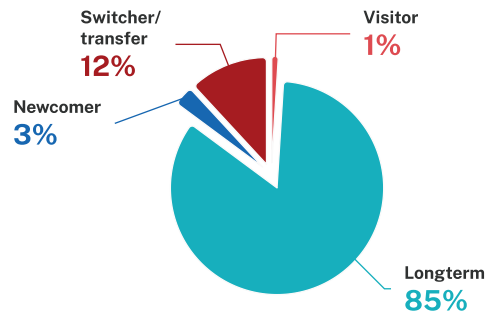
Impact of COVID-19

Current involvement compared with 2019 (before COVID-19)



Church Background

15% of attenders here are new arrivals to this local church in the past 5 years

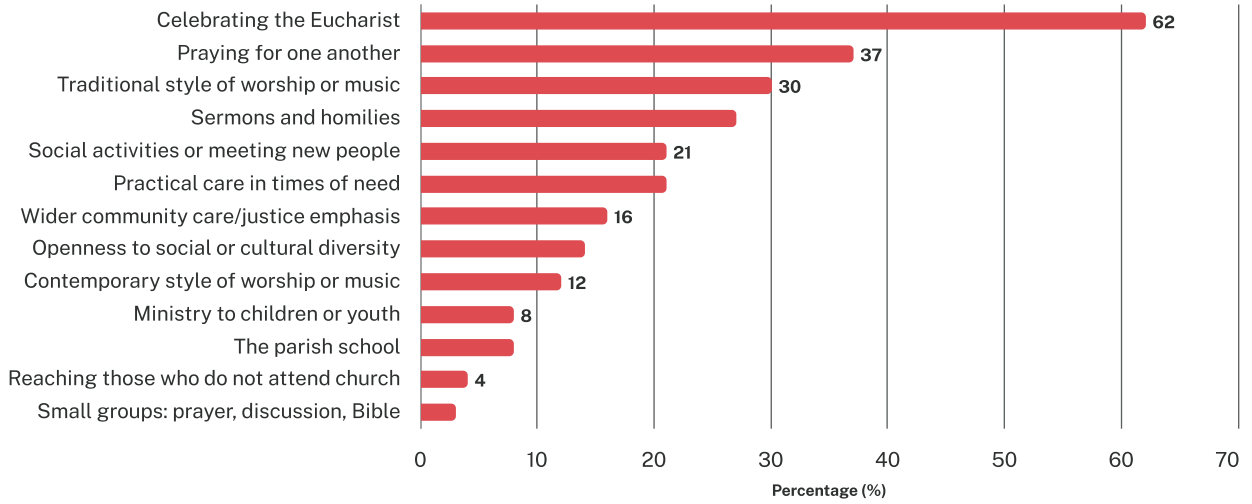


What People Value and Prioritise



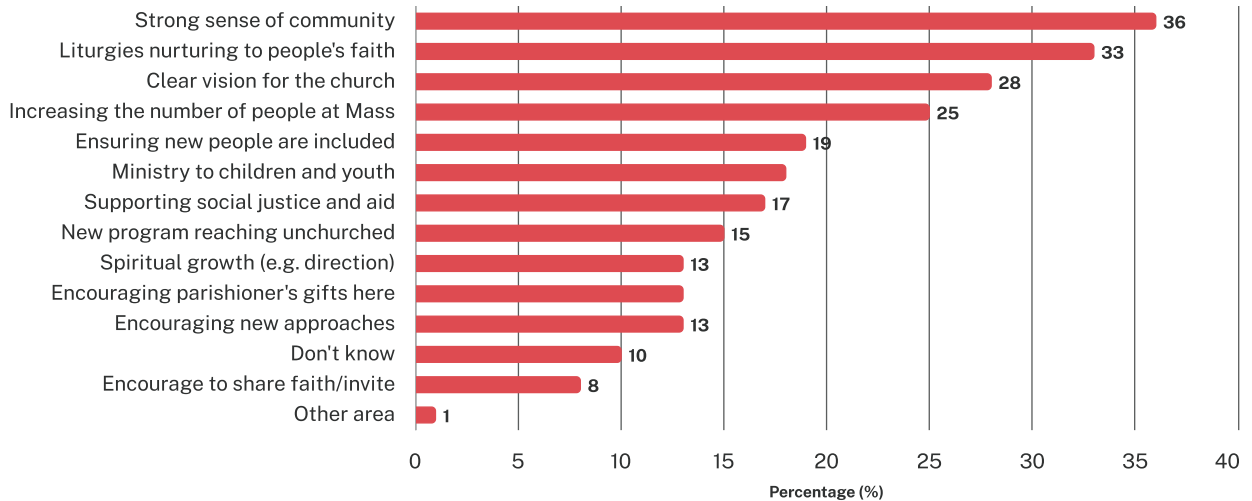
What People Value about this Church

Attendees of this parish most value 'Celebrating the Eucharist/ receiving Holy Communion' and 'Praying for one another'.



Future Priorities

Over the next 12 months most attendees would like priority given to 'Building a strong sense of community' and 'Liturgies that are nurturing to people's faith'.

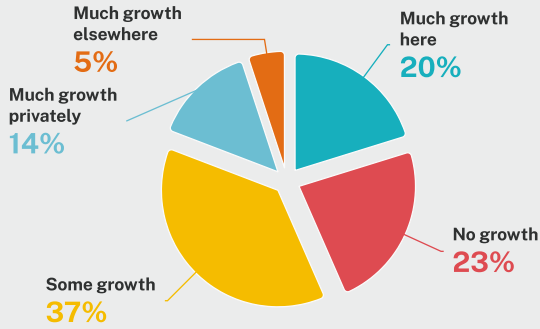


How People Relate to God

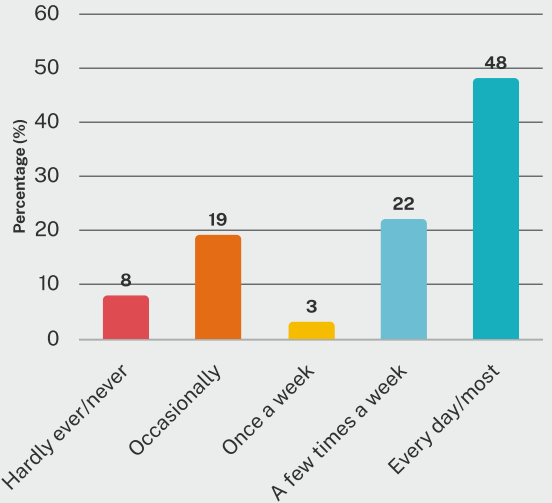


Personal Faith

40% of attenders said that they had experienced much growth in faith in the previous 12 months



48% spend time in prayer, Bible reading, meditation everyday or most days



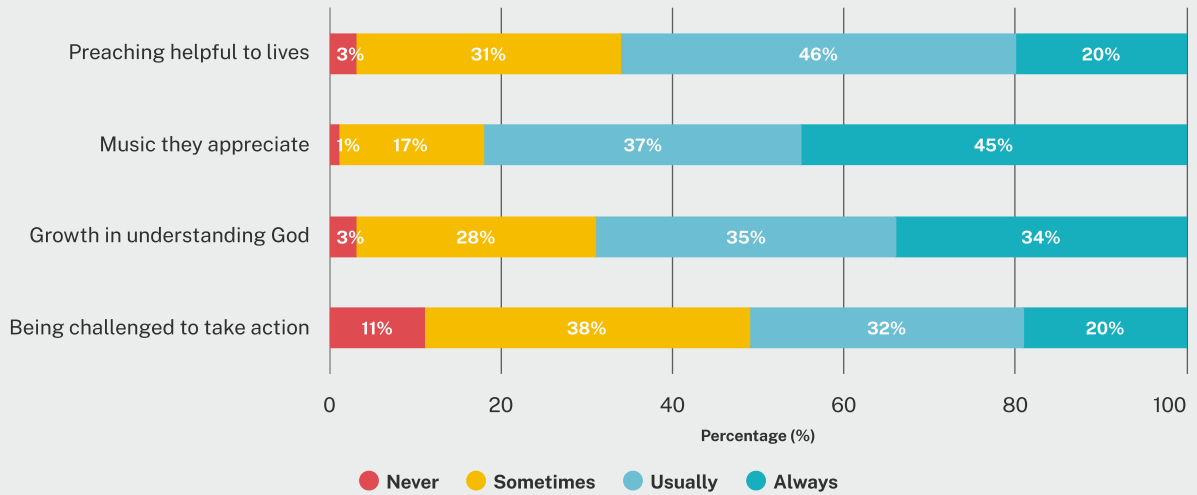
95% agree their faith influences decisions and actions in daily life

