

CHURCH LIFE Profile

Stafford 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 benchmarkers

Your Profile results are based on:

Attender Surveys (aged 15+): **164 forms**

Child Surveys (aged 8 to 14): **20 forms**

Church Code: **TAB098**

Dear local church,


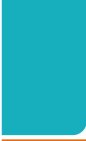


This Church Life Profile contains your church's unique results from your participation in the 2022 National Church Life Survey.

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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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.

Stafford Parish in:

2022 - **164 forms** 2016 - **341 forms**

For 8 - 14 year olds:

Your church returned 20 completed Child Survey forms. If this is less than 10 forms, then no results are displayed to fulfill commitment to confidentiality. All children's responses will be included in major reports.

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Dashboard

Stafford Parish

164 adult attender forms, 20 child forms



The People of this Church

Average age (years)	63
Female	60%
University degree	43%
Non-English speaking background	22%
New arrivals in last 5 years	15%
Young people aged 15 to 19	3%



What We Value and Prioritise

Value: Celebrating the Eucharist/ receiving Holy Communion	66%
Value: Sermons and homilies	38%
Prioritise: Building a strong sense of community	37%
Prioritise: Increasing the number of people at Mass	28%



How We Relate to God

Experienced much growth in faith in past 12 months	37%
Private devotions at least weekly	77%
Agree faith in God is an important part of who I am	95%
Worship services always/usually challenge me to take action	67%



How We Relate to Each Other

Strong sense of belonging	91%
Found it easy to make friends	81%
Involved in group activities at church	45%
Satisfied with activities for children under 12 years	50%



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	24%
Part of community groups not connected to local church	48%
Feel at ease sharing faith with others	70%



Our Vision and Leadership

Aware of and strongly committed to church's vision	34%
Agree this church is ready to try something new	85%
Attenders who perform at least one leadership or ministry role here	59%
Leaders encourage use of gifts & skills to a great extent	23%

People of This Church

This Summary Profile contains a snapshot of your church's unique results from the 2021 National Church Life Survey. This profile is based on 164 responses from attenders aged 15+ and 20 responses from children aged 8 - 14 years.

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

60% are female

40% 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

66% are currently married

Ethnicity

75% are born in Australia

25% are born overseas

24% are migrants to Australia

22% speak a language other than English at home

Employment

26% are employed full-time (30 hours plus)

49% are retired

Education

43% have a university degree

23% have a trade certificate, diploma or associate diploma



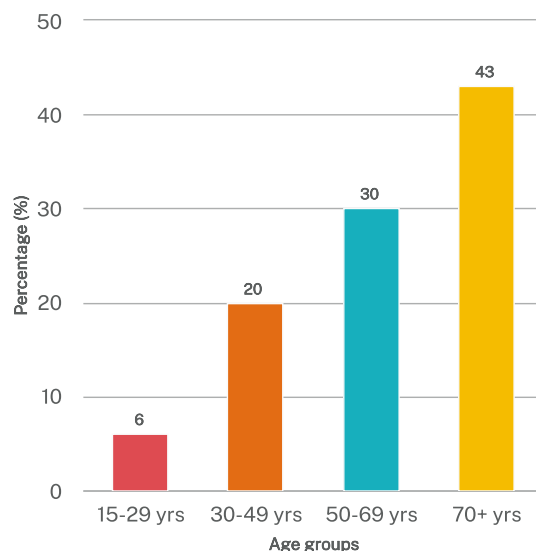
Age and Intergenerational Ministry

63 is the average age of all attenders

50% are satisfied with what is offered for children aged under 12 years

33% are satisfied with what is offered for youth aged 12 to 18

86% agree that people of all ages are encouraged to get involved at this local church

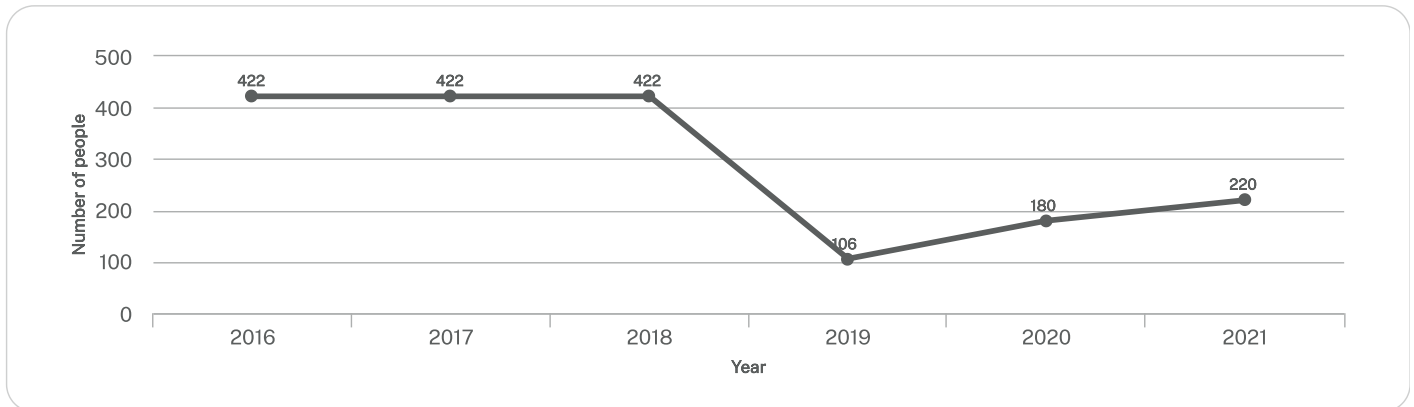


Church Attendance and Background



Attendance Patterns

Estimated attendance



Source: Stafford, NCLS 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021

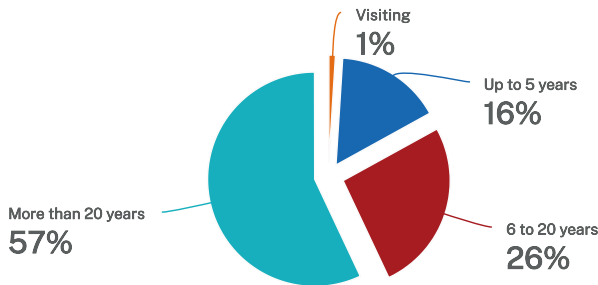
Attendance at this local church (including online)

- 94%** are frequent attenders (monthly or more)
- 81%** attend weekly or more
- 83%** have attended this church for more than five years

Attendance elsewhere (in person and online)⁺

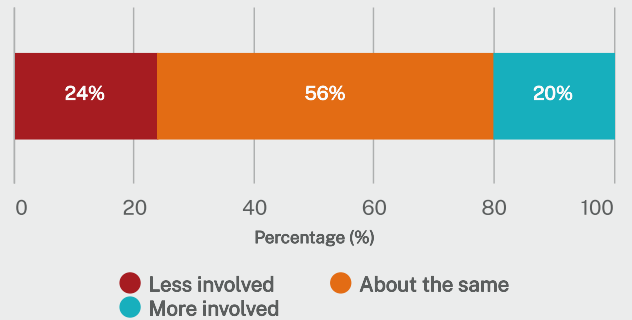
- 64%** do not attend any other church
- 27%** attend elsewhere, in person
- 13%** attend elsewhere, via online services

