

CHURCH LIFE *Profile*

Rutherford 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+): **59 forms**
Church Code: **TAN037**

Dear local church,


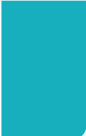

This Church Life Profile contains your church's unique results from your participation in a 2025 Church Life Survey.

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

Profile Contents

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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.

Rutherford Parish in:

2025 - **59 forms**

2016 - **89 forms** 2011 - **118 forms** 2006 - **149 forms** 2001 - **236 forms**

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Dashboard

Rutherford Parish

59 adult attender forms



The People of this Church

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| Average age (years) | 65 |
| Female | 73% |
| University degree | 29% |
| Non-English speaking background | 38% |
| New arrivals in last 5 years | 33% |
| Young people aged 15 to 19 | 0% |



What We Value and Prioritise

| | |
|---|-----|
| Value: Celebrating the Eucharist/ receiving Holy Communion | 44% |
| Value: Wider community care or social justice emphasis | 40% |
| Prioritise: Ministry to children and youth | 28% |
| Prioritise: Starting a new program reaching people who don't go to church | 26% |



How We Relate to God

| | |
|---|-----|
| Experienced much growth in faith in past 12 months | 54% |
| Private devotions at least weekly | 67% |
| Agree faith in God is an important part of who I am | 96% |
| Worship services always/usually challenge me to take action | 65% |



How We Relate to Each Other

| | |
|---|-----|
| Strong sense of belonging | 82% |
| Found it easy to make friends | 88% |
| Involved in group activities at church | 27% |
| Satisfied with activities for children under 12 years | 56% |



How We Relate to Community

| | |
|---|-----|
| Helped others in 3 or more informal ways in last year | 54% |
| Involved in local church service, justice or welfare activities | 16% |
| Part of community groups not connected to local church | 33% |
| Feel at ease sharing faith with others | 65% |



Our Vision and Leadership

| | |
|---|-----|
| Aware of and strongly committed to church's vision | 29% |
| Agree this church is ready to try something new | 75% |
| Attendees who perform at least one leadership or ministry role here | N/A |
| Leaders encourage use of gifts & skills to a great extent | 19% |

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 59 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

73% are female

27% 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

60% are currently married

Ethnicity

60% are born in Australia

40% are born overseas

37% are migrants to Australia

37% speak a language other than English at home

Employment

28% are employed full-time (30 hours plus)

57% are retired

Education

29% have a university degree

31% have a trade certificate, diploma or associate diploma



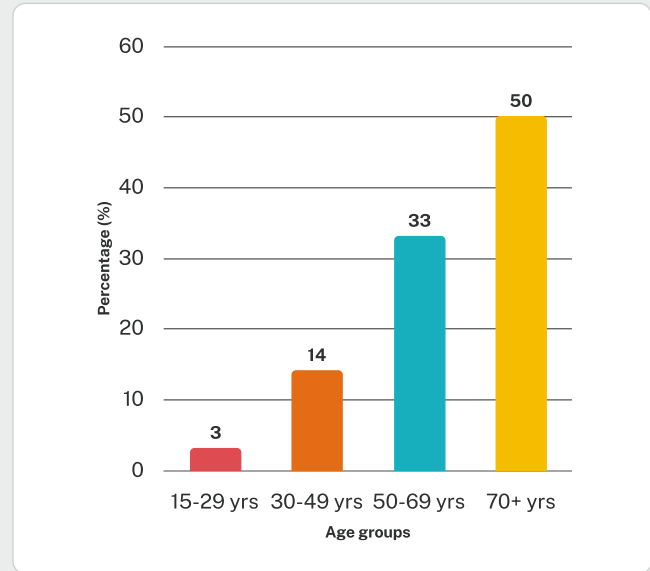
Age and Intergenerational Ministry

65 is the average age of adult attenders

56% are satisfied with what is offered for children aged under 12 years

57% are satisfied with what is offered for youth aged 12 to 18

78% agree that people of all ages are encouraged to get involved at this local church

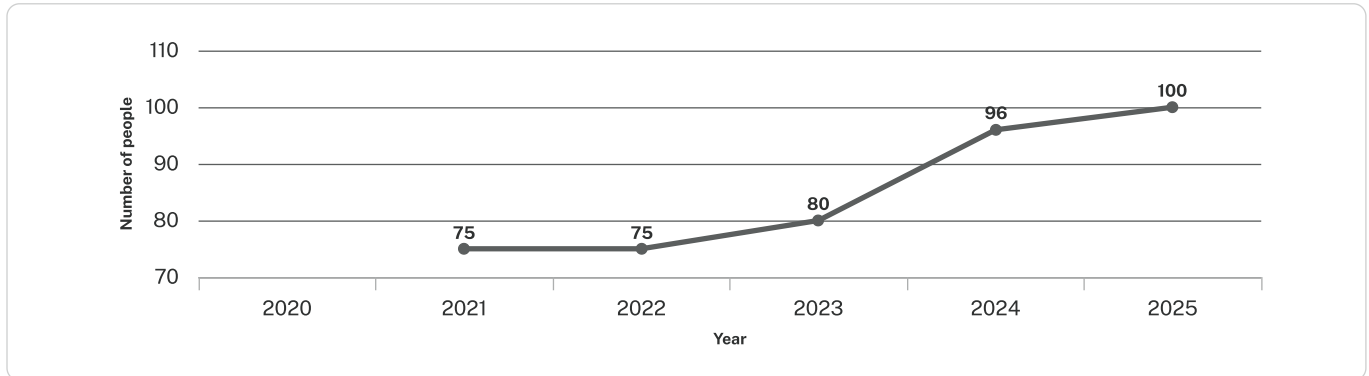


Church Attendance and Background



Attendance Patterns

Estimated attendance



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

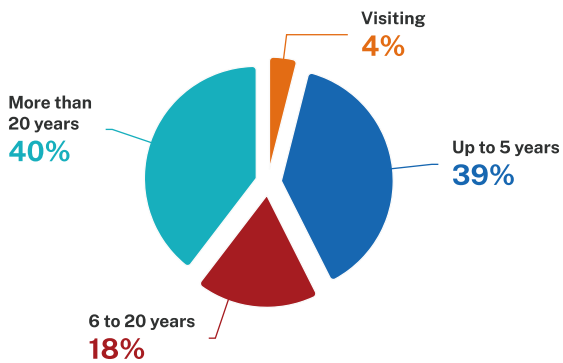
Attendance at this local church (including online)

- 93%** are frequent attenders (monthly or more)
- 79%** attend weekly or more
- 58%** have attended this church for more than five years

Attendance elsewhere (in person and online)⁺

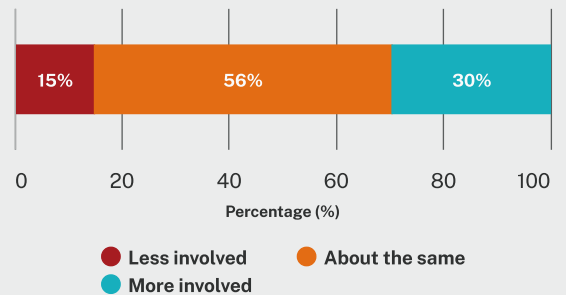
- 54%** do not attend any other church
- 37%** attend elsewhere, in person
- 14%** attend elsewhere, via online services

*Note attenders could choose more than one option



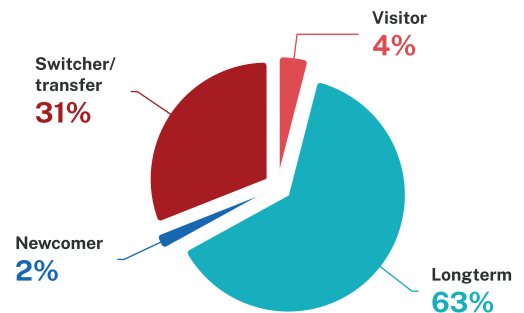
Impact of COVID-19

Current involvement compared with 2019 (before COVID-19)