95% agree that 'my faith in God is an important part of who I am'



Church Worship Services

During worship services here, attenders experience:



How People Relate to Each Other



Belonging and Inclusion

46% always or mostly personally seek to make new arrivals welcome
30% are likely to follow up someone drifting away from church involvement

Belonging

Have a strong sense of belonging



Inclusive

Agree this church is inclusive of different kinds of people



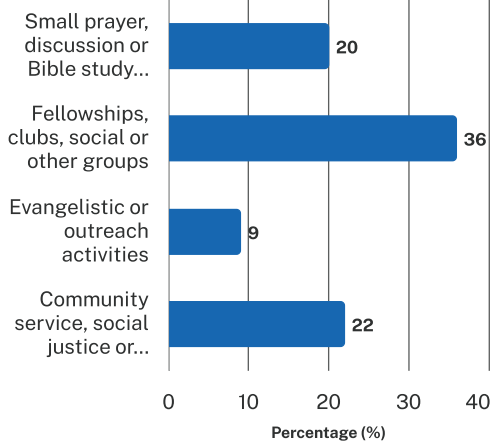
Friendly

Found it easy to make friends in this parish

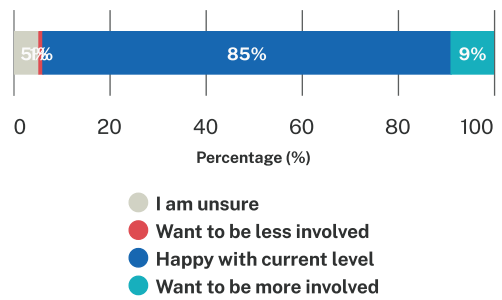


Involvement

Group Involvement

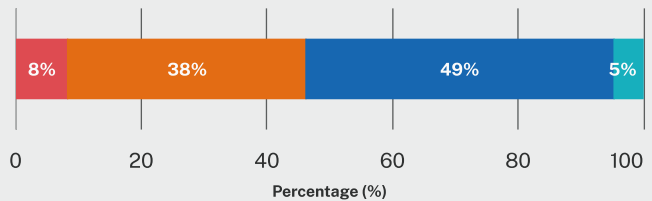


9% want to be more involved at this parish



Financial Giving

- Give no amount to this church
- Give a small amount when present
- Give less than 10% of net income
- Give about 10% of their net income to this local church



How People Relate to Wider Community



Involvement in groups

48% of people participate in wider community groups
7% are very actively involved in online groups (e.g. social media, community groups)

Church-based activities

27% reach out to the wider community through activities of this local church
22% are part of community service activities
9% are part of evangelistic outreach activities



Words and Actions

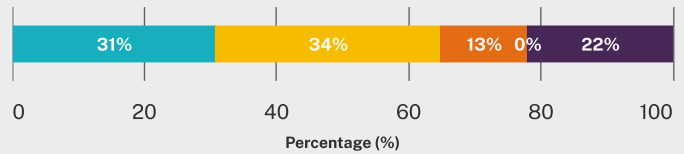
35% talk about matters of faith with other members of their household (15% live alone)
17% feel at ease talking about faith with others and look for opportunities to do so

Attendees have offered to help others in the past 12 months

Donated money to a charitable organisation	75%
Lent or gave money to someone outside your family	46%
Visited someone in hospital	40%
Helped someone through a personal crisis (not sickness)	38%
Given some of your possessions to someone in need	38%
Cared for someone who was very sick	32%
Supported a campaign (online or other)	21%
Contacted a parliamentarian/councillor on a public issue	15%
Attended a public meeting/march	15%
Tried to stop someone abusing alcohol or drugs	11%

Inviting others to church

31% invited friends and relatives to a church service in this last year



● Invited ● Willing but didn't
 ● Probably wouldn't ● Definitely wouldn't
 ● Don't know



Acting for the Environment

91% agree that Christians have a responsibility to actively care for the environment
21% are very active
39% are a little active
31% are currently not active

Vision, Innovation & Leadership Culture

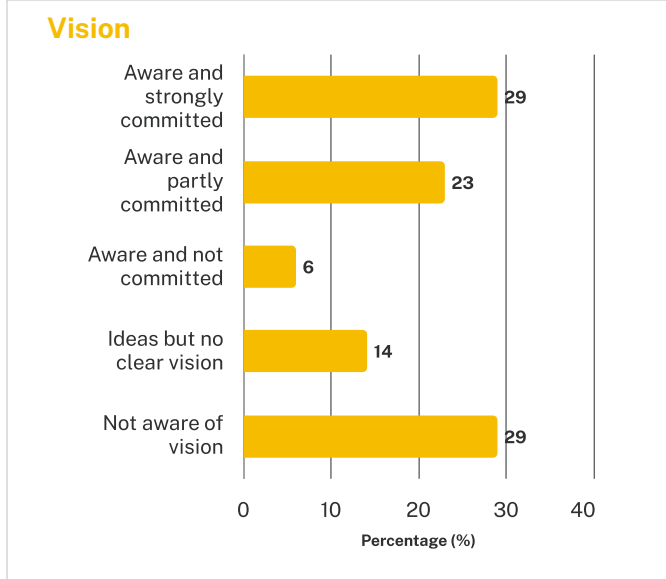
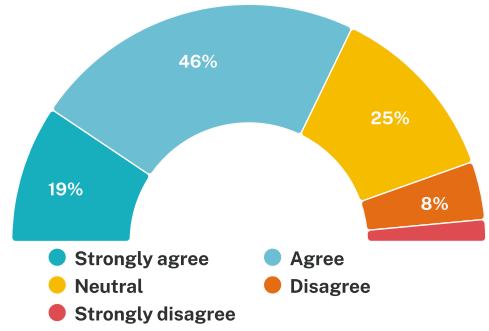


Vision and Innovation

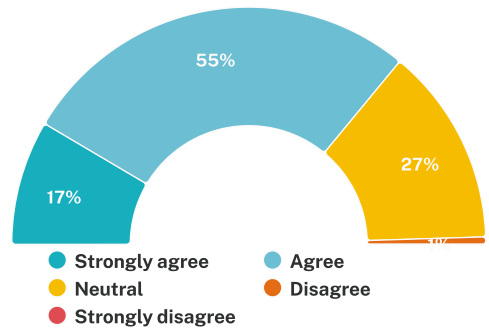
65% agree that this parish is always ready to try something new

29% of people are both aware and strongly committed to the vision, goals or directions for this parish

31% are fully confident that this parish can achieve the vision, goals or directions set



72% agree that they would support the development of new initiatives in the ministry and mission of this parish



Leadership Culture

85% agree it is easy to get involved in ministry at this church (e.g. join a roster, take on a role)

77% agree that this church has good clear systems for how it operates

N/A of attenders perform a leadership or ministry role

62% agree 'leaders here inspire me to action'