*Note attenders could choose more than one option



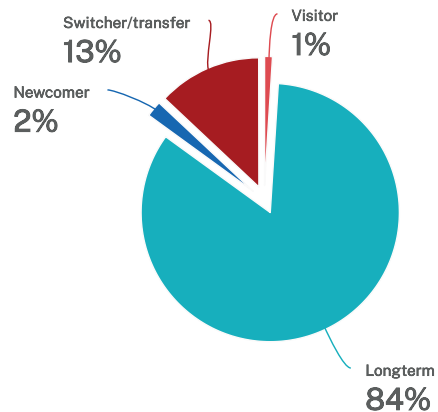
Impact of COVID-19

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

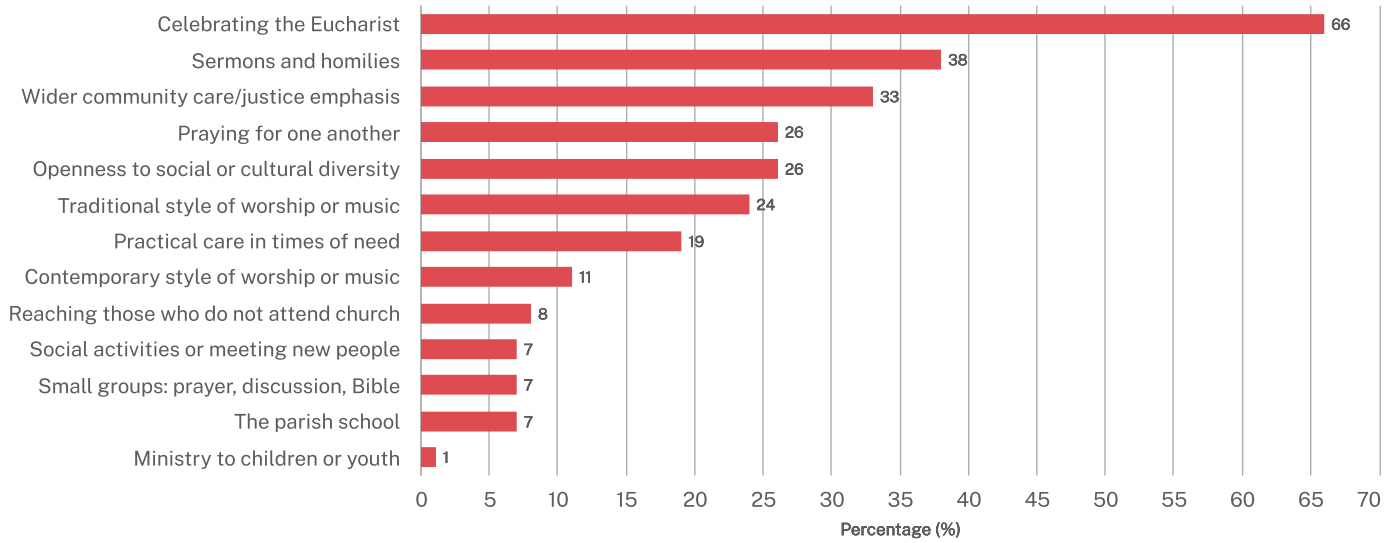


What People Value and Prioritise



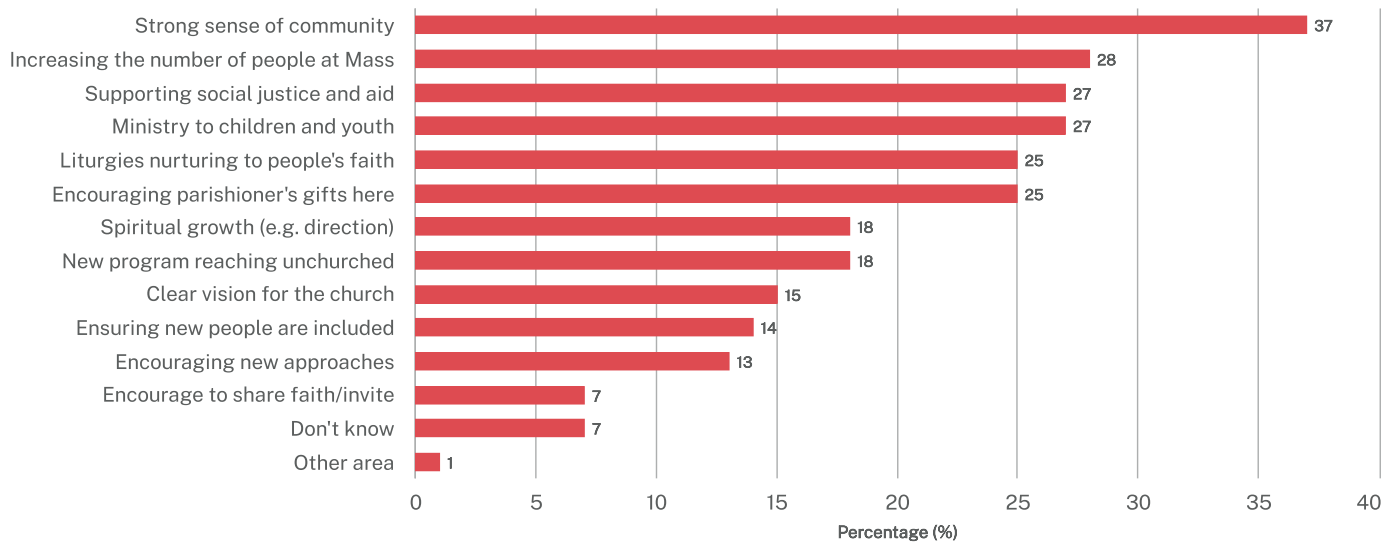
What People Value about this Church

Attendees of this parish most value 'Celebrating the Eucharist/receiving Holy Communion' and 'Sermons and homilies'.



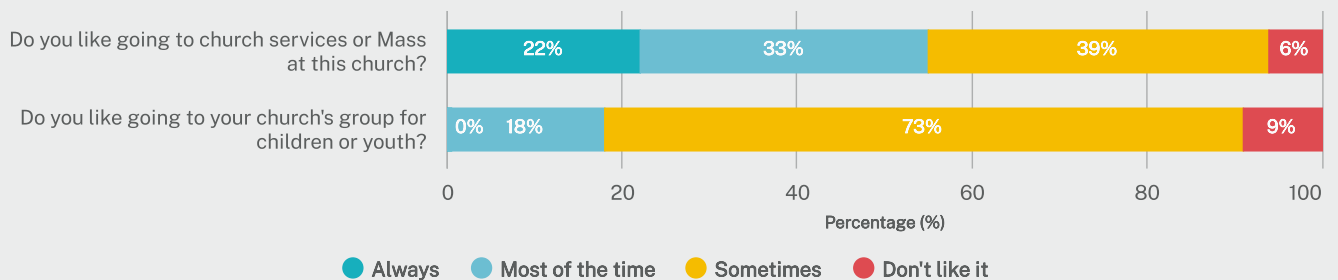
Future Priorities

Over the next 12 months most attendees would like priority given to 'Building a strong sense of community' and 'Increasing the number of people at Mass'.



Children's views about church activities

Do you like going to...

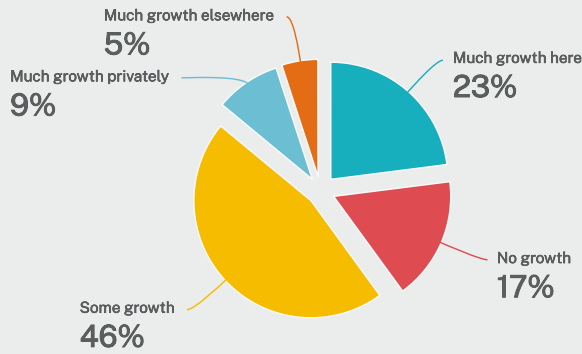


How People Relate to God

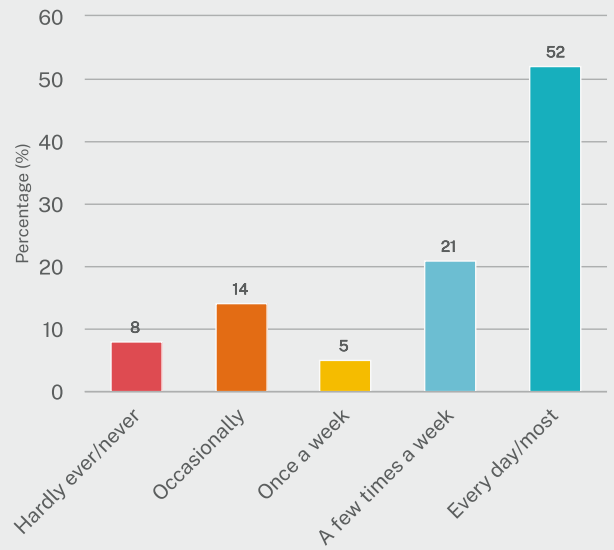


Personal Faith

37% 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



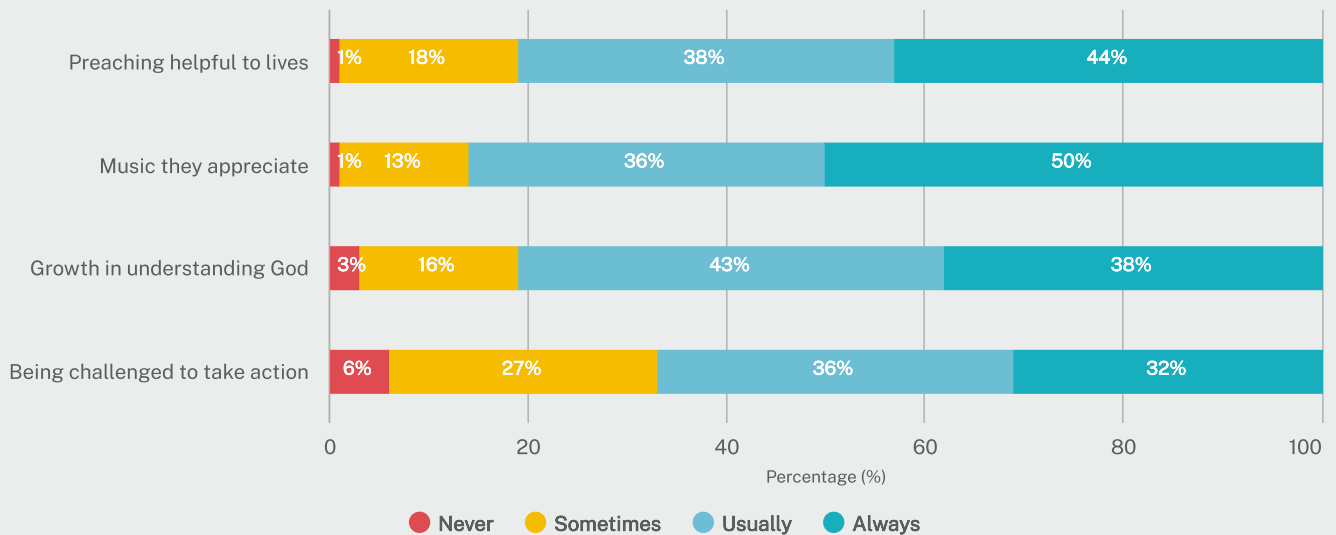
93% agree their faith influences decisions and actions in daily life

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



Church Worship Services

During worship services here, attenders experience:



Children's Views of God

89% agree 'God helps me lead a better life'

72% agree 'I know that Jesus is very close to me'

How People Relate to Each Other



Belonging and Inclusion

29% 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



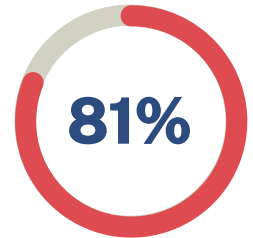
Inclusive

Agree this church is inclusive of different kinds of people



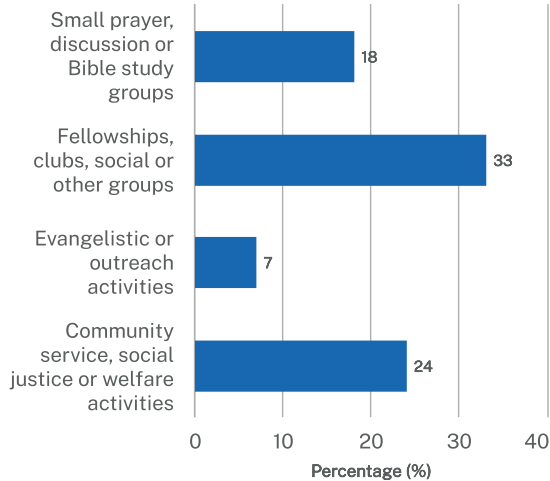
Friendly

Found it easy to make friends in this parish

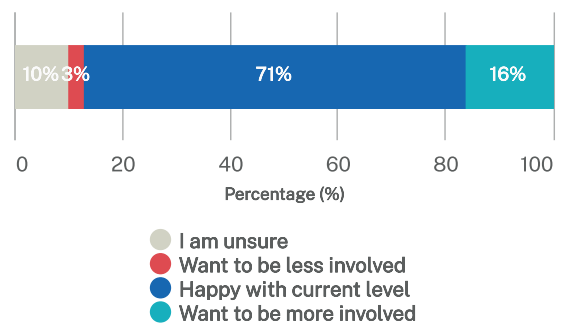


Involvement

Group Involvement

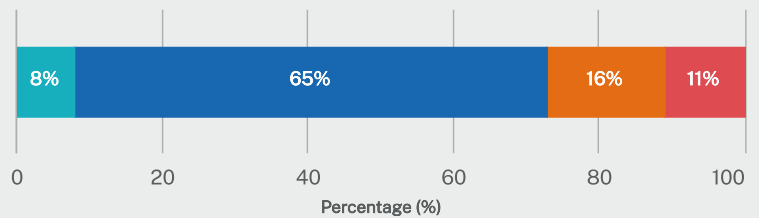


16% want to be more involved at this parish



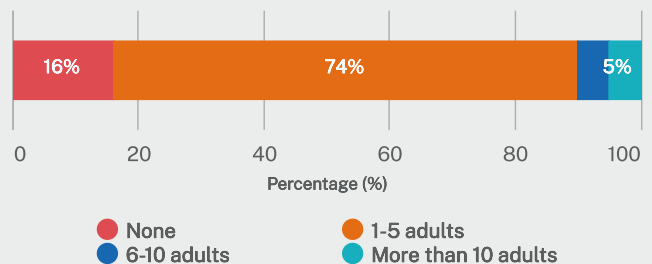
Financial Giving

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



Children's Relationship with Others

Number of adults at church not in their families that children feel they can talk to about normal everyday things