Church Background

33% of attenders here are new arrivals to this local church in the past 5 years

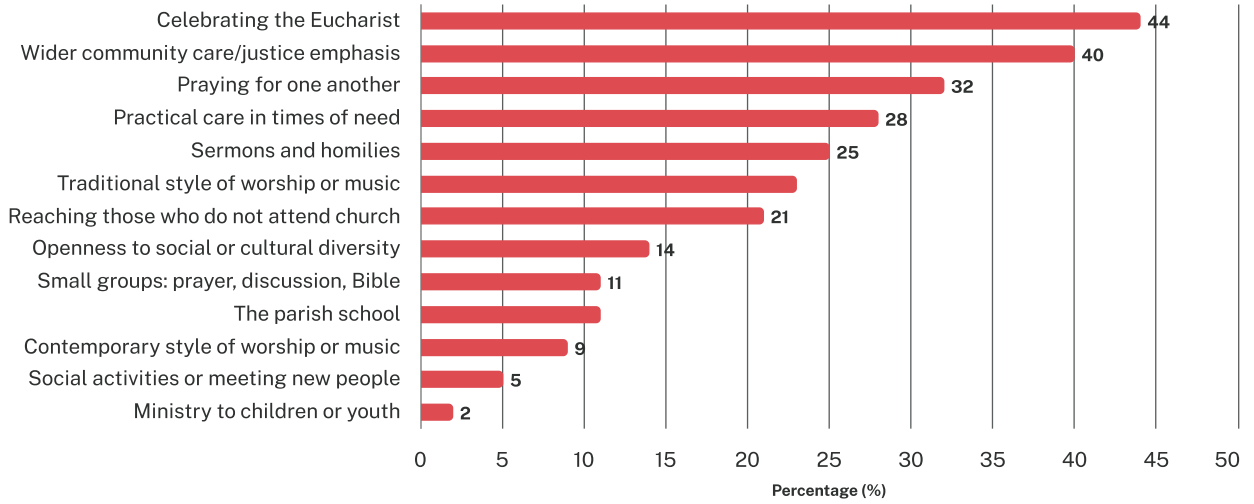


What People Value and Prioritise



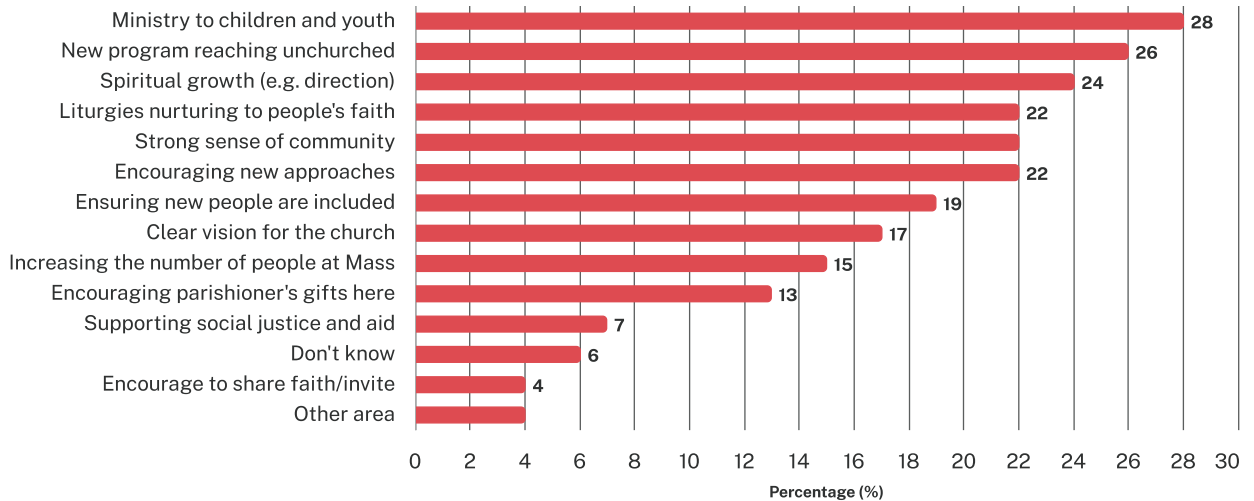
What People Value about this Church

Attenders of this parish most value 'Celebrating the Eucharist/ receiving Holy Communion' and 'Wider community care or social justice emphasis'.



Future Priorities

Over the next 12 months most attenders would like priority given to 'Ministry to children and youth' and 'Starting a new program reaching people who don't go to church'.

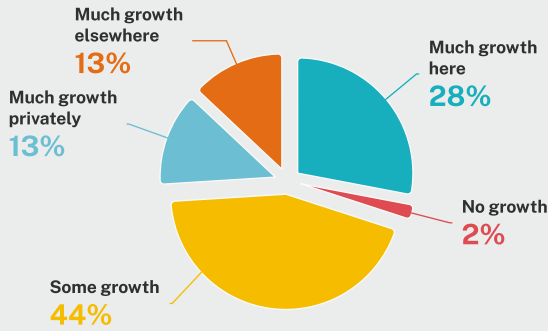


How People Relate to God

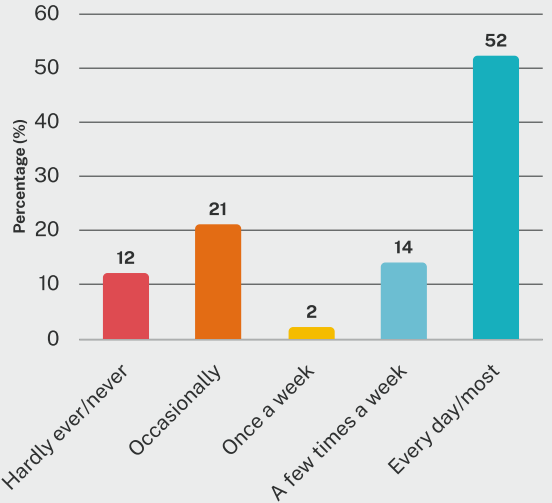


Personal Faith

54% of attenders said that they had experienced much growth in faith in the previous 12 months



52% spend time in prayer, Bible reading, meditation everyday or most days



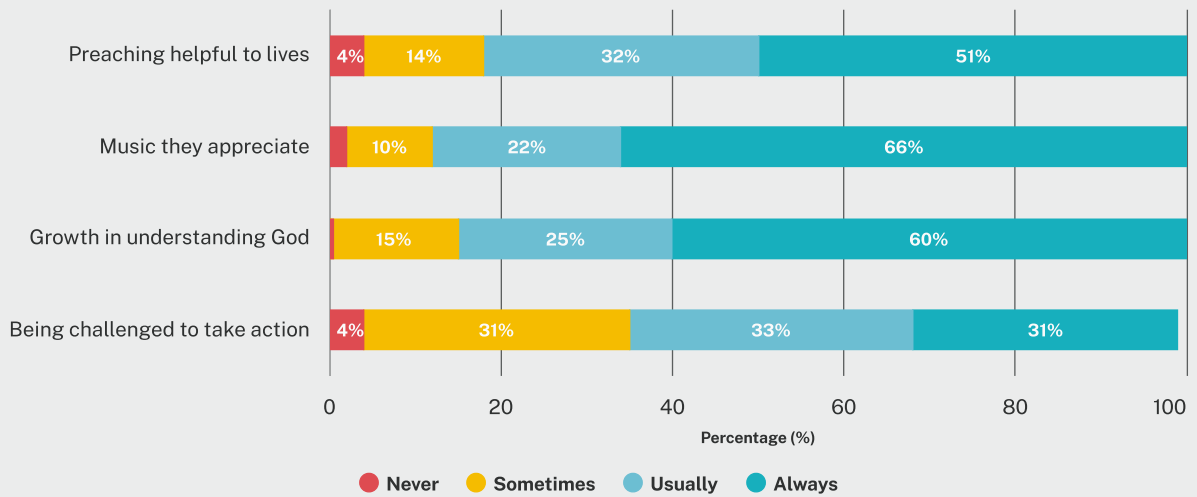
95% agree their faith influences decisions and actions in daily life

96% 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

49% always or mostly personally seek to make new arrivals welcome
34% 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



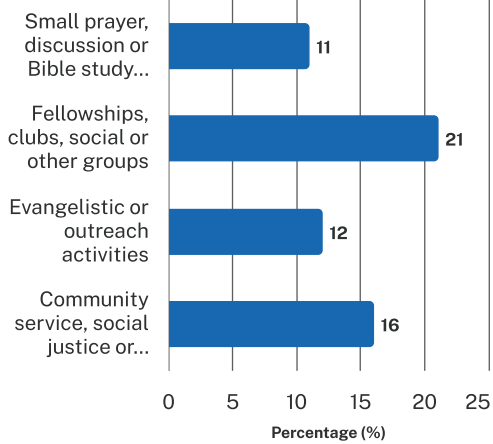
Friendly

Found it easy to make friends in this parish

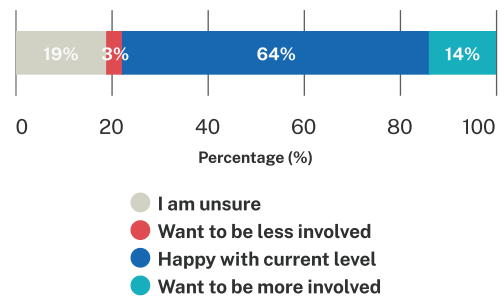


Involvement

Group Involvement

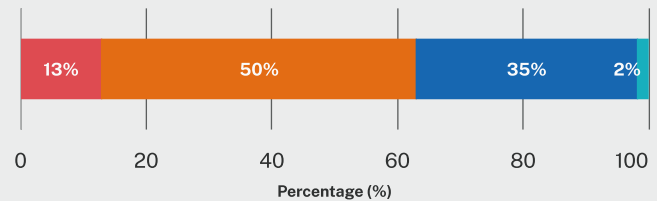


14% want to be more involved at this parish



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

33% of people participate in wider community groups
11% are very actively involved in online groups (e.g. social media, community groups)