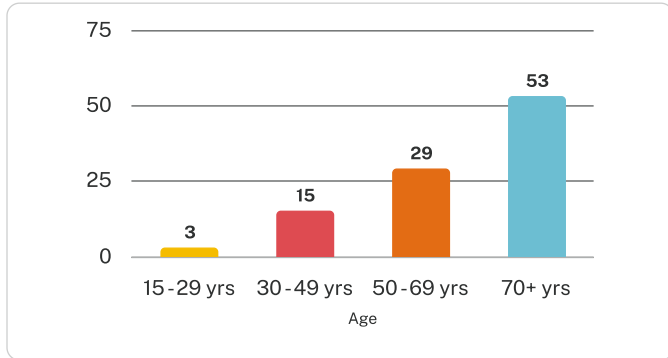
55% agree 'leaders encourage me to find and use my gifts and skills to great or some extent'

A Demographic Profile



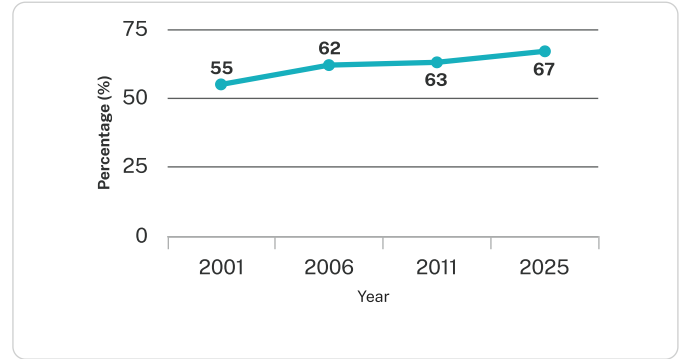
Age Profile

67 years is the average age of attenders at this local church (aged 15+)



Source: 2025 CLS, Maitland

Change over time: Average age of church attenders aged 15+ years.



Source: Maitland, NCLS 2001, 2006, 2011, 2025

Gender

55% are female

* Other not available for local churches to honour commitment to confidentiality. See ncls.org.au/faqs for more.

	You in 2025 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2022 (%)
Female	55	65	67
Male	45	35	33
Other	N/A	N/A	0.0

Marital Status

73% are currently married

Never married	10	10	11
Married	73	72	61
In a defacto relationship	3	1	2
Separated or divorced	7	5	7
Widowed	8	12	18

Education

34% have a University degree

Primary/secondary school	29	53	36
Trade certificate, diploma or associate diploma	38	22	31
University degree	34	24	33

Employment

37% are employed

Employed	37	39	27
Full-time home duties/family responsibilities	3	14	5
Retired	61	45	68

Ethnicity

83% are born in Australia

12% are born in non-English speaking countries

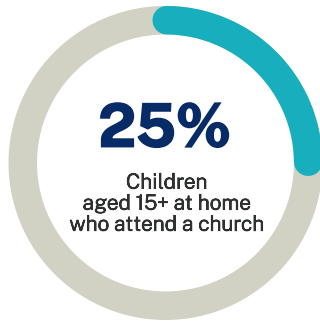
8% speak a language other than English at home

Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin	1	0	1
Born in Australia (including above)*	83	86	81
Born in another country where English is the main language*	4	4	6
Born in Non English-speaking country*	12	10	13
At least one parent born in a Non English-speaking country*	21	17	17

* 'Don't Know' was included in 2021 as a response option for country of birth

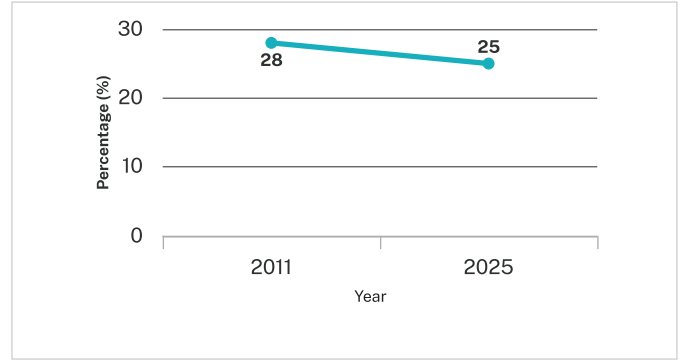
Children and Youth

25% is the proportion of attenders' children (aged 15 + and living at home) who attend a church



Source: 2025 CLS, Maitland

Change over time: Percent of attenders' children (aged 15+ and living at home) who attend a church



Source: Maitland, NCLS 2011, 2025

Note: Figures are suppressed and replaced with * when there are fewer than 6 cases.

Children and youth of church attenders

47% of attenders' children aged 0 to 14 years living at home attend church here

22% of attenders' children aged 15 and over still living at home attend church here

	You in 2025 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2022 (%)
--	-----------------	-----------------	---------------------

Attenders' children aged 0-14 still living at home:			
Still attend this church	47	90	72
Attend elsewhere	21	7	3
Do not attend any church	42	5	25
Attenders' children aged 15 and over still living at home:			
Still attend this church	22	26	26
Attend elsewhere	5	4	7
Do not attend any church	75	61	69

Young people at this parish

0% of attenders who completed the survey were aged 15 to 19 years

Young people who:			
Completed the survey	0	1	1
Have been attending more than 5 years	0	1	0
Have been attending 5 years or less	0	1	0

Satisfaction with what parish offers

For children aged under 12 years
54% are very satisfied or satisfied

For youth aged 12 to 18 years
46% are very satisfied or satisfied

Note: Figures are suppressed and replaced with * when there are fewer than 6 cases.

Satisfaction with what is offered here 'for children aged under 12 years':			
All attenders very satisfied or satisfied	54	60	32
Satisfaction with what is offered here 'for youth aged 12-18 years':			
All attenders very satisfied or satisfied	46	38	25
15-18 year olds very satisfied or satisfied	N/A	*	33

Church Background



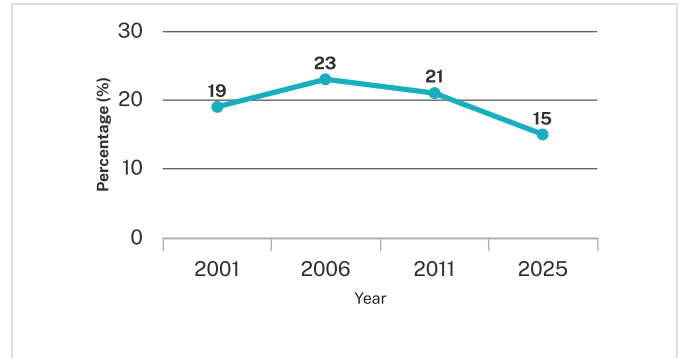
Background of Church Attenders

15% of attenders here are new arrivals to this parish in the past 5 years



Source: 2025 CLS, Maitland

Change over time: Percent of attenders who were new arrivals in the 5 years prior to the survey



Source: Maitland, NCLS 2001, 2006, 2011, 2025

Church Attendance History⁺

- 15%** are new arrivals in the last five years, comprising
 - 12%** moved from a different church
 - 3%** are newcomers (new to any church in the last 5 years)
- 85%** are long-term having attended here for more than 5 years
- 1%** were visitors

	You in 2025 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2022 (%)
New Arrivals (total) ¹	15	21	18
Newcomers ²	3	3	3
Returnees: after absence of several years	2	2	2
Never regularly attended	1	1	1
Switchers ³⁺⁺	2	0	0
Transfers ⁴	10	18	15
Long-term attenders ⁵	85	73	80
Visitors from other churches	1	5	1
Visitors who do not regularly go to church	0	1	1

Length of Attendance at this Church

- 4%** have been here less than 1 year
- 11%** have been here for 1-5 years
- 42%** have been here for more than 20 years

Total new arrivals (new to your parish) in the last 5 years			
Less than 1 year	4	6	5
1-2 years	6	7	3
3-5 years / unsure	5	11	11
6-10 years	23	15	10
11-20 years	19	23	18
More than 20 years	42	32	51