How People Relate to Wider Community



Involvement in groups

48% of people participate in wider community groups
5% are very actively involved in online groups (e.g. social media, community groups)

Church-based activities

30% reach out to the wider community through activities of this local church
24% are part of community service activities
7% are part of evangelistic outreach activities



Words and Actions

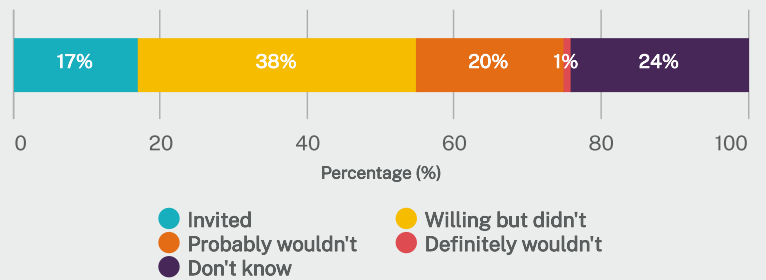
38% talk about matters of faith with other members of their household (12% live alone)
12% feel at ease talking about faith with others and look for opportunities to do so

Attendees have offered to help others in the past 12 months

Donated money to a charitable organisation	79%
Lent or gave money to someone outside your family	48%
Given some of your possessions to someone in need	36%
Visited someone in hospital	34%
Supported a campaign (online or other)	33%
Helped someone through a personal crisis (not sickness)	29%
Cared for someone who was very sick	21%
Contacted a parliamentarian/councillor on a public issue	18%
Attended a public meeting/march	9%
Tried to stop someone abusing alcohol or drugs	3%

Inviting others to church

17% invited friends and relatives to a church service in this last year



Acting for the Environment

95% agree that Christians have a responsibility to actively care for the environment
30% are very active
41% are a little active
24% are currently not active



Children's Acts of Service & Justice

Children at this local church often or sometimes do the following:

47% talk to their school friends about God
78% help raise money for poor people
89% do things to help the environment

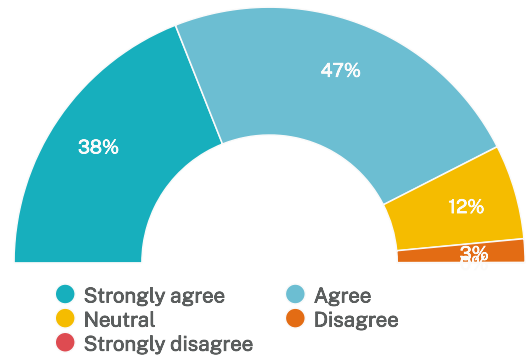
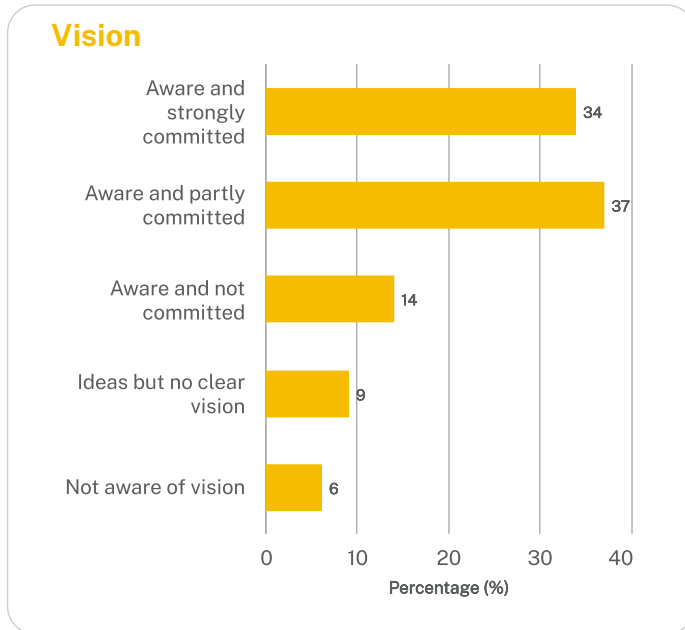
Vision, Innovation & Leadership Culture



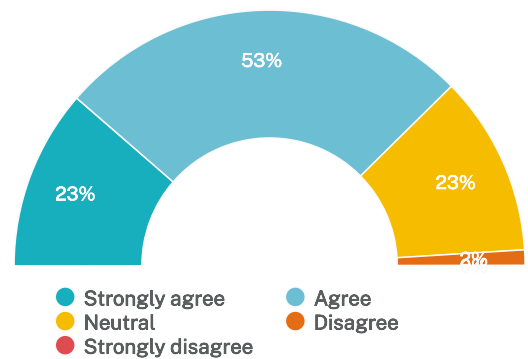
Vision and Innovation

34% of people are both aware and strongly committed to the vision, goals or directions for this parish
38% are fully confident that this parish can achieve the vision, goals or directions set

85% agree that this parish is always ready to try something new



75% 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)

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

59% of attenders perform a leadership or ministry role

74% agree 'leaders here inspire me to action'

53% agree 'leaders encourage me to find and use my gifts and skills to great or some extent'



Role Models for Children

89% agree adults at church (including leaders) are good examples of people who follow Jesus

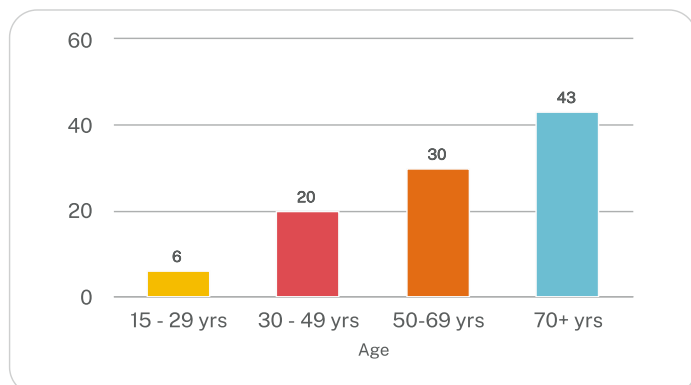
95% agree family members are good examples of people who follow Jesus

A Demographic Profile



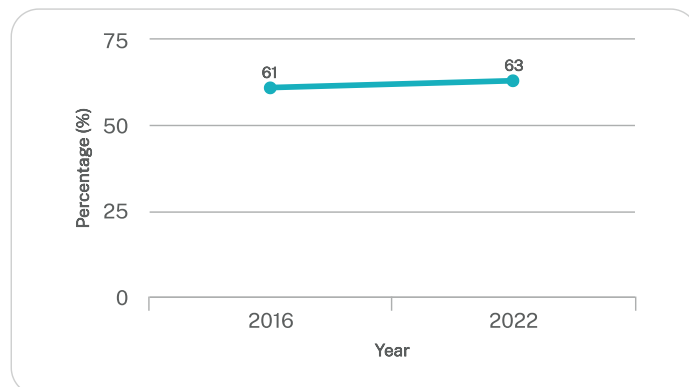
Age Profile

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



Source: 2022 NCLS, Stafford

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



Source: Stafford, NCLS 2016, 2022

Gender

60% are female

* Other not available for local churches to honour commitment to confidentiality. See 2021ncls.org.au/faqs for more.

	You in 2022 (%)	You in 2016 (%)	Diocese in 2021 (%)
Female	60	59	61
Male	40	41	39
Other	N/A	N/A	0

Marital Status

66% are currently married

	You in 2022 (%)	You in 2016 (%)	Diocese in 2021 (%)
Never married	16	13	16
Married	66	70	63
In a defacto relationship	4	3	3
Separated or divorced	6	5	7
Widowed	8	9	12

Education

43% have a University degree

	You in 2022 (%)	You in 2016 (%)	Diocese in 2021 (%)
Primary/secondary school	34	43	33
Trade certificate, diploma or associate diploma	23	19	24
University degree	43	38	43

Employment

43% are employed

	You in 2022 (%)	You in 2016 (%)	Diocese in 2021 (%)
Employed	43	47	46
Full-time home duties/family responsibilities	4	7	5
Retired	49	41	45

Ethnicity

75% are born in Australia

22% are born in non-English speaking countries

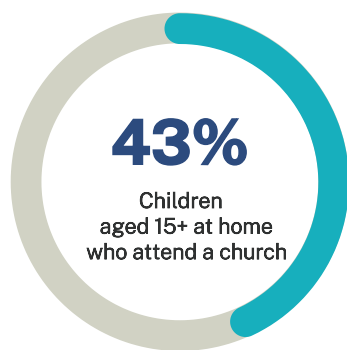
22% speak a language other than English at home

	You in 2022 (%)	You in 2016 (%)	Diocese in 2021 (%)
Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin	1	1	1
Born in Australia (including above)*	75	72	56
Born in another country where English is the main language*	3	5	9
Born in Non English-speaking country*	22	23	35
At least one parent born in a Non English - speaking country*	32	32	44