Church-based activities

23% reach out to the wider community through activities of this local church
16% are part of community service activities
12% are part of evangelistic outreach activities



Words and Actions

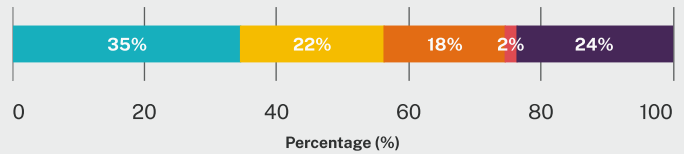
36% talk about matters of faith with other members of their household (21% live alone)
14% feel at ease talking about faith with others and look for opportunities to do so

Attendees have offered to help others in the past 12 months

| | |
|--|------------|
| Donated money to a charitable organisation | 66% |
| Lent or gave money to someone outside your family | 54% |
| Helped someone through a personal crisis (not sickness) | 39% |
| Visited someone in hospital | 39% |
| Cared for someone who was very sick | 36% |
| Given some of your possessions to someone in need | 31% |
| Supported a campaign (online or other) | 14% |
| Tried to stop someone abusing alcohol or drugs | 7% |
| Contacted a parliamentarian/councillor on a public issue | 7% |
| Attended a public meeting/march | 2% |

Inviting others to church

35% 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

82% agree that Christians have a responsibility to actively care for the environment
23% are very active
26% are a little active
33% are currently not active

Vision, Innovation & Leadership Culture

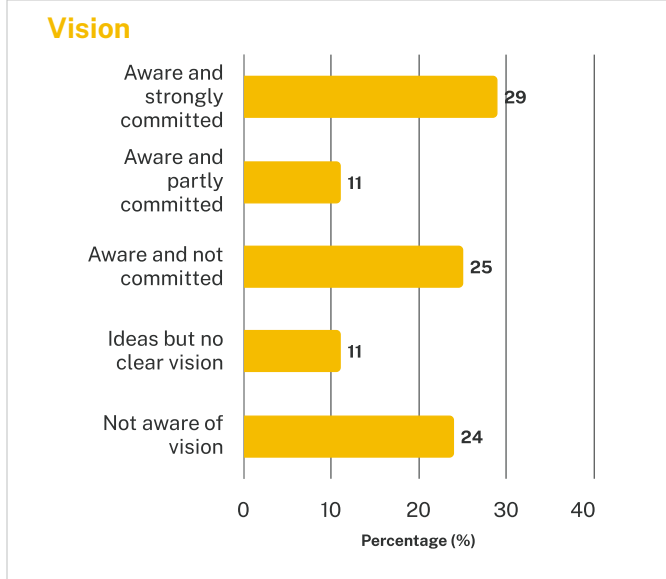
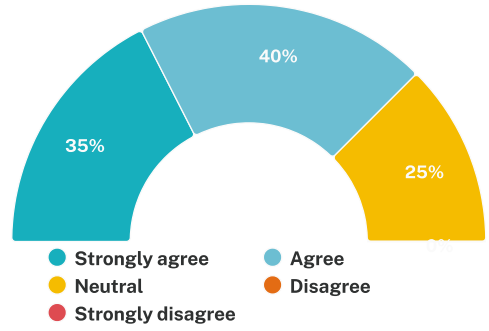


Vision and Innovation

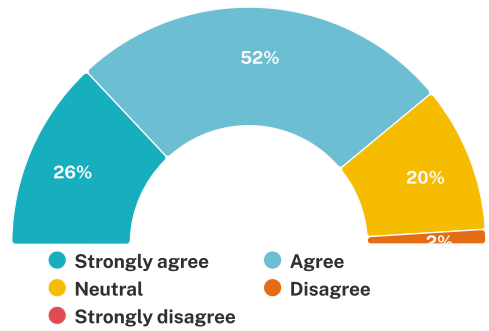
75% agree that this parish is always ready to try something new

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

46% are fully confident that this parish can achieve the vision, goals or directions set



78% agree that they would support the development of new initiatives in the ministry and mission of this parish



Leadership Culture

70% agree it is easy to get involved in ministry at this church (e.g. join a roster, take on a role)

91% agree that this church has good clear systems for how it operates

N/A of attenders perform a leadership or ministry role

72% agree 'leaders here inspire me to action'

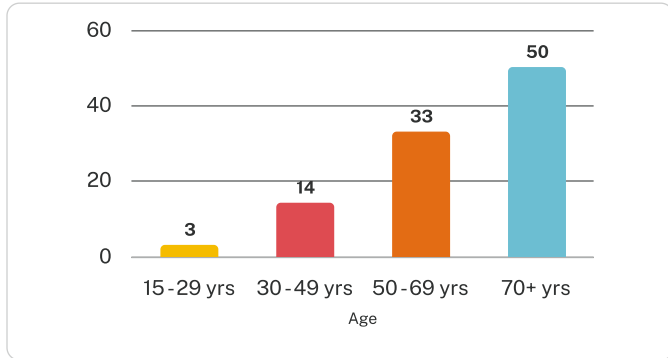
43% agree 'leaders encourage me to find and use my gifts and skills to great or some extent'

A Demographic Profile



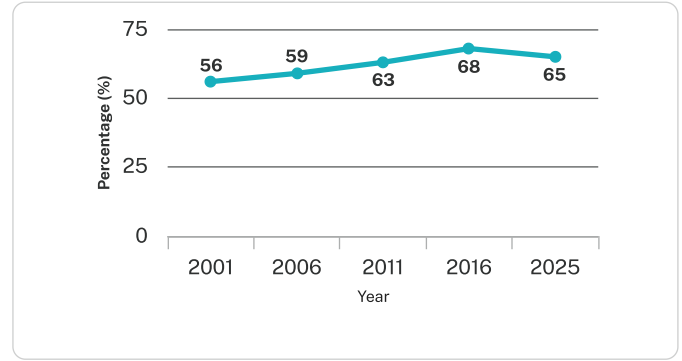
Age Profile

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



Source: 2025 CLS, Rutherford

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



Source: Rutherford, NCLS 2001, 2006, 2011, 2016, 2025

Gender

73% 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 2016 (%) | Diocese in 2022 (%) |
|--------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Female | 73 | 67 | 67 |
| Male | 27 | 33 | 33 |
| Other | N/A | N/A | 0.0 |

Marital Status

60% are currently married

| | | | |
|---------------------------|----|----|----|
| Never married | 11 | 5 | 11 |
| Married | 60 | 62 | 61 |
| In a defacto relationship | 4 | 3 | 2 |
| Separated or divorced | 9 | 7 | 7 |
| Widowed | 18 | 23 | 18 |

Education

29% have a University degree

| | | | |
|---|----|----|----|
| Primary/secondary school | 40 | 57 | 36 |
| Trade certificate, diploma or associate diploma | 31 | 18 | 31 |
| University degree | 29 | 25 | 33 |

Employment

36% are employed

| | | | |
|---|----|----|----|
| Employed | 36 | 30 | 27 |
| Full-time home duties/family responsibilities | 10 | 12 | 5 |
| Retired | 57 | 55 | 68 |

Ethnicity

60% are born in Australia

38% are born in non-English speaking countries

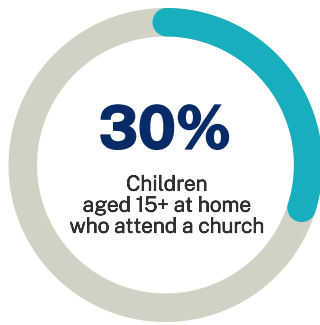
37% speak a language other than English at home

| | | | |
|---|----|----|----|
| Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin | 4 | 1 | 1 |
| Born in Australia (including above)* | 60 | 90 | 81 |
| Born in another country where English is the main language* | 2 | 2 | 6 |
| Born in Non English-speaking country* | 38 | 7 | 13 |
| At least one parent born in a Non English-speaking country* | 42 | 12 | 17 |