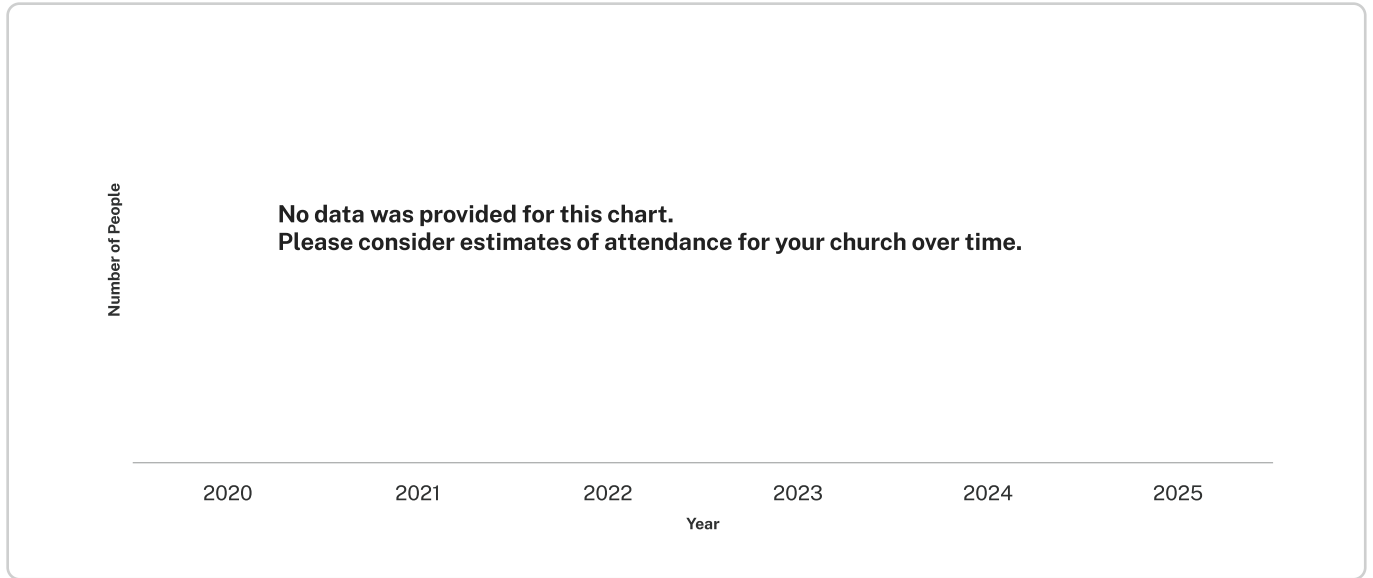
+Note: Church attendance history is calculated from three survey questions. The figures may not match those for length of attendance due to non-responses.
++Note: The wording of the response options to the survey about the denomination of the previous church changed in 2016.

1. **New Arrivals:** People who did not attend this church 5 years ago
2. **Newcomers:** new to any church in the last 5 years
3. **Switchers:** from another denomination in the last 5 years
4. **Transfers:** from same denomination in the last 5 years
5. **Long-term attenders:** attended here for more than 5 years

Attendance Estimates



Estimated Church Attendance



This chart shows the pattern of attendance change for your church over recent years. It is based on estimates supplied by your local church leader or representative.

Attendance at this Local Church (including online)

97% are frequent attenders (monthly or more)

	You in 2025 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2022 (%)
Attend here (inc. online)			
First time/hardly ever/special occasions only	2	4	4
Less than once a month	2	4	3
Once, twice or three times a month	10	7	7
Usually every week	78	81	64
More than once a week	8	4	23

Attendance Elsewhere

47% attend elsewhere, in person
3% attend elsewhere, via online services

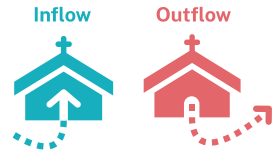
	You in 2025 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2022 (%)
Attend elsewhere			
No	51	N/A	49
Yes, attend in person elsewhere	47	N/A	36
Yes, via online services	3	N/A	24

Impact of COVID on Involvement

32% are more involved than in 2019
60% are involved about the same as in 2019
9% are less involved than in 2019

	You in 2025 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2022 (%)
Compared to 2019, more or less involved here			
More involved	32	N/A	15
About the same	60	N/A	60
Less involved	9	N/A	25

Inflow and Outflow



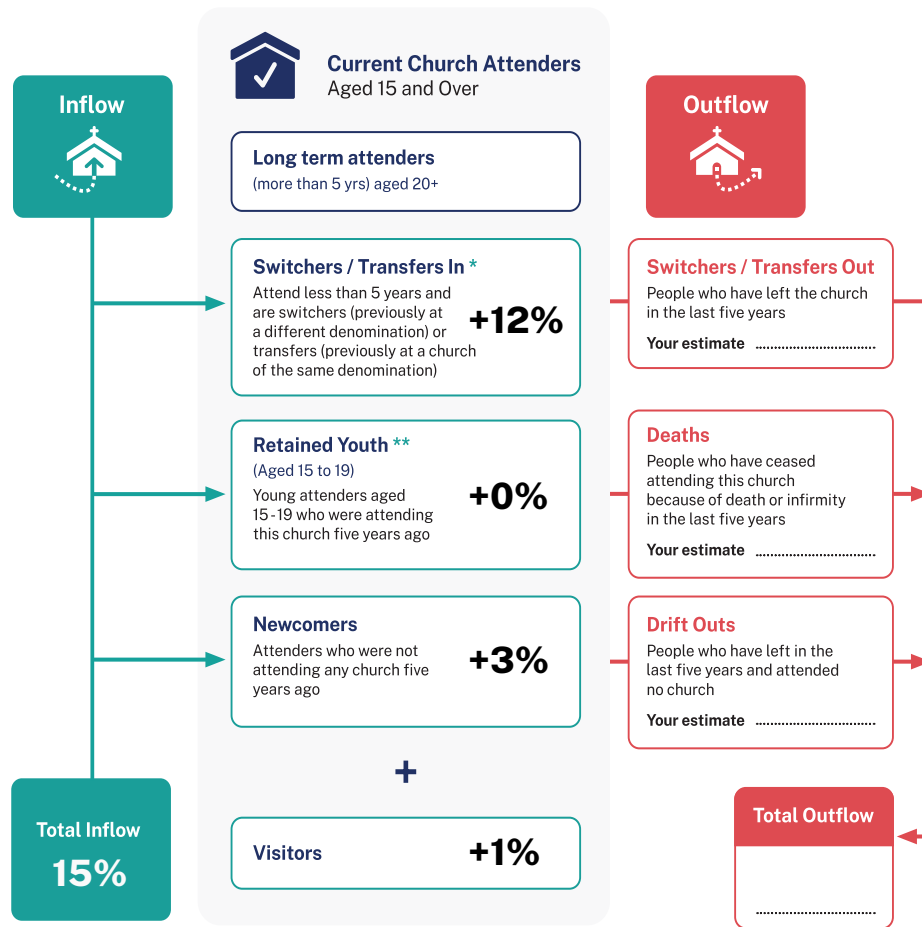
How do churches grow? In numerical terms churches grow when the inflow of church attenders exceeds the outflow.

About the NCLS Inflow Outflow model

Long term attenders have attended a local church for 5 or more years. There are three types of inflow. For each inflow path, there is a matching outflow:

1. People arrive from other churches and leave to go to other churches.
2. Children are born to church attenders** and people die.
3. Newcomers with no church background start attending and others drift out from church life.

Information from your church attenders (aged 15 and over) is used to calculate three types of inflows. Based on your current attendance, you will need to estimate your outflows.



Notes:

Current church attenders = Long-term attenders + inflow in past 5 years + visitors = 100%

* **About Switchers and Transfers:** Switchers change denominations. Transfers change churches within the same denomination.

** **About Retained Youth:** Instead of births, the calculation includes youth who are still attending and who were attending this church five years ago.