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

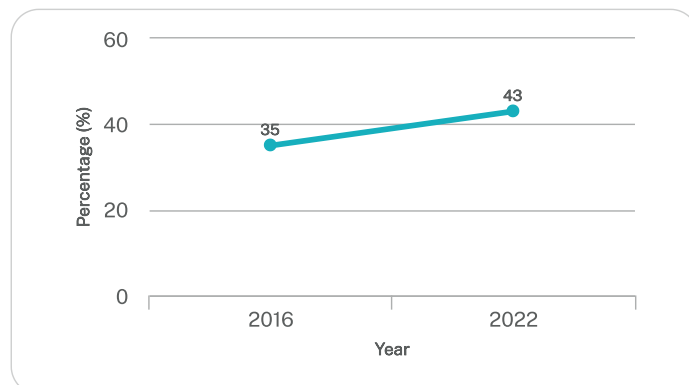
Children and Youth

43% is the proportion of attenders' children (aged 15+ and living at home) who attend a church



Source: 2022 NCLS Stafford

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



Source: Stafford, NCLS 2016, 2022

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

Children and youth of church attenders

86% of attenders' children aged 0 to 14 years living at home attend church here

30% of attenders' children aged 15 and over still living at home attend church here

You in 2022 (%)

You in 2016 (%)

Diocese in 2021 (%)

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

	You in 2022 (%)	You in 2016 (%)	Diocese in 2021 (%)
Still attend this church	86	86	80
Attend elsewhere	10	10	11
Do not attend any church	3	9	9

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

	You in 2022 (%)	You in 2016 (%)	Diocese in 2021 (%)
Still attend this church	30	23	42
Attend elsewhere	13	12	11
Do not attend any church	54	63	44

Young people at this parish

3% of attenders who completed the survey were aged 15 to 19 years

Young people who:

	You in 2022 (%)	You in 2016 (%)	Diocese in 2021 (%)
Completed the survey	3	3	3
Have been attending more than 5 years	1	1	1
Have been attending 5 years or less	3	2	1

Satisfaction with what parish offers

For children aged under 12 years

50% are very satisfied or satisfied

For youth aged 12 to 18 years

33% 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 2022 (%)	You in 2016 (%)	Diocese in 2021 (%)
All attenders very satisfied or satisfied	50	55	47

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

	You in 2022 (%)	You in 2016 (%)	Diocese in 2021 (%)
All attenders very satisfied or satisfied	33	28	46
15-18 year olds very satisfied or satisfied	33	*	60

Church Background



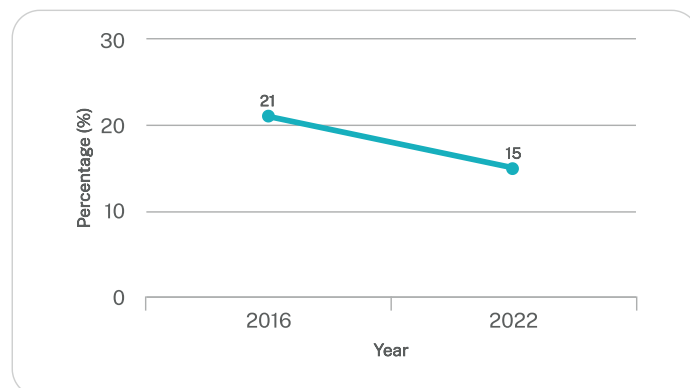
Background of Church Attenders

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



Source: 2022 NCLS, Stafford

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



Source: Stafford, NCLS 2016, 2022

Church Attendance History⁺

- 15%** are new arrivals in the last five years, comprising
 - 13%** moved from a different church
 - 2%** are newcomers (new to any church in the last 5 years)
- 84%** are long-term having attended here for more than 5 years
- 1%** were visitors

	You in 2022 (%)	You in 2016 (%)	Diocese in 2021 (%)
New Arrivals (total) ¹	15	21	30
Newcomers ²	2	2	4
Returnees: after absence of several years	1	1	2
Never regularly attended	1	1	2
Switchers ³⁺⁺	0	1	2
Transfers ⁴	13	18	24
Long-term attenders ⁵	84	76	68
Visitors from other churches	1	3	2
Visitors who do not regularly go to church	1	0	1

Length of Attendance at This Church

- 1%** have been here less than 1 year
- 15%** have been here for 1-5 years
- 57%** have been here for more than 20 years

+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.

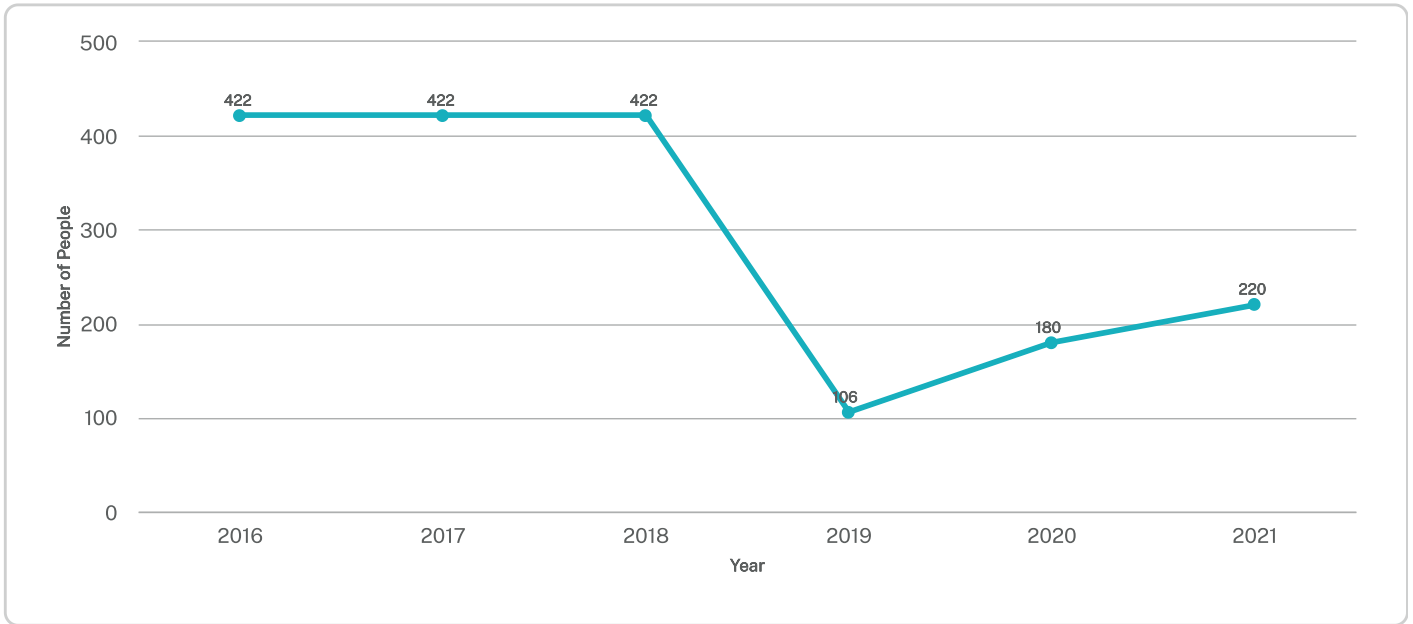
Total new arrivals (new to your parish) in the last 5 years			
Less than 1 year	1	5	8
1-2 years	6	6	9
3-5 years / unsure	9	11	13
6-10 years	12	10	13
11-20 years	14	13	18
More than 20 years	57	52	36

1. **New Arrivals:** attended a different church in the last 5 years
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)

94% are frequent attenders (monthly or more)

	You in 2022 (%)	You in 2016 (%)	Diocese in 2021 (%)
--	-----------------	-----------------	---------------------

Attend here (inc. online)			
First time/hardly ever/special occasions only	3	1	4
Less than once a month	3	2	2
Once, twice or three times a month	13	11	13
Usually every week	65	76	66
More than once a week	15	10	16

Attendance Elsewhere

27% attend elsewhere, in person

13% attend elsewhere, via online services

Attend elsewhere			
No	64	N/A	49
Yes, attend in person elsewhere	27	N/A	40
Yes, via online services	13	N/A	18

Impact of COVID on Involvement

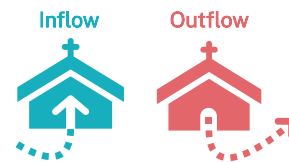
20% are more involved than in 2019

56% are involved about the same as in 2019

24% are less involved than in 2019

Compared to 2019, more or less involved here			
More involved	20	N/A	19
About the same	56	N/A	63
Less involved	24	N/A	19

Inflow and Outflow



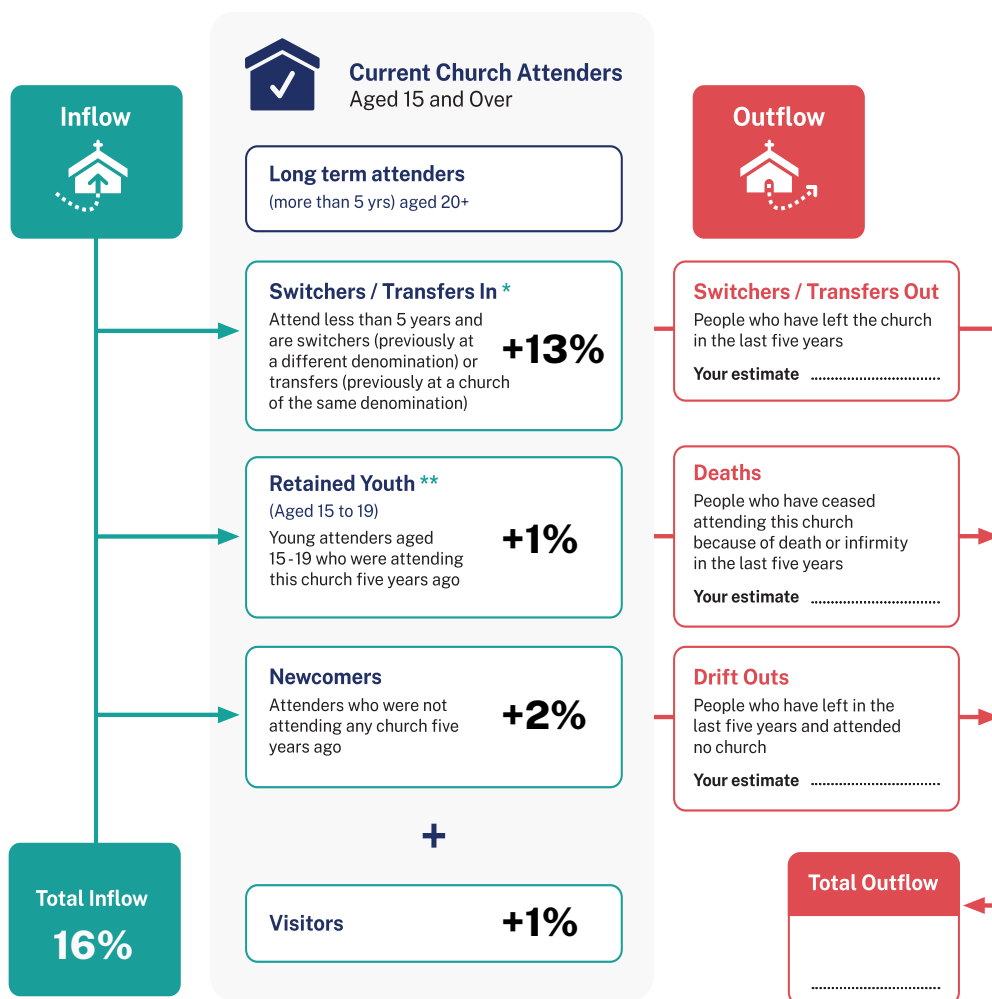
How do churches grow? In numerical terms churches grow when the inflow of church attenders exceeds the outflow.