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

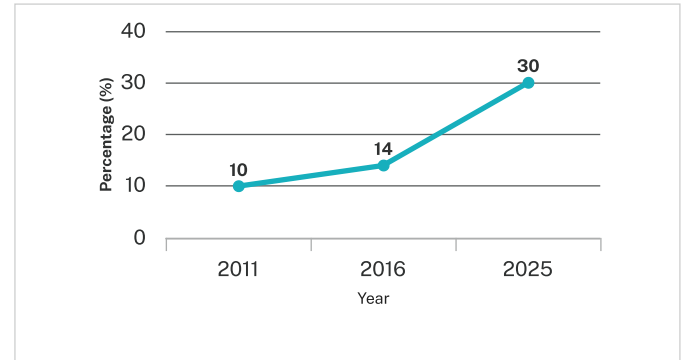
Children and Youth

30% is the proportion of attenders' children (aged 15+ and living at home) who attend a church



Source: 2025 CLS, Rutherford

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



Source: Rutherford, NCLS 2011, 2016, 2025

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

Children and youth of church attenders

75% 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 2016 (%)

Diocese in 2022 (%)

Attenders' children aged 0-14 still living at home:

| | You in 2025 (%) | You in 2016 (%) | Diocese in 2022 (%) |
|--------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Still attend this church | 75 | 77 | 72 |
| Attend elsewhere | 28 | 23 | 3 |
| Do not attend any church | 16 | 0 | 25 |

Attenders' children aged 15 and over still living at home:

| | You in 2025 (%) | You in 2016 (%) | Diocese in 2022 (%) |
|--------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Still attend this church | 22 | 0 | 26 |
| Attend elsewhere | 17 | 14 | 7 |
| Do not attend any church | 70 | 86 | 69 |

Young people at this parish

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

Young people who:

| | You in 2025 (%) | You in 2016 (%) | Diocese in 2022 (%) |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Completed the survey | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Have been attending more than 5 years | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Have been attending 5 years or less | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Satisfaction with what parish offers

For children aged under 12 years

56% are very satisfied or satisfied

For youth aged 12 to 18 years

57% 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':

| | You in 2025 (%) | You in 2016 (%) | Diocese in 2022 (%) |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| All attenders very satisfied or satisfied | 56 | 24 | 32 |

Satisfaction with what is offered here 'for youth aged 12-18 years':

| | You in 2025 (%) | You in 2016 (%) | Diocese in 2022 (%) |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| All attenders very satisfied or satisfied | 57 | 31 | 25 |
| 15-18 year olds very satisfied or satisfied | N/A | * | 33 |

Church Background



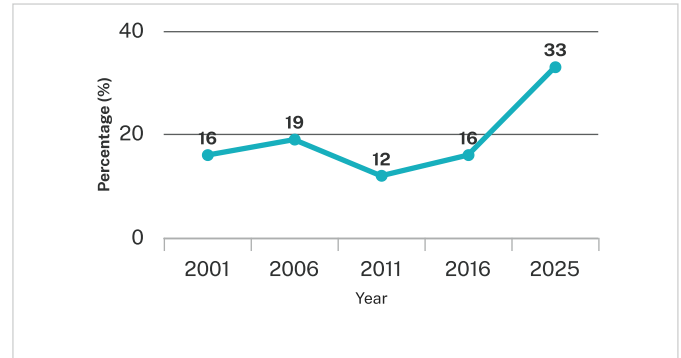
Background of Church Attenders

33% of attenders here are new arrivals to this parish in the past 5 years



Source: 2025 CLS, Rutherford

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



Source: Rutherford, NCLS 2001, 2006, 2011, 2016, 2025

Church Attendance History⁺

- 33%** are new arrivals in the last five years, comprising
 - 31%** moved from a different church
 - 2%** are newcomers (new to any church in the last 5 years)
- 63%** are long-term having attended here for more than 5 years
- 4%** were visitors

| | You in 2025 (%) | You in 2016 (%) | Diocese in 2022 (%) |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| New Arrivals (total) ¹ | 33 | 16 | 18 |
| Newcomers ² | 2 | 3 | 3 |
| Returnees: after absence of several years | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| Never regularly attended | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Switchers ³⁺⁺ | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Transfers ⁴ | 29 | 11 | 15 |
| Long-term attenders ⁵ | 63 | 71 | 80 |
| Visitors from other churches | 4 | 7 | 1 |
| Visitors who do not regularly go to church | 0 | 6 | 1 |

Length of Attendance at this Church

- 11%** have been here less than 1 year
- 28%** have been here for 1-5 years
- 40%** have been here for more than 20 years

| Total new arrivals (new to your parish) in the last 5 years | | | |
|---|----|----|----|
| Less than 1 year | 11 | 3 | 5 |
| 1-2 years | 21 | 9 | 3 |
| 3-5 years / unsure | 7 | 8 | 11 |
| 6-10 years | 14 | 10 | 10 |
| 11-20 years | 4 | 19 | 18 |
| More than 20 years | 40 | 41 | 51 |

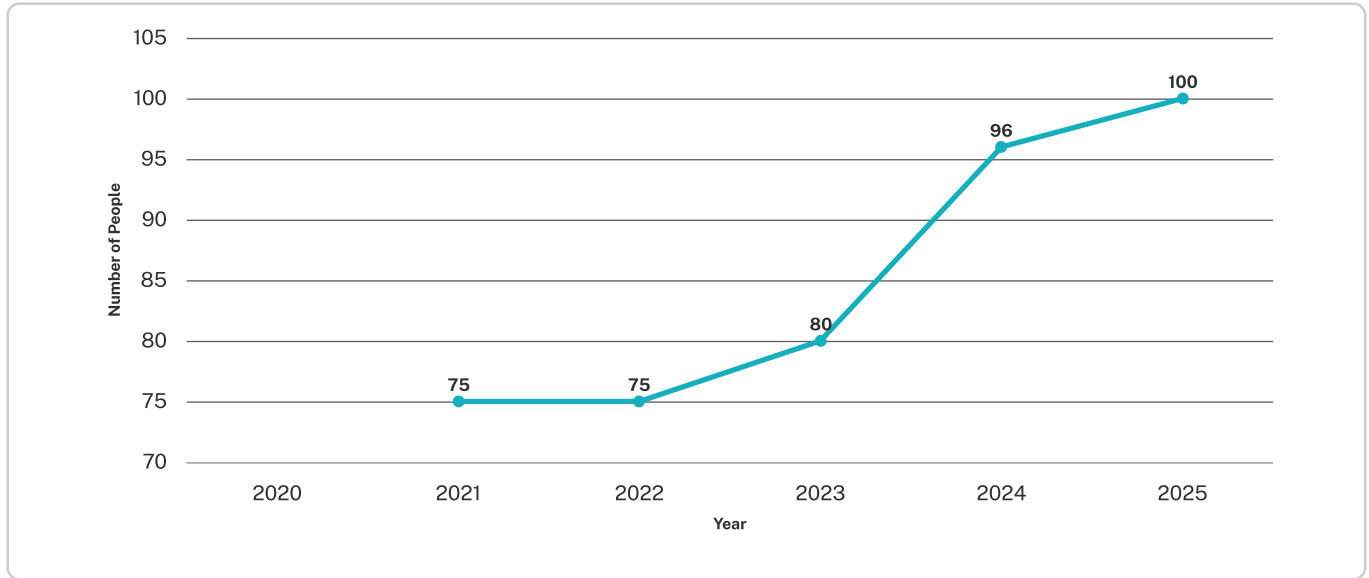
+Note: Church attendance history is calculated from three survey questions. The figures may not match those for length of attendance due to non-responses.
++Note: The wording of the response options to the survey about the denomination of the previous church changed in 2016.