About the 9 Core Qualities of Church Life

Over 30 years NCLS Research has identified 9 Core Qualities shown to be central to the life of a vital and healthy church. The blend of these qualities points to the unique character of each church, its areas of strength and its potential for growth. These Core Qualities are measured and grouped into three areas of church life:

The Internal Core Qualities



Faith



Worship



Belonging

Internal Core Qualities

focus on the inner life of the community of faith, and a measure is made of the extent to which the community:

- has an alive and growing faith
- experiences vital and nurturing worship
- feels a strong and growing belonging

The Outward Core Qualities



Service



Faith Sharing



Inclusion

Outward Core Qualities

focus on the outward looking life of the church, and a measure is made of the extent to which the church undertakes:

- practical and diverse service
- willing and effective faith-sharing
- intentional and welcoming inclusion

The Inspirational Core Qualities



Vision



Innovation



Leadership Culture

Inspirational Core Qualities

focus on the vigour of a church and the catalysts that inspire a church culture to move forward. They give a measure of the extent to which the church has:

- a clear and owned vision
- openness to imaginative and flexible innovation
- an inspiring and empowering leadership culture

NCLS Research also explores three attendance measures for every church:



Young adult retention - the extent to which the children of the faith community remain regular attenders when they grow into young adulthood.

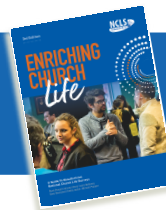


Newcomers - the extent to which newcomers with no church background who have arrived in the previous five years make up the congregation.



Attendance change - the extent to which attendance numbers have changed over the last five years through the inflow and outflow of people.

For more detail on the NCLS Research Vitality Framework refer to the book:
Enriching Church Life 3rd Edition



or go to:

ncls.org.au/church-vitality

Circle of Strengths

Core Qualities Overview

Over 30 years of research in Australian churches, the NCLS has highlighted key indicators for each of the nine Core Qualities of church health and vitality. This Circle of Strengths is a simple 'broad brush' view of your church's survey results in each Core Quality of church life.

A single indicator of responses has been chosen for each Core Quality area. The order of the Core Qualities in the Circle of Strengths is based on ranking the indicator scores from highest to lowest.



Headline Indicators

In Rank Order	Quality	Indicator	Score out of 10
1	Vision	Aware of and strongly committed to the vision of this church	8.7
2	Worship	Always experience inspiration in church worship services	7.6
3	Service	Number of different ways attenders have helped others in the last 12 months	7.3
4	Leadership Culture	Agree that leaders encourage attenders to find their gifts and skills to a great extent	6.4
5	Innovation	Strongly agree this church is always ready to try something new	6.0
6	Belonging	Sense of belonging is strong and growing	5.7
7	Faith	Much growth in faith in the past year, through this church	5.6
8	Faith Sharing	Have invited someone in the last 12 months	5.5
9	Inclusion	Attenders certain they would follow up someone drifting from church	2.4

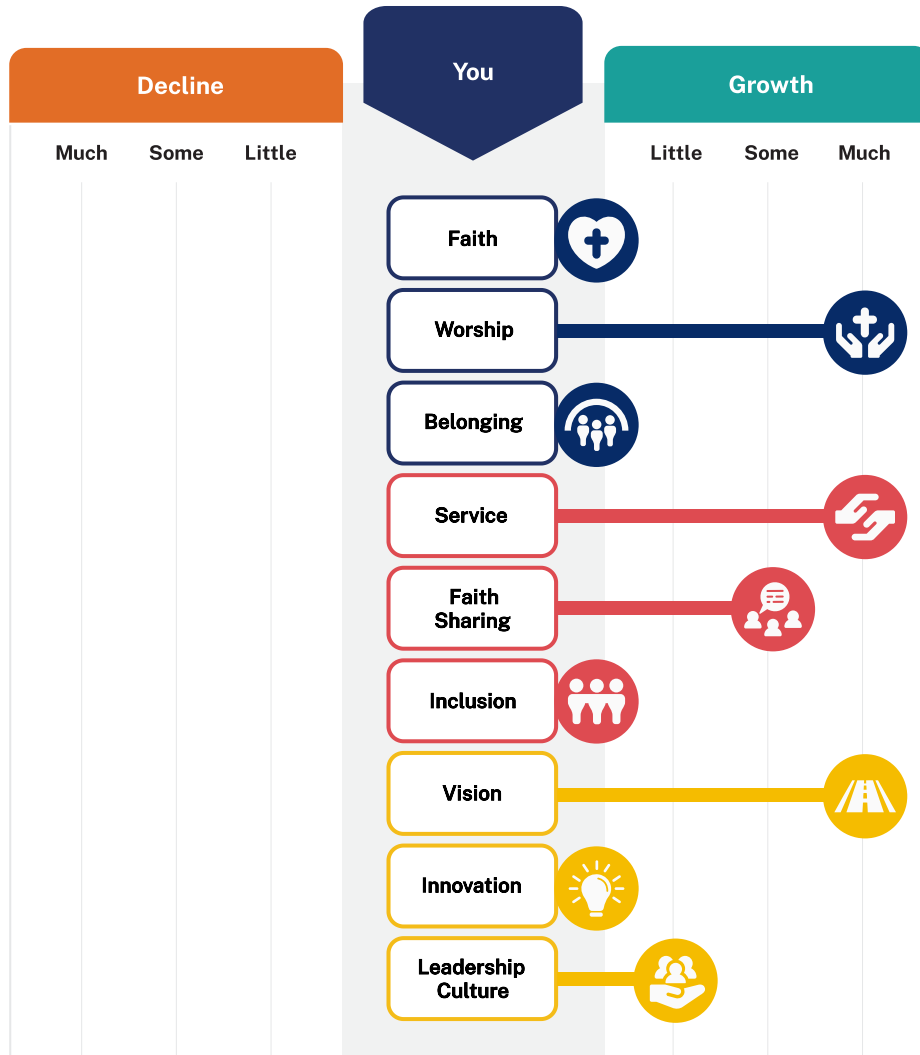
How do these scores work?

For each indicator question the percentage of the people in the church who selected a given response is converted into a score between 1 and 10. A score of 5 is the average across a representative sample of Australian Catholic parishes. See more at ncls.org.au/church-vitality

Change Over Time

When a church takes part in a Church Life Survey more than once, it's possible to see changes over time.

This chart shows how selected indicators of the qualities of church health have changed since the last Church Life Survey. (See ncls.org.au/church-vitality for more information)



No results for Change Over Time?

Now

For each Core Quality ask if this is an area of church life that has improved, declined or stayed the same over the past five years?

Later

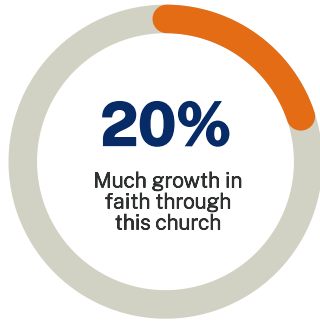
Any church can conduct a Church Life Survey at any time that suits them into the future. New results will be compared with previous results. Contact NCLS Research for details.