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 who have arrived on 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

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QUALITIES OF CHURCH HEALTH

Detailed Review

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.

The diagram shows nine core qualities arranged in a circle, ranked from highest to lowest score. The 'Greatest Strength' is Vision, followed by Innovation, Worship, Leadership Culture, Faith, Belonging, Service, Faith Sharing, and Inclusion.

Headline Indicators

In Rank Order	Quality	Indicator	Score out of 10
1	 Vision	Aware of and strongly committed to the vision of this church	10.0
2	 Innovation	Strongly agree this church is always ready to try something new	10.0
3	 Worship	Always experience inspiration in church worship services	9.7
4	 Leadership Culture	Agree that leaders encourage attenders to find their gifts and skills to a great extent	7.2
5	 Faith	Much growth in faith in the past year, through this church	6.5
6	 Belonging	Sense of belonging is strong and growing	6.2
7	 Service	Number of different ways attenders have helped others in the last 12 months	5.7
8	 Faith Sharing	Have invited someone in the last 12 months	2.6
9	 Inclusion	Attenders certain they would follow up someone drifting from church	1.1

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 all churches who participated in the NCLS. See more at ncls.org.au/church-vitality

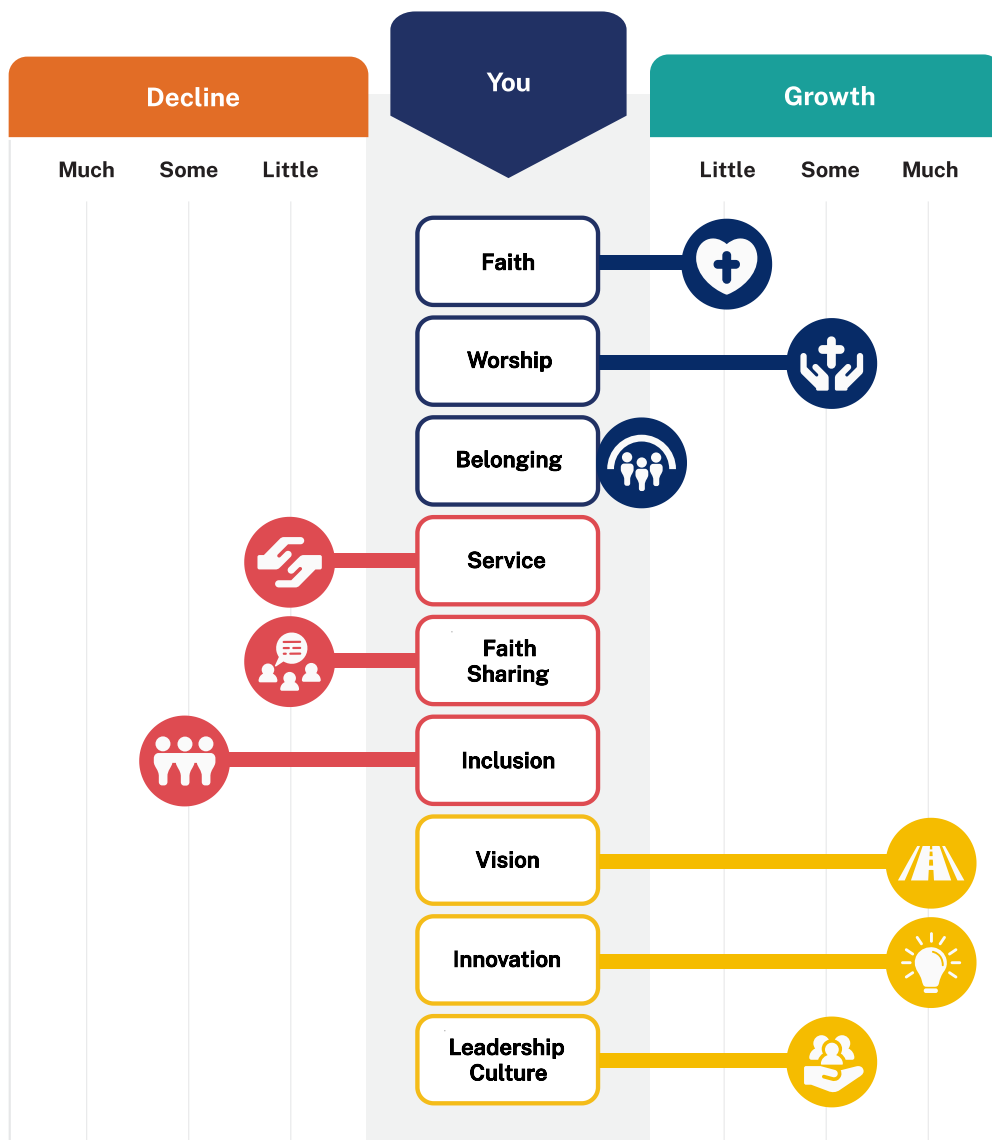
You in 2022 | Stafford Parish (TAB098, 164 forms, 20 child forms).
 You in 2016 | Stafford Parish (TAB098, 341 forms).
 Diocese in 2021 | Archdiocese of Brisbane (TAB00000, 3107 forms).

Church Life Profile
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ncls.org.au

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

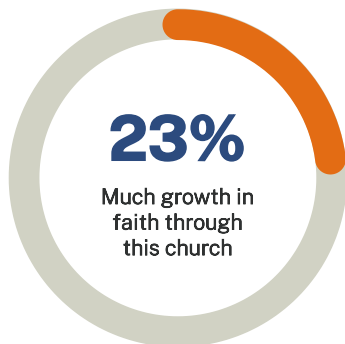
Any church can conduct a Church Life Survey at any time that suits them into the future. New results will be compared with previous results. Contact NCLS Research for details.

Faith: Alive and Growing



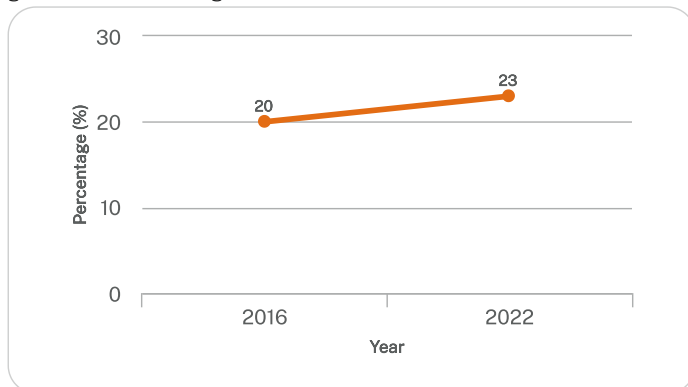
Growth in Faith through this Local Church

23% said they had experienced much growth in faith through this local church in the last 12 months



Source: 2022 NCLS, Stafford

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



Source: Stafford, NCLS 2016, 2022

Growth in Faith in the Past Year

83% have grown their faith, either through this church, other groups or churches or through private activity

	You in 2022 (%)	You in 2016 (%)	Diocese in 2021 (%)
Much: this local church	23	20	19
Much: other groups	5	5	6
Much: private activity	9	10	14
Some growth	46	48	41

Private Devotional Activity

77% spend time in prayer, Bible reading or meditation at least weekly

	You in 2022 (%)	You in 2016 (%)	Diocese in 2021 (%)
Everyday/most days	52	50	53
A few times a week	21	18	17
Once a week	5	3	5
Occasionally	14	15	16
Hardly ever/never	8	13	9

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
10% chose I do not identify with such descriptions

	You in 2022 (%)	You in 2016 (%)	Diocese in 2021 (%)
Catholic or Anglo-Catholic	88	N/A	90
I do not identify with such descriptions	10	N/A	8
Liberal or Progressive	5	N/A	5
Pentecostal or charismatic	4	N/A	6

Faith and Life

93% 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	93	N/A	92
Neutral or unsure	4	N/A	6
Disagree or strongly disagree	2	N/A	2
Faith in God is an important part of who I am			
Agree or strongly agree	95	N/A	95
Neutral or unsure	4	N/A	4
Disagree or strongly disagree	1	N/A	1

Worship: Vital and Nurturing



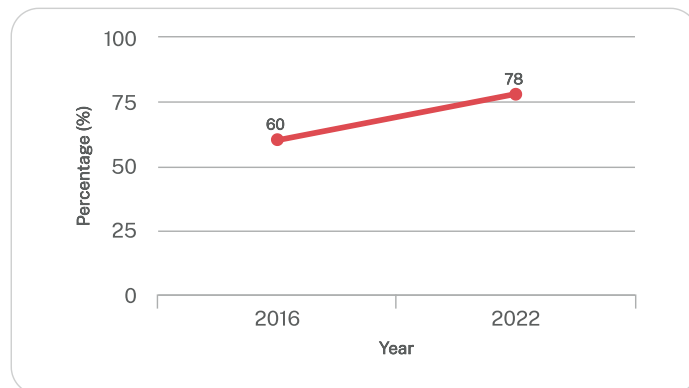
Experience Inspiration during Church Services

78% of attenders said they always/usually experience inspiration during services



Source: 2022 NCLS Stafford

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



Source: Stafford, NCLS 2016, 2022

Helpful Preaching

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

	You in 2022 (%)	You in 2016 (%)	Diocese in 2021 (%)
Always	44	30	36
Usually	38	39	40