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)

93% are frequent attenders (monthly or more)

| | You in 2025 (%) | You in 2016 (%) | Diocese in 2022 (%) |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Attend here (inc. online) | | | |
| First time/hardly ever/special occasions only | 5 | 11 | 4 |
| Less than once a month | 2 | 2 | 3 |
| Once, twice or three times a month | 14 | 14 | 7 |
| Usually every week | 75 | 72 | 64 |
| More than once a week | 4 | 2 | 23 |

Attendance Elsewhere

37% attend elsewhere, in person

14% attend elsewhere, via online services

| | You in 2025 (%) | You in 2016 (%) | Diocese in 2022 (%) |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Attend elsewhere | | | |
| No | 54 | N/A | 49 |
| Yes, attend in person elsewhere | 37 | N/A | 36 |
| Yes, via online services | 14 | N/A | 24 |

Impact of COVID on Involvement

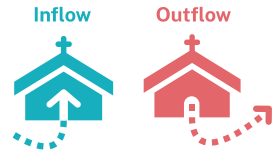
30% are more involved than in 2019

56% are involved about the same as in 2019

15% are less involved than in 2019

| | You in 2025 (%) | You in 2016 (%) | Diocese in 2022 (%) |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Compared to 2019, more or less involved here | | | |
| More involved | 30 | N/A | 15 |
| About the same | 56 | N/A | 60 |
| Less involved | 15 | N/A | 25 |

Inflow and Outflow



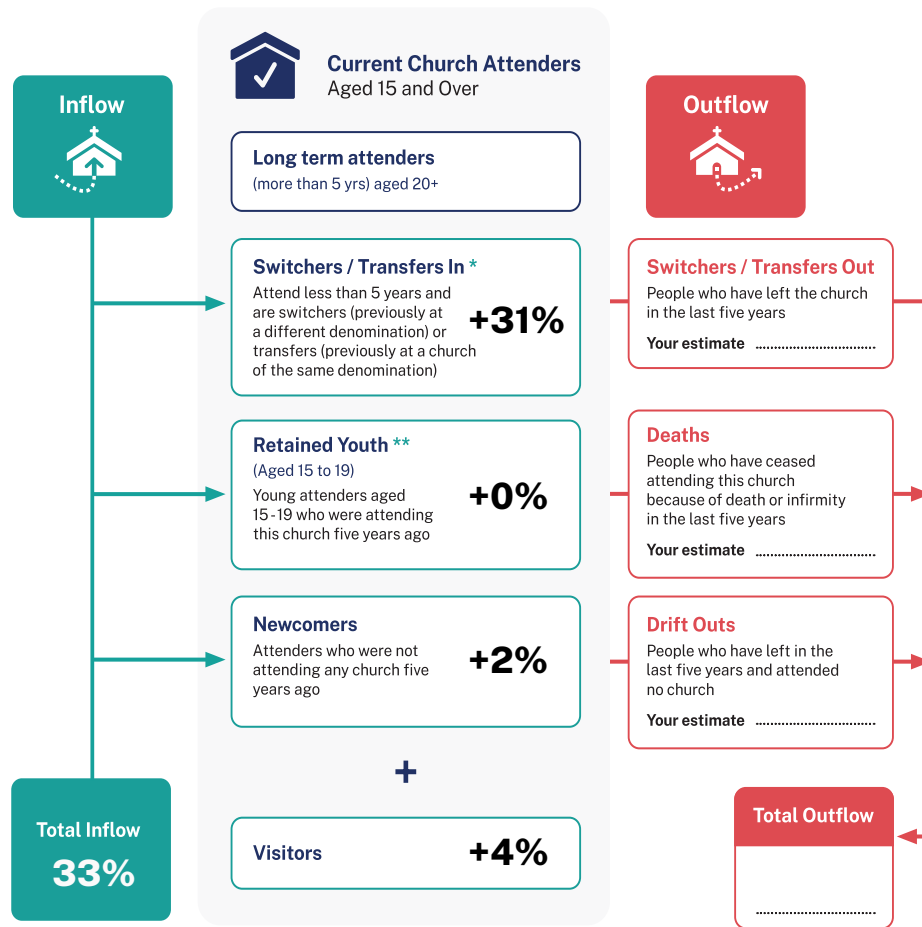
How do churches grow? In numerical terms churches grow when the inflow of church attenders exceeds the outflow.

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.

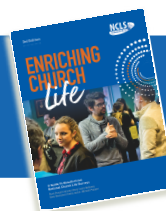


Newcomers - the extent to which newcomers with no church background who have arrived in the previous five years make up the congregation.



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 | Worship | Always experience inspiration in church worship services | 10.0 |
| 2 | Innovation | Strongly agree this church is always ready to try something new | 10.0 |
| 3 | Belonging | Sense of belonging is strong and growing | 9.4 |
| 4 | Vision | Aware of and strongly committed to the vision of this church | 8.8 |
| 5 | Faith | Much growth in faith in the past year, through this church | 7.9 |
| 6 | Faith Sharing | Have invited someone in the last 12 months | 6.4 |
| 7 | Service | Number of different ways attenders have helped others in the last 12 months | 6.3 |
| 8 | Leadership Culture | Agree that leaders encourage attenders to find their gifts and skills to a great extent | 5.9 |
| 9 | Inclusion | Attenders certain they would follow up someone drifting from church | 0.5 |

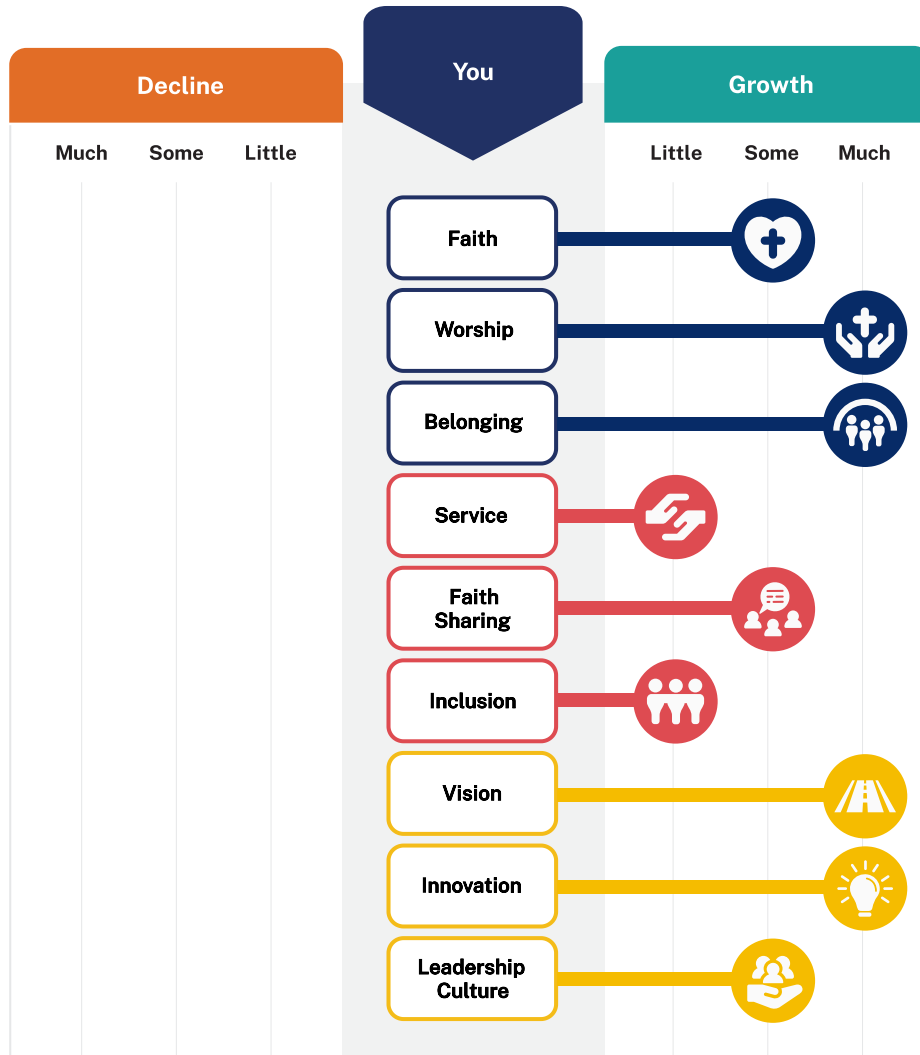
How do these scores work?

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

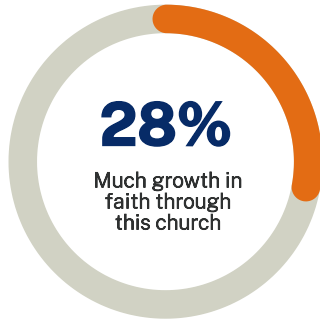
Any church can conduct a Church Life Survey at any time that suits them into the future. New results will be compared with previous results. Contact NCLS Research for details.