Faith: Alive and Growing



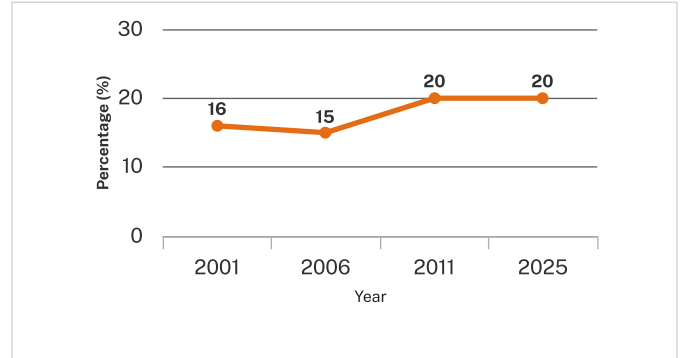
Growth in Faith through this Local Church

20% said they had experienced much growth in faith through this local church in the last 12 months



Source: 2025 CLS, Maitland

Change over time: Percentage of attenders who experienced much growth in faith through this local church in the last 12 months



Source: Maitland, NCLS 2001, 2006, 2011, 2025

Growth in Faith in the Past Year

77% have grown their faith, either through this church, other groups or churches or through private activity

	You in 2025 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2022 (%)
Much: this local church	20	20	17
Much: other groups	5	4	5
Much: private activity	14	13	15
Some growth	37	44	38

Private Devotional Activity

74% spend time in prayer, Bible reading or meditation at least weekly

	You in 2025 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2022 (%)
Everyday/most days	48	49	61
A few times a week	22	15	15
Once a week	3	6	4
Occasionally	19	19	14
Hardly ever/never	8	11	6

Identification with Matters of Faith

Attenders chose up to 2 out of 6 options (e.g. Catholic or Anglo-Catholic; Pentecostal or Charismatic; Evangelistic or Reformed; Liberal or Progressive; Other and 'Do not identify')

88% chose Catholic or Anglo-Catholic
9% chose I do not identify with such descriptions

	You in 2025 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2022 (%)
Catholic or Anglo-Catholic	88	N/A	90
I do not identify with such descriptions	9	N/A	7
Liberal or Progressive	6	N/A	6
Other	5	N/A	4

Faith and Life

95% agree or strongly agree that their faith influences decisions and actions in daily life

95% agree or strongly agree their faith in God is an important part of who they are

My faith influences decisions and actions in my daily life			
Agree or strongly agree	95	N/A	94
Neutral or unsure	3	N/A	5
Disagree or strongly disagree	2	N/A	1
Faith in God is an important part of who I am			
Agree or strongly agree	95	N/A	96
Neutral or unsure	3	N/A	3
Disagree or strongly disagree	3	N/A	1

Worship: Vital and Nurturing



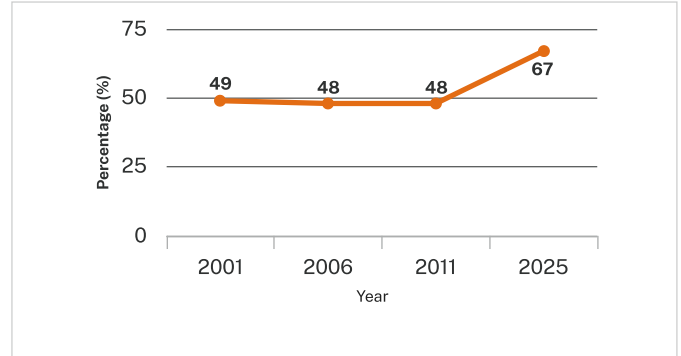
Experience Inspiration during Church Services

67% of attenders said they always/usually experience inspiration during services



Source: 2025 CLS, Maitland

Change over time: Percent of attenders who always/usually experience inspiration during services



Source: Maitland, NCLS 2001, 2006, 2011, 2025

Inspiration

67% always/usually experience inspiration during church services

	You in 2025 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2022 (%)
Always	29	17	26
Usually	38	32	40

Helpful Preaching

66% always/usually experience preaching very helpful to their lives during church services

	You in 2025 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2022 (%)
Always	20	16	26
Usually	46	46	40

Appreciate Music

82% always/usually experience music they appreciate during church services

Always	45	N/A	49
Usually	37	N/A	32

Presence and Growth in Understanding of God

85% always/usually experience a sense of God's presence during church services

Always	55	41	59
Usually	29	39	26

69% always/usually experience growth in understanding of God during church services

Always	34	29	34
Usually	35	35	38

Being Challenged to Take Action

52% always/usually experience being challenged to take action

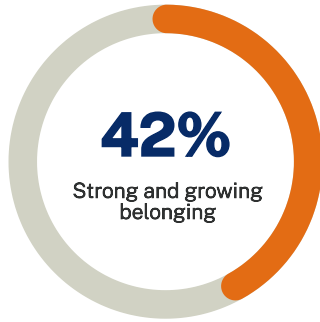
Always	20	8	22
Usually	32	26	29

Belonging: Strong and Growing



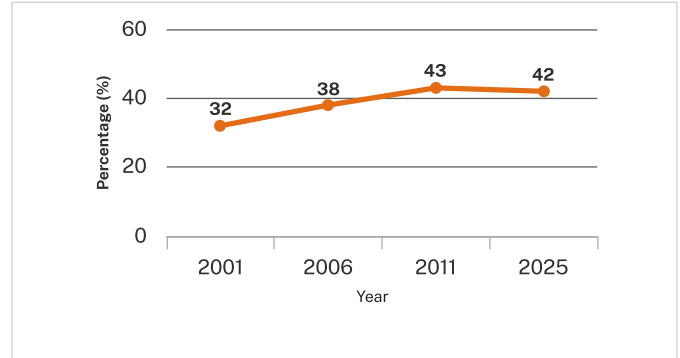
A Strong and Growing Sense of Belonging

42% of attenders said they have a strong sense of belonging to this church which is growing



Source: 2025 CLS, Maitland

Change over time: Percentage of attenders who have a strong and growing sense of belonging to this church



Source: Maitland, NCLS 2001, 2006, 2011, 2025

Sense of Belonging to their Local Church

92% have a strong sense of belonging to this local church

6% do not feel they belong

	You in 2025 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2022 (%)
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Sense of belonging	You in 2025 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2022 (%)
Strong and growing	42	43	37
Strong and stable	42	31	30
Strong but weakening	8	7	17
No, but new here	1	5	5
No, and wish they did	1	1	3
No, but happy	4	10	7
Don't know / NA	2	3	2

Regular Participation in their Local Church's Activities

49% take part in group activities at this local church

27% take part in activities of the local church that reach out to the wider community

Activity	You in 2025 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2022 (%)
Small prayer, discussion	20	11	23
Fellowship, clubs or other social groups	36	15	26
Evangelical or outreach	9	8	9
Community service, social justice or welfare	22	13	27

Financial Giving

5% regularly give 10% of net income

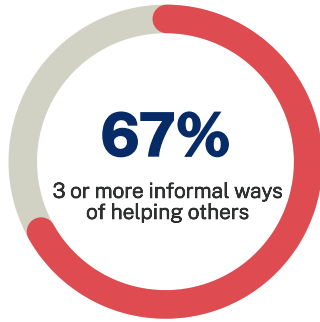
Giving Level	You in 2025 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2022 (%)
Regularly give 10%	5	0	5
Regularly give up to 9% of net income	49	57	53
Give a small amount whenever I am here	38	37	34

Service: Practical and Diverse



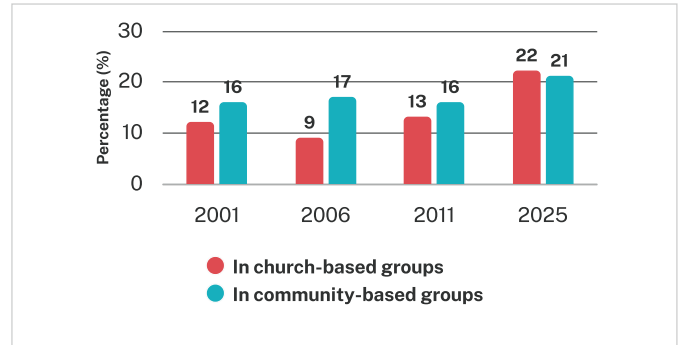
Acts of Service

67% of attenders said they had informally helped others in three or more of a list of ways in the last year



Source: 2025 CLS, Maitland

Change over time: Percent of attenders who have been involved in community service, care or welfare groups or activities



Source: Maitland, NCLS 2001, 2006, 2011, 2025

Informal Ways of Helping Others (in the last year)