Appreciate Music

86% always/usually experience music they appreciate during church services

Always	50	50	49
Usually	36	33	31

Presence and Growth in Understanding of God

92% always/usually experience a sense of God's presence during church services

81% always/usually experience growth in understanding of God during church services

Always	54	49	60
Usually	37	36	27

Always	38	30	41
Usually	43	39	39

Being Challenged to Take Action

67% always/usually experience being challenged to take action

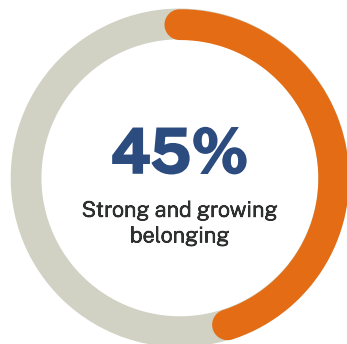
Always	32	21	25
Usually	36	33	34

Belonging: Strong and Growing



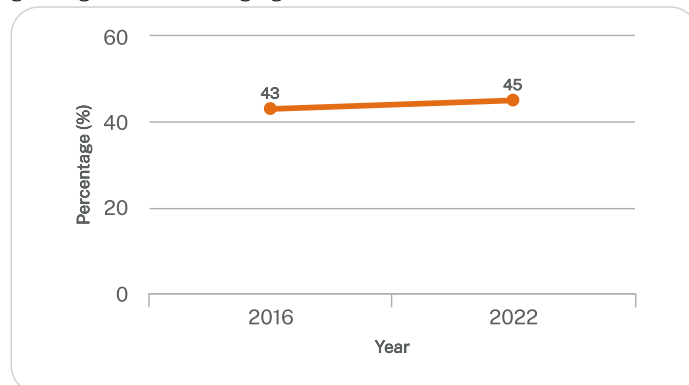
A Strong and Growing Sense of Belonging

45% of attenders said they have a strong sense of belonging to this church which is growing



Source: 2022 NCLS, Stafford

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



Source: Stafford, NCLS 2016, 2022

Sense of Belonging to the Local Church

91% have a strong sense of belonging to this local church

7% do not feel they belong

You in 2022 (%)

You in 2016 (%)

Diocese in 2021 (%)

Sense of belonging

	You in 2022 (%)	You in 2016 (%)	Diocese in 2021 (%)
Strong and growing	45	43	40
Strong and stable	35	32	29
Strong but weakening	11	8	11
No, but new here	1	5	5
No, and wish they did	0	2	3
No, but happy	6	9	9
Don't know / NA	2	2	3

Regular Participation in this Local Church's Activities

45% take part in group activities at this local church

30% take part in activities of the local church that reach out to the wider community

	You in 2022 (%)	You in 2016 (%)	Diocese in 2021 (%)
Small prayer, discussion	18	9	13
Fellowship, clubs or other social groups	33	27	20
Evangelical or outreach	7	6	8
Community service, social justice or welfare	24	18	18

Financial Giving

8% regularly give 10% of net income

	You in 2022 (%)	You in 2016 (%)	Diocese in 2021 (%)
Regularly give 10%	8	6	5
Regularly give up to 9% of net income	65	63	49
Give a small amount whenever I am here	16	28	37

Service: Practical and Diverse



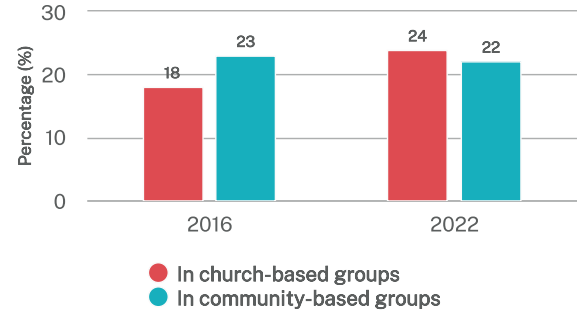
Acts of Service

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



Source: 2022 NCLS, Stafford

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



Source: Stafford, NCLS 2016, 2022

Informal Ways of Helping Others (in the last year)

98% 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 2022 (%)	You in 2016 (%)	Diocese in 2021 (%)
Lent or gave money outside family ⁺	48	45	50
Attended a public meeting/march ⁺⁺	9	N/A	9
Supported a campaign (online or other) ⁺⁺	33	N/A	23
Cared for someone who was very sick	21	29	30
Helped someone through a personal crisis	29	33	36
Visited someone in hospital	34	51	31
Gave possessions to a person in need	36	43	35
Tried to stop someone abusing alcohol or drugs	3	11	8
Donated money to a charitable organisation	79	83	68
Contact parliamentarian/councillor about issue	18	10	14

Community Activities

24% are regularly involved in community service, social justice or welfare activities based in the parish

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

	You in 2022 (%)	You in 2016 (%)	Diocese in 2021 (%)
In community service or justice activities based in parish	24	18	18
Involvement in community groups not connected to this parish			
Community service, care or welfare groups	22	23	20
Social action, justice or lobby groups	7	4	5
Sport, recreation or hobby groups	16	18	12
School or youth groups (e.g. P&C Scouts)	4	6	4
Another kind of group	10	13	9
Online groups or communities	8	N/A	6
Not involved with such groups	52	55	60

Care for the Environment

95% agree Christians should care for the environment

71% are currently active

Belief about Christian responsibility to actively care for the environment			
Yes, am very active	30	19	23
Yes, and am a little active	41	45	38
Yes, but currently not active	24	31	31
No	1	2	3
Unsure	4	4	5

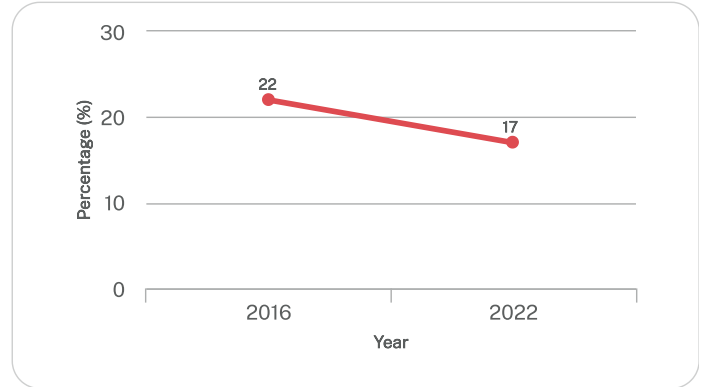
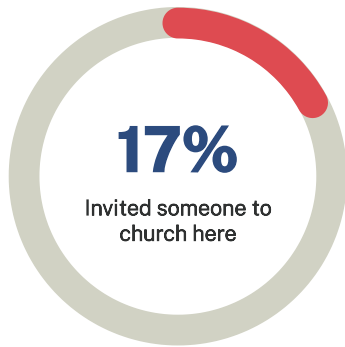
Faith Sharing: Willing and Effective



Inviting Others to Church

17% of attenders said they had invited a friend or relative who does not currently attend church to a service here in the last year

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: 2022 NCLS Stafford

Source: Stafford, NCLS 2016, 2022

Inviting Others to Church here

56% are willing to invite someone to a church service

You in 2022 (%)	You in 2016 (%)	Diocese in 2021 (%)
-----------------	-----------------	---------------------

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	17	22	29
Willing, but didn't invite someone in the last 12 months	38	34	34
Probably wouldn't invite someone	20	21	17
Definitely wouldn't invite someone	1	1	1
Don't know	24	22	18

Willing and Effective Faith-sharing

7% are involved regularly in outreach or evangelistic activity

70% 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	12	10	15
Mostly feel at ease talking about their faith and do so if it comes up	58	55	55
Find it hard to talk about their faith in ordinary language	14	15	13
Do not like to talk about their faith; life and actions are sufficient	15	20	16
Do not have faith	1	1	1

Faith-sharing in Households

38% 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	12	N/A	12
No, do not talk about matters of faith	4	N/A	7
Yes, occasionally	46	N/A	42
Yes, frequently in informal ways	25	N/A	23
Yes, frequently in informal ways as well as part of family or household devotions	13	N/A	16

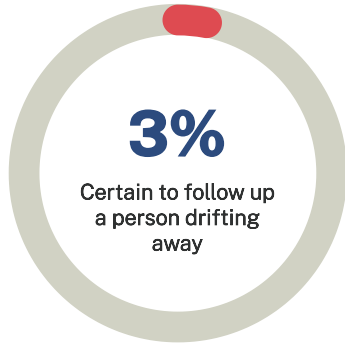
Inclusion: Intentional and Welcoming



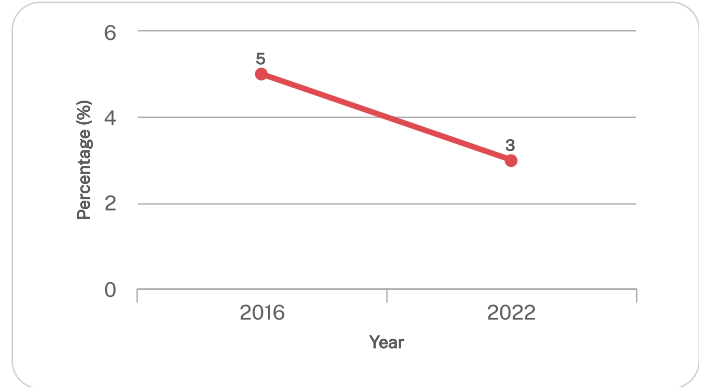
Follow-up of People Drifting Away

3% 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: 2022 NCLS, Stafford



Source: Stafford, NCLS 2016, 2022

Views about Inclusiveness of Parish

95% agree that this parish is inclusive of different kinds of people

	You in 2022 (%)	You in 2016 (%)	Diocese in 2021 (%)
--	-----------------	-----------------	---------------------

This parish is inclusive of different kinds of people			
Strongly agree	68	N/A	46
Agree	28	N/A	45
Neutral/Unsure	3	N/A	8
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

Likelihood of attenders to follow up someone drifting away from church			
Certain	3	5	6
Very likely	9	9	13
Likely	18	17	22
Hard to say	47	46	42
Unlikely	23	22	17

Welcoming New Arrivals

29% always or mostly personally seek out and welcome people they know who are new arrivals