Faith: Alive and Growing



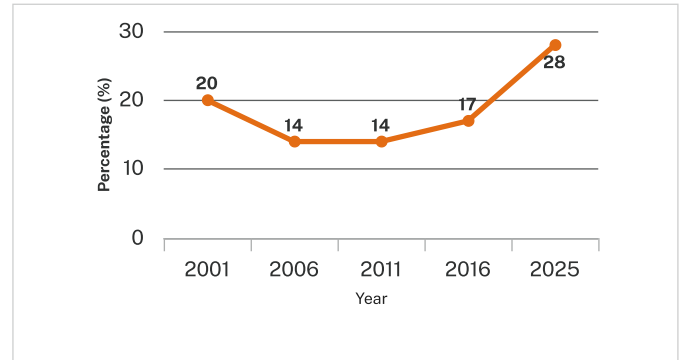
Growth in Faith through this Local Church

28% said they had experienced much growth in faith through this local church in the last 12 months



Source: 2025 CLS, Rutherford

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



Source: Rutherford, NCLS 2001, 2006, 2011, 2016, 2025

Growth in Faith in the Past Year

98% have grown their faith, either through this church, other groups or churches or through private activity

| | You in 2025 (%) | You in 2016 (%) | Diocese in 2022 (%) |
|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Much: this local church | 28 | 17 | 17 |
| Much: other groups | 13 | 10 | 5 |
| Much: private activity | 13 | 15 | 15 |
| Some growth | 44 | 37 | 38 |

Private Devotional Activity

67% spend time in prayer, Bible reading or meditation at least weekly

| | You in 2025 (%) | You in 2016 (%) | Diocese in 2022 (%) |
|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Everyday/most days | 52 | 51 | 61 |
| A few times a week | 14 | 15 | 15 |
| Once a week | 2 | 6 | 4 |
| Occasionally | 21 | 19 | 14 |
| Hardly ever/never | 12 | 8 | 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')

91% chose Catholic or Anglo-Catholic

12% chose Other

| | You in 2025 (%) | You in 2016 (%) | Diocese in 2022 (%) |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Catholic or Anglo-Catholic | 91 | N/A | 90 |
| Other | 12 | N/A | 4 |
| I do not identify with such descriptions | 7 | N/A | 7 |
| Pentecostal or charismatic | 5 | N/A | 5 |

Faith and Life

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

96% 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 | 5 | N/A | 5 |
| Disagree or strongly disagree | 0 | N/A | 1 |
| Faith in God is an important part of who I am | | | |
| Agree or strongly agree | 96 | N/A | 96 |
| Neutral or unsure | 2 | N/A | 3 |
| Disagree or strongly disagree | 2 | N/A | 1 |

Worship: Vital and Nurturing



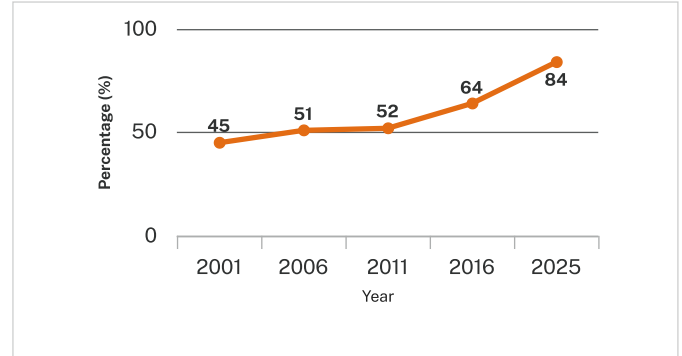
Experience Inspiration during Church Services

84% of attenders said they always/usually experience inspiration during services



Source: 2025 CLS, Rutherford

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



Source: Rutherford, NCLS 2001, 2006, 2011, 2016, 2025

Inspiration

84% always/usually experience inspiration during church services

| | You in 2025 (%) | You in 2016 (%) | Diocese in 2022 (%) |
|---------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Always | 45 | 23 | 26 |
| Usually | 39 | 41 | 40 |

Helpful Preaching

82% always/usually experience preaching very helpful to their lives during church services

| | You in 2025 (%) | You in 2016 (%) | Diocese in 2022 (%) |
|---------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Always | 51 | 32 | 26 |
| Usually | 32 | 40 | 40 |

Appreciate Music

88% always/usually experience music they appreciate during church services

| | | | |
|---------|----|----|----|
| Always | 66 | 38 | 49 |
| Usually | 22 | 40 | 32 |

Presence and Growth in Understanding of God

95% always/usually experience a sense of God's presence during church services

| | | | |
|---------|----|----|----|
| Always | 71 | 51 | 59 |
| Usually | 23 | 35 | 26 |

85% always/usually experience growth in understanding of God during church services

| | | | |
|---------|----|----|----|
| Always | 60 | 29 | 34 |
| Usually | 25 | 43 | 38 |

Being Challenged to Take Action

65% always/usually experience being challenged to take action

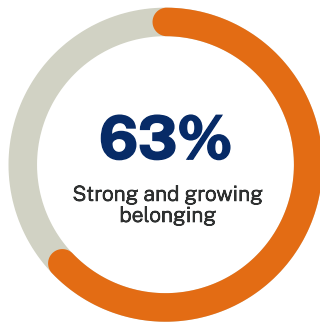
| | | | |
|---------|----|----|----|
| Always | 31 | 5 | 22 |
| Usually | 33 | 40 | 29 |

Belonging: Strong and Growing



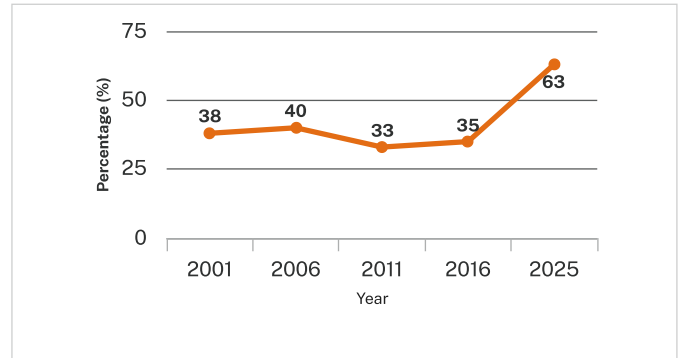
A Strong and Growing Sense of Belonging

63% of attenders said they have a strong sense of belonging to this church which is growing



Source: 2025 CLS, Rutherford

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



Source: Rutherford, NCLS 2001, 2006, 2011, 2016, 2025

Sense of Belonging to their Local Church

82% have a strong sense of belonging to this local church

16% do not feel they belong

| | You in 2025 (%) | You in 2016 (%) | Diocese in 2022 (%) |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|
|--|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|

| Sense of belonging | You in 2025 (%) | You in 2016 (%) | Diocese in 2022 (%) |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Strong and growing | 63 | 35 | 37 |
| Strong and stable | 16 | 31 | 30 |
| Strong but weakening | 4 | 14 | 17 |
| No, but new here | 11 | 7 | 5 |
| No, and wish they did | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| No, but happy | 5 | 11 | 7 |
| Don't know / NA | 2 | 2 | 2 |

Regular Participation in their Local Church's Activities

27% take part in group activities at this local church

23% take part in activities of the local church that reach out to the wider community

| | You in 2025 (%) | You in 2016 (%) | Diocese in 2022 (%) |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Small prayer, discussion | 11 | 14 | 23 |
| Fellowship, clubs or other social groups | 21 | 16 | 26 |
| Evangelical or outreach | 12 | 8 | 9 |
| Community service, social justice or welfare | 16 | 19 | 27 |

Financial Giving

2% regularly give 10% of net income

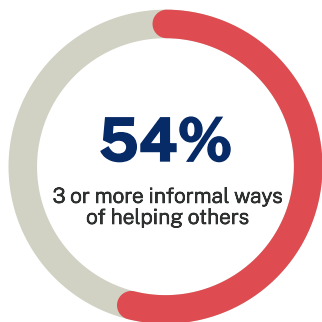
| | You in 2025 (%) | You in 2016 (%) | Diocese in 2022 (%) |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Regularly give 10% | 2 | 0 | 5 |
| Regularly give up to 9% of net income | 35 | 45 | 53 |
| Give a small amount whenever I am here | 50 | 55 | 34 |

Service: Practical and Diverse



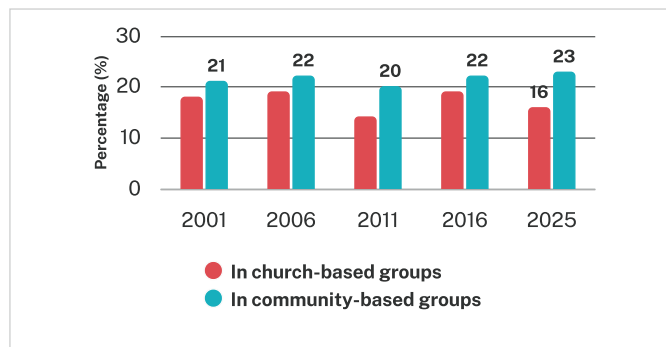
Acts of Service

54% of attenders said they had informally helped others in three or more of a list of ways in the last year