99% said they had informally helped others in at least one of the ways listed in the last year

+ Note: Was changed from 'lent money' in 2011 to 'lent or gave money' in 2016 and 2021

++ Note: Added in 2021

	You in 2025 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2022 (%)
Lent or gave money outside family ⁺	46	18	46
Attended a public meeting/march ⁺⁺	15	N/A	7
Supported a campaign (online or other) ⁺⁺	21	N/A	26
Cared for someone who was very sick	32	25	30
Helped someone through a personal crisis	38	36	35
Visited someone in hospital	40	52	32
Gave possessions to a person in need	38	36	35
Tried to stop someone abusing alcohol or drugs	11	13	8
Donated money to a charitable organisation	75	81	80
Contact parliamentarian/councillor about issue	15	14	19

Community Activities

22% are regularly involved in community service, social justice or welfare activities based in this parish

48% are regularly involved in community groups not connected to this parish

	You in 2025 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2022 (%)
In community service or justice activities based in parish	22	13	27
Involvement in community groups not connected to this parish			
Community service, care or welfare groups	21	16	26
Social action, justice or lobby groups	8	3	6
Sport, recreation or hobby groups	19	12	16
School or youth groups (e.g. P&C Scouts)	10	7	5
Another kind of group	9	14	8
Online groups or communities	7	N/A	5
Not involved with such groups	52	60	53

Care for the Environment

91% agree Christians should care for the environment

61% are currently active

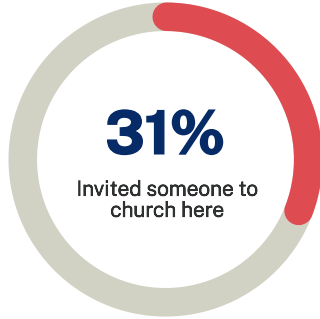
Belief about Christian responsibility to actively care for the environment			
Yes, am very active	21	N/A	20
Yes, and am a little active	39	N/A	39
Yes, but currently not active	31	N/A	35
No	3	N/A	3
Unsure	6	N/A	3

Faith Sharing: Willing and Effective



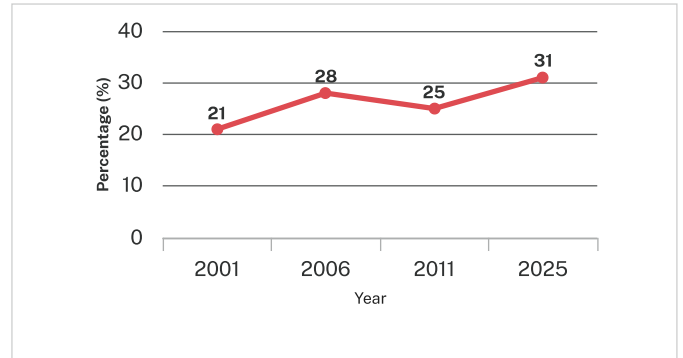
Inviting Others to Church

31% of attenders said they had invited a friend or relative who does not currently attend church to a service here in the last year



Source: 2025 CLS, Maitland

Change over time: Percent of attenders who invited a friend or relative who does not currently attend church to a service here in the last year



Source: Maitland, NCLS 2001, 2006, 2011, 2025

Inviting Others to Church here

65% are willing to invite someone to a church service

You in 2025 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2022 (%)
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Willingness to invite to a church service here any friends/relatives who don't currently attend a church			
Invited someone in the last 12 months	31	25	24
Willing, but didn't invite someone in the last 12 months	34	27	37
Probably wouldn't invite someone	13	22	20
Definitely wouldn't invite someone	0	2	2
Don't know	22	23	17

Willing and Effective Faith-sharing

9% are involved regularly in outreach or evangelistic activity
75% feel at ease talking about their faith

Attenders involved regularly in outreach or evangelistic activity			
Feel at ease talking about their faith and look for opportunities	17	16	15
Mostly feel at ease talking about their faith and do so if it comes up	57	49	60
Find it hard to talk about their faith in ordinary language	11	17	11
Do not like to talk about their faith; life and actions are sufficient	14	16	14
Do not have faith	1	2	0

Faith-sharing in Households

35% frequently talk about matters of faith with other members of their household

Attenders talk about faith with other members of their household			
No, live alone	15	N/A	21
No, do not talk about matters of faith	7	N/A	9
Yes, occasionally	43	N/A	33
Yes, frequently in informal ways	22	N/A	25
Yes, frequently in informal ways as well as part of family or household devotions	13	N/A	12

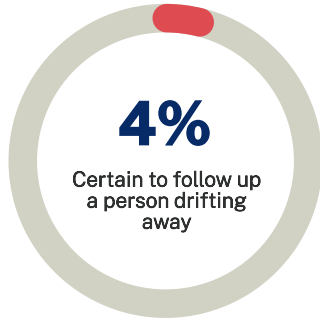
Inclusion: Intentional and Welcoming



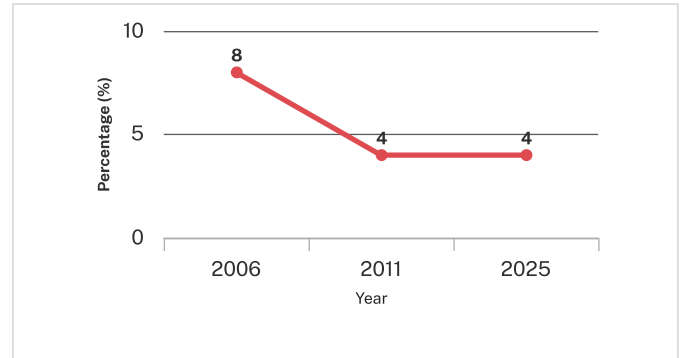
Follow-up of People Drifting Away

4% of attenders said they would certainly follow up someone they knew who was drifting away from church

Change over time: Percent of attenders who are certain they would follow up someone they knew who was drifting away from church



Source: 2025 CLS, Maitland



Source: Maitland, NCLS 2006, 2011, 2025

Views about Inclusiveness of Parish

90% agree that this parish is inclusive of different kinds of people

	You in 2025 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2022 (%)
This parish is inclusive of different kinds of people			
Strongly agree	36	N/A	34
Agree	54	N/A	50
Neutral/Unsure	10	N/A	13
Disagree	1	N/A	1
Strongly disagree	0	N/A	1

Likelihood of Follow-up of Those Drifting Away

30% are likely to follow up someone drifting away from church

	You in 2025 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2022 (%)
Likelihood of attenders to follow up someone drifting away from church			
Certain	4	4	4
Very likely	10	11	10
Likely	16	22	21
Hard to say	50	40	45
Unlikely	19	24	20

Welcoming New Arrivals

46% always or mostly personally seek out and welcome people they know who are new arrivals

	You in 2025 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2022 (%)
Attenders personally seek out and welcome new arrivals			
Always	16	7	14
Mostly	30	19	21
Sometimes	26	37	32
Rarely/Never/Not applicable	28	37	34

Making Friends

89% have found it easy to make friends here

	You in 2025 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2022 (%)
Attenders found it easy to make friends here			
Attenders agree or strongly agree	89	81	77
Attenders disagree or strongly disagree	2	3	6
Among arrivals in the last five years:			
Agree or strongly agree	94	67	67
Disagree or strongly disagree	6	7	9