Attenders personally seek out and welcome new arrivals			
Always	12	13	19
Mostly	17	13	16
Sometimes	36	33	27
Rarely/Never	36	42	39

Making Friends

81% have found it easy to make friends here

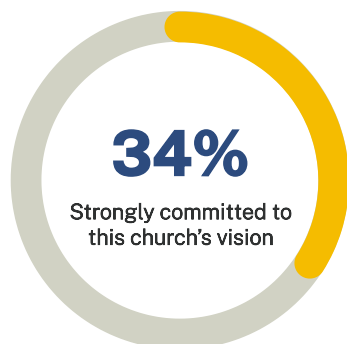
Attenders found it easy to make friends here			
Attenders agree or strongly agree	81	72	73
Attenders disagree or strongly disagree	2	6	5
Among arrivals in last five years:			
Agree or strongly agree	62	N/A	64
Disagree or strongly disagree	5	N/A	6

Vision: Clear and Owned



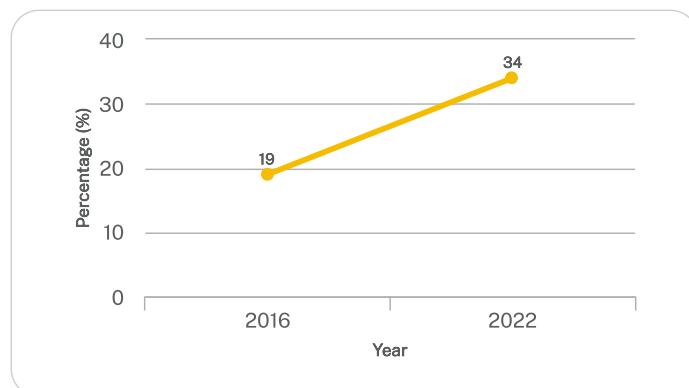
Committed to this Parish's Vision

34% of attenders said they are aware of and strongly committed to this parish's vision, goals or directions



Source: 2022 NCLS, Stafford

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



Source: Stafford, NCLS 2016, 2022

Aware of Vision, Goals and Directions of Parish

70% are aware and strongly or partly committed to the vision, goals or direction of the parish

	You in 2022 (%)	You in 2016 (%)	Diocese in 2021 (%)
Aware and strongly committed	34	19	21
Aware and partly committed	37	35	25
Aware and not committed	14	17	15
Aware of ideas not of any clear vision	9	12	15
Unaware of any clear vision, goals or direction	6	17	23

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

38% are fully confident that the vision can be achieved

Fully confident the vision can be achieved	38	43	41
Partly confident vision can be achieved	47	30	29
Not confident the vision can be achieved	4	2	4

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

Spiritual growth (e.g. spiritual direction, prayer groups)	18	18	26
Worship services that are nurturing to people's faith	25	22	24
Building a strong sense of community within this parish	37	34	36
Creating a clear vision for this parish's future	15	15	17
Encouraging people here to discover/use their gifts	25	15	20
Encouraging new approaches to ministry and mission	13	6	11
Supporting social justice and aid to people in need	27	30	20
Encouraging people here to share their faith or invite others	7	8	9
Ensuring new people are included well in church life	14	16	17
Ministry to children and youth	27	24	22
Growing into a larger parish	28	26	21
Starting a new church or mission venture	18	14	14

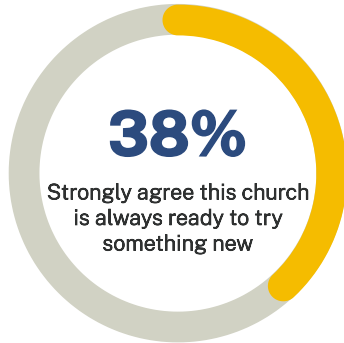
⁺**Note:** The wording on the introduction to this question changed slightly from 2016 onwards

Innovation: Imaginative and Flexible



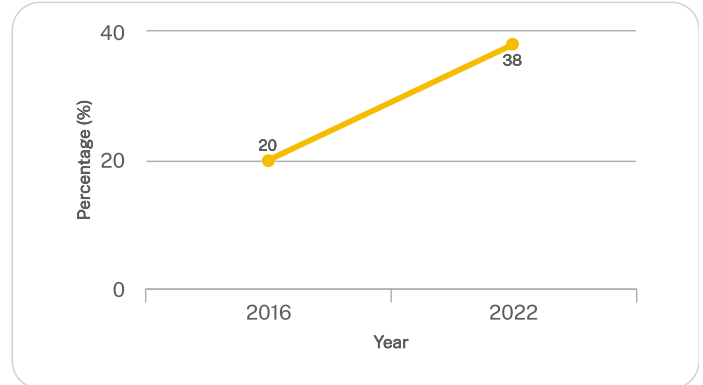
Ready to Try Something New

38% of attenders strongly agree that this parish is always ready to try something new



Source: 2022 NCLS Stafford

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



Source: Stafford, NCLS 2016, 2022

Willingness of the Parish to Try New Things

85% strongly agree or agree that this parish is always ready to try something new

	You in 2022 (%)	You in 2016 (%)	Diocese in 2021 (%)
--	-----------------	-----------------	---------------------

This parish is always ready to try something new			
Strongly agree	38	20	23
Agree	47	54	41
Neutral/Unsure	12	25	29
Disagree	3	1	4
Strongly disagree	0	0	1

Leaders Encourage Innovation

75% strongly agree or agree that leaders here encourage innovation and creative thinking

Leaders here encourage innovation			
Strongly agree	28	15	18
Agree	47	49	40
Neutral/Unsure	21	33	36
Disagree	4	3	5
Strongly disagree	0	0	1

Openness to New Initiatives

75% 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			
Strongly agree	23	16	21
Agree	53	51	51
Neutral/Unsure	23	32	26
Disagree	2	0	2
Strongly disagree	0	0	0

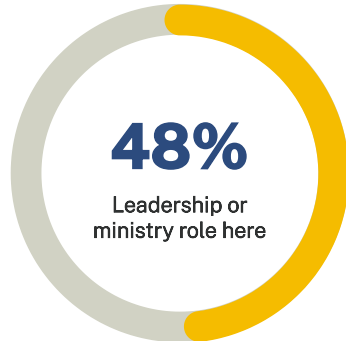
Leadership Culture: Inspiring and Empowering



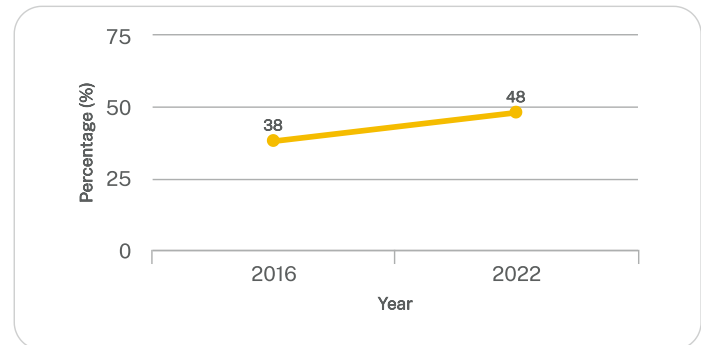
Leadership Roles

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: 2022 NCLS, Stafford



Source: Stafford, NCLS 2016, 2022

Leadership and Ministry Roles Performed by Attenders

	You in 2022 (%)	You in 2016 (%)	Diocese in 2021 (%)
Liturgical roles(including Children's liturgy)	34	32	29
Sacrament Preparation	3	2	2
Parish Council / Committee Member	19	6	8
Group Leadership	3	2	5
Pastoral care	7	7	8
Involved in parish school or RE in government school	2	2	3
Some other role	13	13	13
Attenders performing any leadership / ministry roles here	48	38	36

Views about Local Church Leaders

23% agree this local church's leaders encourage them to find and use their gifts and skills to a great extent

74% agree leaders here inspire them to action

Local leaders encourage attenders to find and use gifts and skills			
To a great extent	23	17	14
To some extent	30	30	25
Attenders strongly agree or agree that...			
Leaders here inspire me to action	74	61	60
Leaders encourage innovation & creativity	75	64	57
Local church has good and clear systems	91	82	80

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)

16% 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	70
All (ages) encouraged to get involved	86	N/A	78
Evaluation of involvement here			
Would like to be more involved	16	16	20
Happy with current level of involvement	71	72	68
Would like to be less involved	3	0	2

About the Children of this Church

Age

8 years	11%
9 years	11%
10 years	16%
11 years	32%
12 years	0%
13 years	11%
14 years	21%

Gender

Boy	63%
Girl	37%

School Attended

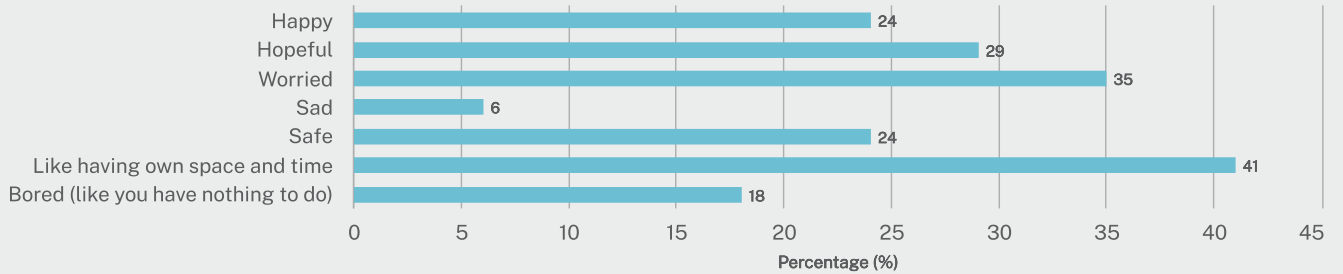
A public/state school	32%
A Catholic or other Christian school	68%
Other independent school	0%
Home school	0%

Country of Birth

Australia	79%
Another English speaking country	5%
Another non-English speaking country	16%