Source: 2025 CLS, Rutherford

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



Source: Rutherford, NCLS 2001, 2006, 2011, 2016, 2025

Informal Ways of Helping Others (in the last year)

96% 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 2016 (%) | Diocese in 2022 (%) |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Lent or gave money outside family ⁺ | 54 | 33 | 46 |
| Attended a public meeting/march ⁺⁺ | 2 | N/A | 7 |
| Supported a campaign (online or other) ⁺⁺ | 14 | N/A | 26 |
| Cared for someone who was very sick | 36 | 30 | 30 |
| Helped someone through a personal crisis | 39 | 26 | 35 |
| Visited someone in hospital | 39 | 49 | 32 |
| Gave possessions to a person in need | 31 | 39 | 35 |
| Tried to stop someone abusing alcohol or drugs | 7 | 8 | 8 |
| Donated money to a charitable organisation | 66 | 69 | 80 |
| Contact parliamentarian/councillor about issue | 7 | 11 | 19 |

Community Activities

16% are regularly involved in community service, social justice or welfare activities based in this parish

33% are regularly involved in community groups not connected to this parish

| | You in 2025 (%) | You in 2016 (%) | Diocese in 2022 (%) |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| In community service or justice activities based in parish | 16 | 19 | 27 |
| Involvement in community groups not connected to this parish | | | |
| Community service, care or welfare groups | 23 | 22 | 26 |
| Social action, justice or lobby groups | 5 | 14 | 6 |
| Sport, recreation or hobby groups | 9 | 6 | 16 |
| School or youth groups (e.g. P&C Scouts) | 5 | 8 | 5 |
| Another kind of group | 9 | 12 | 8 |
| Online groups or communities | 4 | N/A | 5 |
| Not involved with such groups | 67 | 54 | 53 |

Care for the Environment

82% agree Christians should care for the environment

49% are currently active

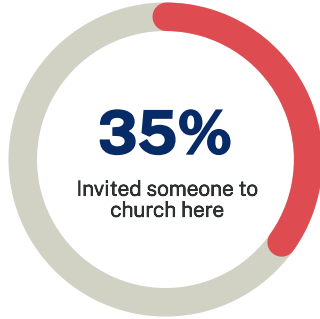
| Belief about Christian responsibility to actively care for the environment | | | |
|---|----|----|----|
| Yes, am very active | 23 | 21 | 20 |
| Yes, and am a little active | 26 | 44 | 39 |
| Yes, but currently not active | 33 | 29 | 35 |
| No | 2 | 5 | 3 |
| Unsure | 16 | 2 | 3 |

Faith Sharing: Willing and Effective



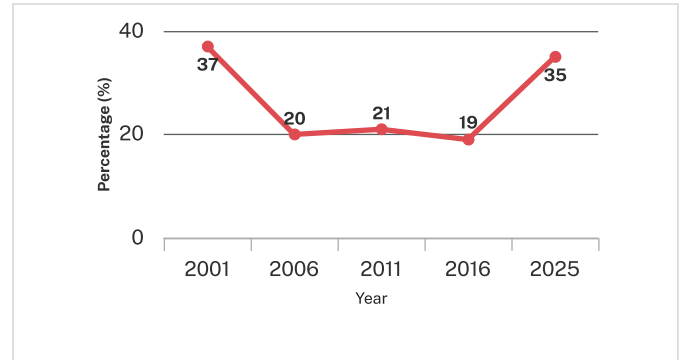
Inviting Others to Church

35% 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, Rutherford

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: Rutherford, NCLS 2001, 2006, 2011, 2016, 2025

Inviting Others to Church here

56% are willing to invite someone to a church service

| You in 2025 (%) | You in 2016 (%) | Diocese in 2022 (%) |
|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|
|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|

| 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 | 35 | 19 | 24 |
| Willing, but didn't invite someone in the last 12 months | 22 | 38 | 37 |
| Probably wouldn't invite someone | 18 | 25 | 20 |
| Definitely wouldn't invite someone | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Don't know | 24 | 16 | 17 |

Willing and Effective Faith-sharing

12% are involved regularly in outreach or evangelistic activity

65% 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 | 14 | 12 | 15 |
| Mostly feel at ease talking about their faith and do so if it comes up | 51 | 57 | 60 |
| Find it hard to talk about their faith in ordinary language | 21 | 12 | 11 |
| Do not like to talk about their faith; life and actions are sufficient | 14 | 18 | 14 |
| Do not have faith | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Faith-sharing in Households

36% 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 | 21 | N/A | 21 |
| No, do not talk about matters of faith | 10 | N/A | 9 |
| Yes, occasionally | 33 | N/A | 33 |
| Yes, frequently in informal ways | 14 | N/A | 25 |
| Yes, frequently in informal ways as well as part of family or household devotions | 22 | N/A | 12 |

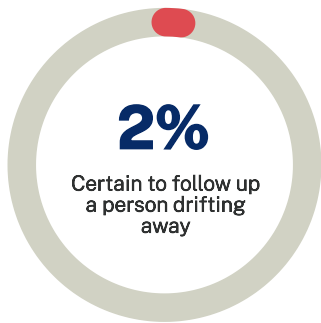
Inclusion: Intentional and Welcoming



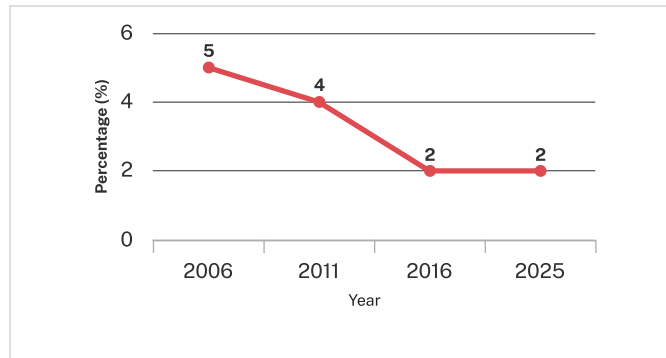
Follow-up of People Drifting Away

2% 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, Rutherford



Source: Rutherford, NCLS 2006, 2011, 2016, 2025

Views about Inclusiveness of Parish

93% agree that this parish is inclusive of different kinds of people

| You in 2025 (%) | You in 2016 (%) | Diocese in 2022 (%) |
|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|
|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|

| This parish is inclusive of different kinds of people | | | |
|---|----|-----|----|
| Strongly agree | 53 | N/A | 34 |
| Agree | 40 | N/A | 50 |
| Neutral/Unsure | 7 | N/A | 13 |
| Disagree | 0 | N/A | 1 |
| Strongly disagree | 0 | N/A | 1 |

Likelihood of Follow-up of Those Drifting Away

34% are likely to follow up someone drifting away from church

| Likelihood of attenders to follow up someone drifting away from church | | | |
|--|----|----|----|
| Certain | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| Very likely | 16 | 9 | 10 |
| Likely | 16 | 20 | 21 |
| Hard to say | 46 | 49 | 45 |
| Unlikely | 20 | 20 | 20 |

Welcoming New Arrivals

49% always or mostly personally seek out and welcome people they know who are new arrivals

| Attenders personally seek out and welcome new arrivals | | | |
|--|----|----|----|
| Always | 23 | 26 | 14 |
| Mostly | 26 | 18 | 21 |
| Sometimes | 18 | 32 | 32 |
| Rarely/Never/Not applicable | 33 | 25 | 34 |

Making Friends

88% have found it easy to make friends here

| Attenders found it easy to make friends here | | | |
|--|----|----|----|
| Attenders agree or strongly agree | 88 | 85 | 77 |
| Attenders disagree or strongly disagree | 0 | 3 | 6 |
| Among arrivals in the last five years: | | | |
| Agree or strongly agree | 86 | 73 | 67 |
| Disagree or strongly disagree | 0 | 0 | 9 |