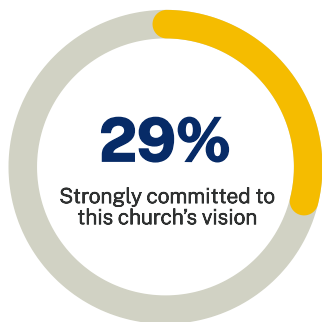
Vision: Clear and Owned



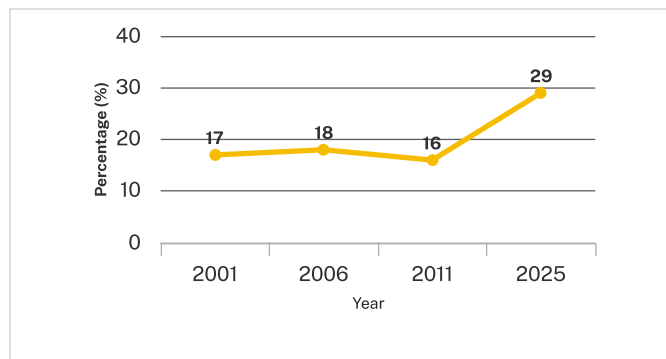
Committed to this Parish's Vision

29% of attenders said they are aware of and strongly committed to this parish's vision, goals or directions

Change over time: Percent of attenders who are aware of and strongly committed to this parish's vision, goals or directions



Source: 2025 CLS, Maitland



Source: Maitland, NCLS 2001, 2006, 2011, 2025

Aware of Vision, Goals and Directions of Parish

51% are aware and strongly or partly committed to the vision, goals or direction of the parish

	You in 2025 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2022 (%)
Aware and strongly committed	29	16	18
Aware and partly committed	23	24	23
Aware and not committed	6	16	11
Aware of ideas not of any clear vision	14	23	22
Unaware of any clear vision, goals or direction	29	21	26

Confidence that the Parish can Achieve its Vision, Goals or Directions

31% are fully confident that the vision can be achieved

Fully confident the vision can be achieved	31	19	27
Partly confident vision can be achieved	42	37	32
Not confident the vision can be achieved	7	9	9

Attenders' Views on Priorities for this Parish in the Next 12 Months: +

Spiritual growth (e.g. spiritual direction, prayer groups)	13	19	23
Worship services that are nurturing to people's faith	33	21	24
Building a strong sense of community within this parish	36	39	45
Creating a clear vision for this parish's future	28	26	23
Encouraging people here to discover/use their gifts	13	16	20
Encouraging new approaches to ministry and mission	13	9	13
Supporting social justice and aid to people in need	17	14	18
Encouraging people here to share their faith or invite others	8	8	5
Ensuring new people are included well in church life	19	20	22
Ministry to children and youth	18	21	26
Growing into a larger parish	25	28	23
Starting a new church or mission venture	15	14	15

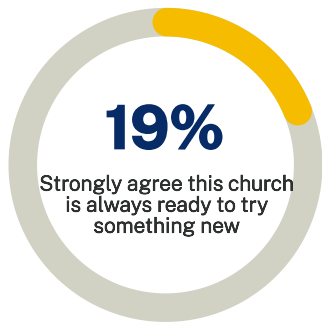
*Note: The wording on the introduction to this question changed slightly from 2016 onwards

Innovation: Imaginative and Flexible



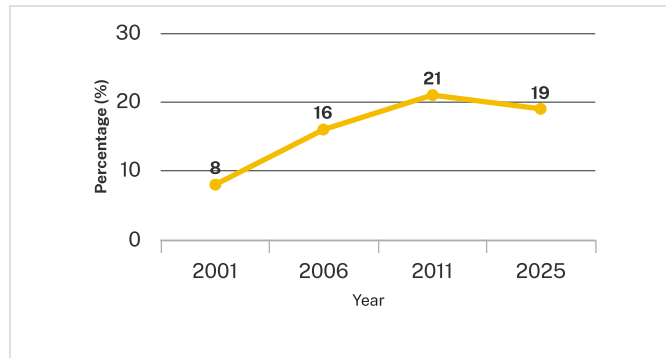
Ready to Try Something New

19% of attenders strongly agree that this parish is always ready to try something new



Source: 2025 CLS, Maitland

Change over time: Percent of attenders who strongly agree that this parish is always ready to try something new



Source: Maitland, NCLS 2001, 2006, 2011, 2025

Willingness of the Parish to Try New Things

65% strongly agree or agree that this parish is always ready to try something new

You in 2025 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2022 (%)
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This parish is always ready to try something new			
	You in 2025 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2022 (%)
Strongly agree	19	21	14
Agree	46	41	43
Neutral/Unsure	25	29	32
Disagree	8	8	8
Strongly disagree	3	2	3

Leaders Encourage Innovation

56% strongly agree or agree that leaders here encourage innovation and creative thinking

Leaders here encourage innovation			
	You in 2025 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2022 (%)
Strongly agree	16	13	9
Agree	40	34	38
Neutral/Unsure	38	34	39
Disagree	6	17	10
Strongly disagree	0	1	4

Openness to New Initiatives

72% support the development of new initiatives in ministry and mission in this parish

I would support the development of new initiatives in ministry and mission in the parish			
	You in 2025 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2022 (%)
Strongly agree	17	N/A	18
Agree	55	N/A	53
Neutral/Unsure	27	N/A	27
Disagree	1	N/A	2
Strongly disagree	0	N/A	1

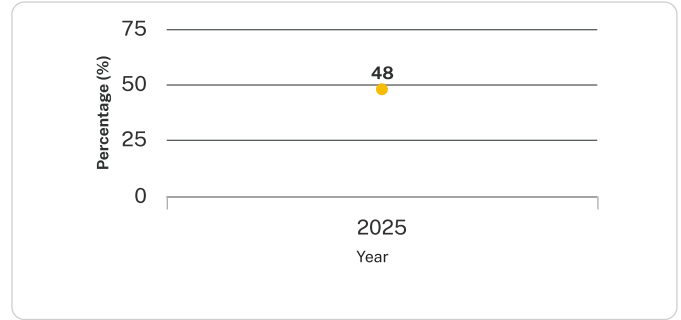
Leadership Culture: Inspiring and Empowering



Leadership Roles

48% of attenders perform at least one leadership or ministry role here

Change over time: Percent of attenders who perform at least one leadership or ministry role here



Source: Maitland, NCLS 2025

Source: 2025 CLS, Maitland

Leadership and Ministry Roles Performed by Attenders

	You in 2025 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Diocese in 2022 (%)
Liturgical roles(including Children's liturgy)	43	32	37
Sacrament Preparation	3	1	2
Parish Council / Committee Member	12	7	13
Group Leadership	6	2	7
Pastoral care	6	6	14
Involved in parish school or RE in government school	10	5	4
Some other role	22	14	20
Attenders performing any leadership / ministry roles here	48	N/A	47

Views about Local Church Leaders

20% agree this local church's leaders encourage them to find and use their gifts and skills to a great extent

62% agree leaders here inspire them to action

Local leaders encourage attenders to find and use gifts and skills			
To a great extent	20	15	11
To some extent	35	28	27
Attenders strongly agree or agree that...			
Leaders here inspire me to action	62	50	48
Leaders encourage innovation & creativity	56	47	47
Local church has good and clear systems	77	64	63

Getting Involved Here

85% agree it is easy to get involved in ministry at this church (e.g. join a roster, take on a role)

9% would like to be more involved here

Attenders strongly agree or agree that...			
It is easy to get involved in ministry here	85	N/A	76
All (ages) encouraged to get involved	79	N/A	73
Evaluation of involvement here			
Would like to be more involved	9	N/A	15
Happy with current level of involvement	85	N/A	75
Would like to be less involved	1	N/A	1

Your results

This Church Life Profile contains your church's unique results from your participation in the Church Life Survey.

This Church Life Profile will enable you to:

- ✓ Hear all voices and take time to listen
- ✓ Make better, more informed choices
- ✓ Find out the values and hopes of your attenders
- ✓ Take stock of your church's health
- ✓ See how you compare to other churches
- ✓ Identify your strengths and use them to grow



What next?

Use your Profile, workbook and other resources to evaluate, communicate and act on your results at your church



Evaluate

Look at your results to see what they reveal



Communicate

Share key insights and plans with your church



Act

Take steps of action into the future

More resources available:  ncls.org.au