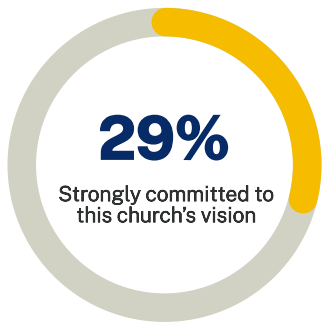
Vision: Clear and Owned



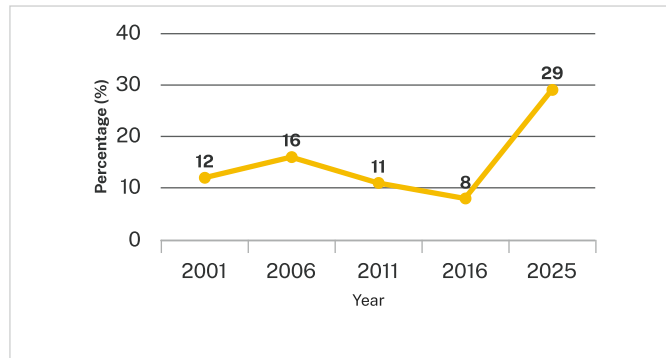
Committed to this Parish's Vision

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, Rutherford



Source: Rutherford, NCLS 2001, 2006, 2011, 2016, 2025

Aware of Vision, Goals and Directions of Parish

40% are aware and strongly or partly committed to the vision, goals or direction of the parish

| | You in 2025 (%) | You in 2016 (%) | Diocese in 2022 (%) |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Aware and strongly committed | 29 | 8 | 18 |
| Aware and partly committed | 11 | 28 | 23 |
| Aware and not committed | 25 | 23 | 11 |
| Aware of ideas not of any clear vision | 11 | 18 | 22 |
| Unaware of any clear vision, goals or direction | 24 | 23 | 26 |

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

46% are fully confident that the vision can be achieved

| | | | |
|--|----|----|----|
| Fully confident the vision can be achieved | 46 | 25 | 27 |
| Partly confident vision can be achieved | 21 | 40 | 32 |
| Not confident the vision can be achieved | 2 | 2 | 9 |

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

| | | | |
|---|----|----|----|
| Spiritual growth (e.g. spiritual direction, prayer groups) | 24 | 14 | 23 |
| Worship services that are nurturing to people's faith | 22 | 12 | 24 |
| Building a strong sense of community within this parish | 22 | 43 | 45 |
| Creating a clear vision for this parish's future | 17 | 20 | 23 |
| Encouraging people here to discover/use their gifts | 13 | 14 | 20 |
| Encouraging new approaches to ministry and mission | 22 | 6 | 13 |
| Supporting social justice and aid to people in need | 7 | 16 | 18 |
| Encouraging people here to share their faith or invite others | 4 | 8 | 5 |
| Ensuring new people are included well in church life | 19 | 25 | 22 |
| Ministry to children and youth | 28 | 29 | 26 |
| Growing into a larger parish | 15 | 27 | 23 |
| Starting a new church or mission venture | 26 | 16 | 15 |

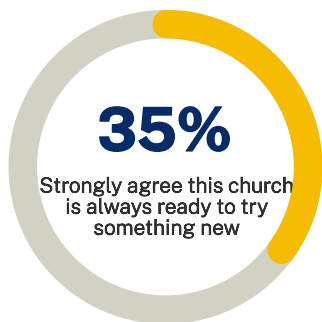
*Note: The wording on the introduction to this question changed slightly from 2016 onwards

Innovation: Imaginative and Flexible



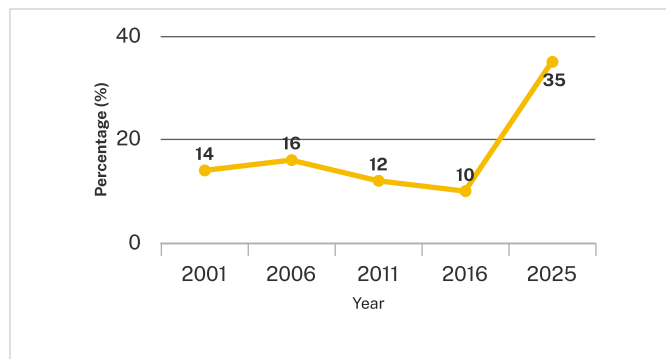
Ready to Try Something New

35% of attenders strongly agree that this parish is always ready to try something new



Source: 2025 CLS, Rutherford

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



Source: Rutherford, NCLS 2001, 2006, 2011, 2016, 2025

Willingness of the Parish to Try New Things

75% strongly agree or agree that this parish is always ready to try something new

| You in 2025 (%) | You in 2016 (%) | Diocese in 2022 (%) |
|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|
|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|

| This parish is always ready to try something new | | | |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| | You in 2025 (%) | You in 2016 (%) | Diocese in 2022 (%) |
| Strongly agree | 35 | 10 | 14 |
| Agree | 40 | 45 | 43 |
| Neutral/Unsure | 25 | 42 | 32 |
| Disagree | 0 | 3 | 8 |
| Strongly disagree | 0 | 0 | 3 |

Leaders Encourage Innovation

79% strongly agree or agree that leaders here encourage innovation and creative thinking

| Leaders here encourage innovation | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| | You in 2025 (%) | You in 2016 (%) | Diocese in 2022 (%) |
| Strongly agree | 29 | 6 | 9 |
| Agree | 50 | 38 | 38 |
| Neutral/Unsure | 20 | 48 | 39 |
| Disagree | 2 | 8 | 10 |
| Strongly disagree | 0 | 0 | 4 |

Openness to New Initiatives

78% 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 2016 (%) | Diocese in 2022 (%) |
| Strongly agree | 26 | 13 | 18 |
| Agree | 52 | 59 | 53 |
| Neutral/Unsure | 20 | 27 | 27 |
| Disagree | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| Strongly disagree | 0 | 2 | 1 |

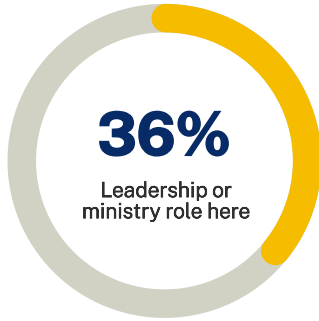
Leadership Culture: Inspiring and Empowering



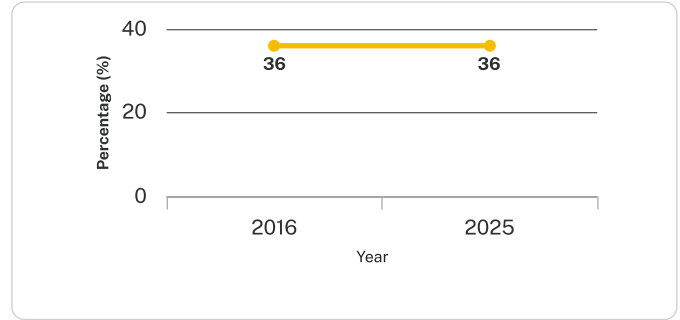
Leadership Roles

36% 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: 2025 CLS, Rutherford



Source: Rutherford, NCLS 2016, 2025

Leadership and Ministry Roles Performed by Attenders

| | You in 2025 (%) | You in 2016 (%) | Diocese in 2022 (%) |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Liturgical roles(including Children's liturgy) | 27 | 28 | 37 |
| Sacrament Preparation | 2 | 3 | 2 |
| Parish Council / Committee Member | 15 | 12 | 13 |
| Group Leadership | 4 | 3 | 7 |
| Pastoral care | 9 | 12 | 14 |
| Involved in parish school or RE in government school | 4 | 7 | 4 |
| Some other role | 11 | 13 | 20 |
| Attenders performing any leadership / ministry roles here | 36 | 36 | 47 |

Views about Local Church Leaders

19% agree this local church's leaders encourage them to find and use their gifts and skills to a great extent

72% agree leaders here inspire them to action

| Local leaders encourage attenders to find and use gifts and skills | | | |
|--|----|----|----|
| To a great extent | 19 | 8 | 11 |
| To some extent | 24 | 17 | 27 |
| Attenders strongly agree or agree that... | | | |
| Leaders here inspire me to action | 72 | 47 | 48 |
| Leaders encourage innovation & creativity | 79 | 44 | 47 |
| Local church has good and clear systems | 91 | 63 | 63 |

Getting Involved Here

70% agree it is easy to get involved in ministry at this church (e.g. join a roster, take on a role)

14% would like to be more involved here

| Attenders strongly agree or agree that... | | | |
|---|----|-----|----|
| It is easy to get involved in ministry here | 70 | N/A | 76 |
| All (ages) encouraged to get involved | 78 | N/A | 73 |
| Evaluation of involvement here | | | |
| Would like to be more involved | 14 | 12 | 15 |
| Happy with current level of involvement | 64 | 82 | 75 |
| Would like to be less involved | 3 | 2 | 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