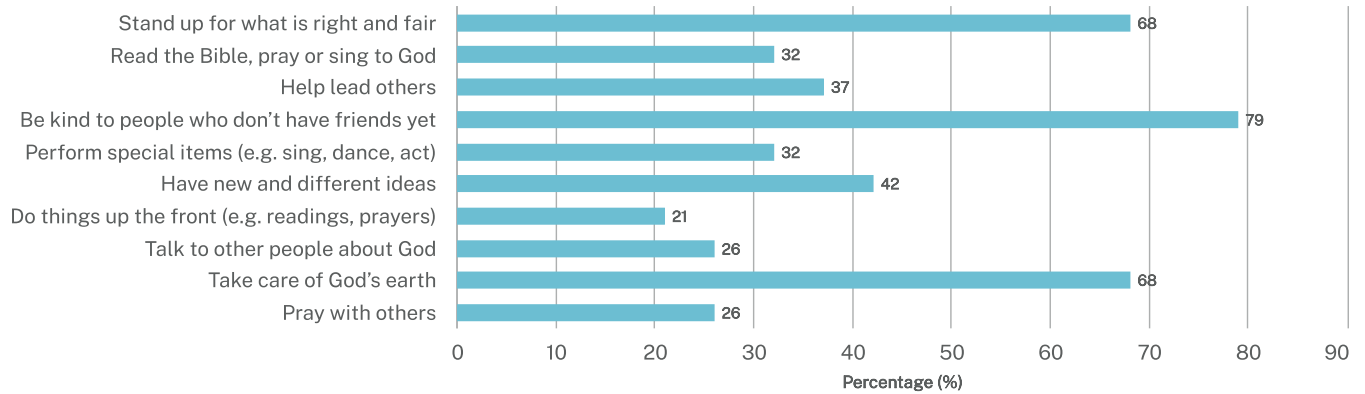
Changes Since COVID-19

Compared to the time before COVID-19 started, those who feel more:



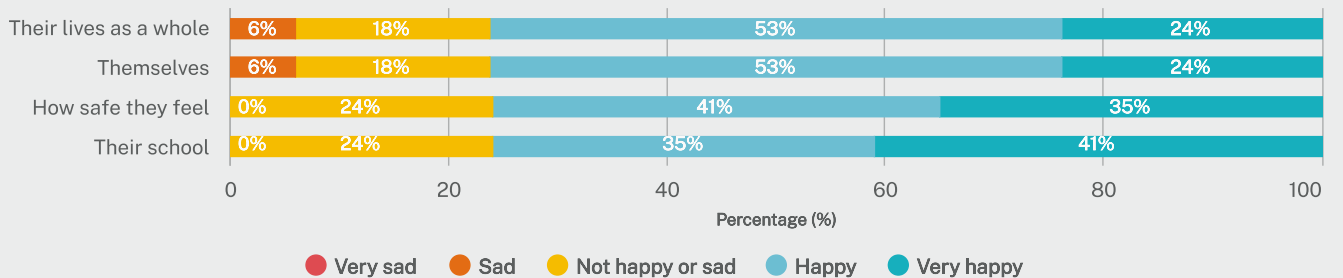
Gifts, Skills and Talents

Things children think they are good at:



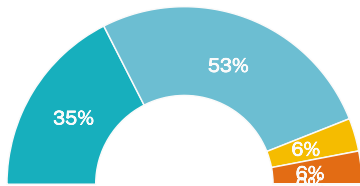
Happiness with Areas of Life

How happy are you in each of these areas of your life?

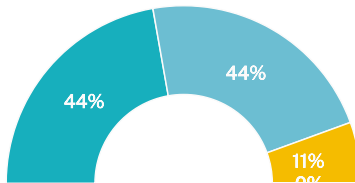


Children's Spirituality

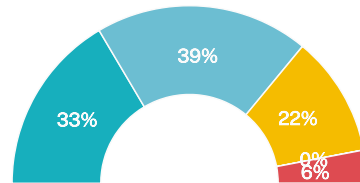
88% agree God means a lot to me



89% agree God helps me to lead a better life

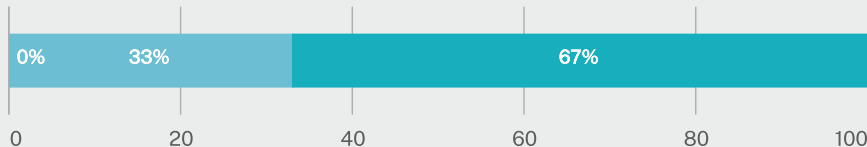


72% agree that I know Jesus is very close to me



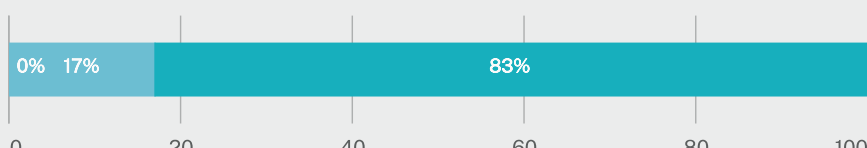
● Strongly agree ● Agree ● Neutral ● Disagree ● Strongly disagree

67% believe that God exists



● Do not believe that God exists ● Not Sure ● Believe that God exists

83% would call themselves a Christian

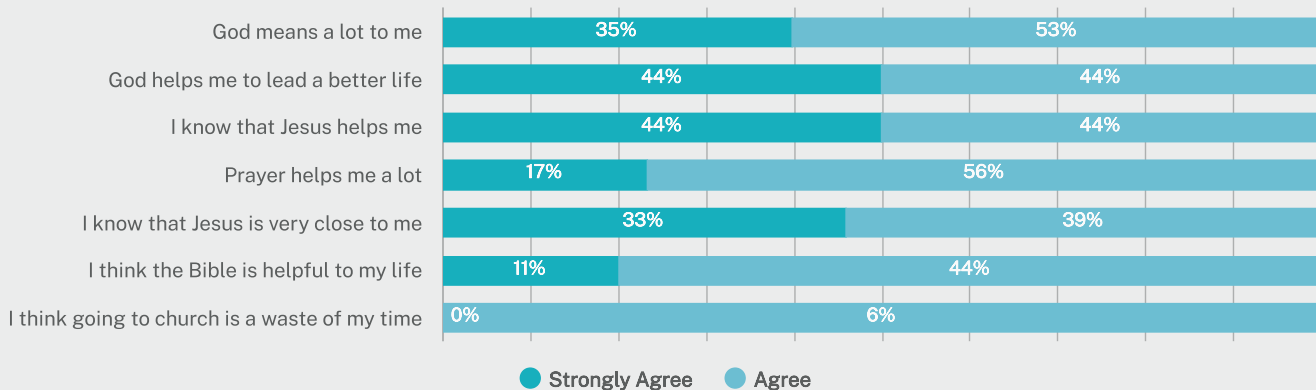


● No ● Not Sure ● Yes

Children who often do the following faith practices

	Often	Sometimes	Never
Pray on their own	33%	44%	22%
Read the Bible on their own	6%	33%	61%
Say thank you to God or Jesus	56%	39%	6%
Say sorry to God or Jesus	41%	53%	6%
Ask God or Jesus to help others	47%	41%	12%
Ask God or Jesus to make the world a better place	44%	50%	6%
Talk to their school friends about God or Jesus	0%	47%	53%
Help raise money for poor people	17%	61%	22%
Do things to help the environment	56%	33%	11%
Read Christian stories or books	11%	56%	33%
Listen to Christian music (outside church)	22%	33%	44%

Children who strongly agree or agree



● Strongly Agree ● Agree

Children's Church Activities

Attendance of Children in Church Activities

Children reported how often they do the following things

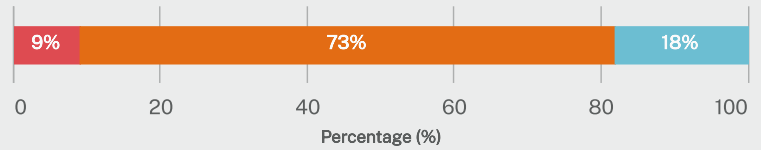
	Every week	Most weeks	Some weeks	Hardly/n ever
Go to church services or Mass	84%	16%	0%	0%
Go to a separate children's program during church services	0%	0%	6%	94%
Go to a church youth group or kids club	0%	0%	11%	89%

Children reported the kinds of groups they attend

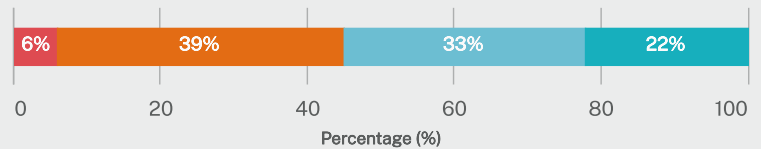
Kids Club	0%
Youth Group	0%
Sunday children's program (e.g. Sunday School)	0%
A group at school	18%
Some other kind of church group	12%
There are no groups for children or youth at this church	71%

Feelings about Church Activities

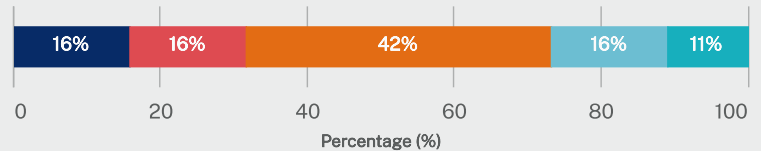
18% always or mostly like going to the church's groups for children and youth



56% always or mostly like going to church services or Mass at this church

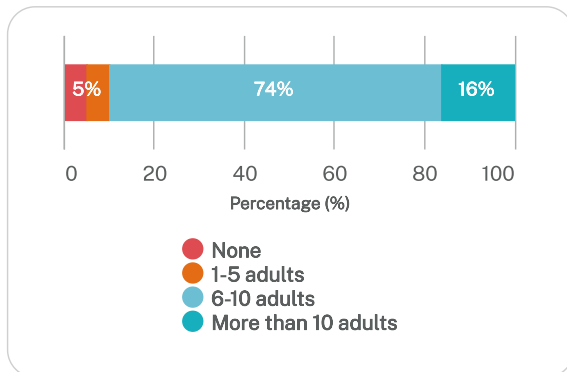


26% always or mostly like going to online church services or Mass



Intergenerational Connection

Children were asked 'Think about the adults at church not in your family. How many can you talk to about normal everyday things?'



Children's involvement at their church

	I do this	I would like to do this
Welcome people as they arrive	33%	41%
Do things up the front (e.g. do readings, prayers)	22%	35%
Be part of the music team	11%	35%
Perform special items (e.g. sing, dance, act in a play)	6%	18%
Pray with others	39%	24%
Help with serving food	44%	47%
Help with technology (e.g. sound, website etc.)	28%	29%
Giving practical help to people who need food clothes or other things	17%	53%
Taking care of God's earth (e.g. gardening, clean up)	39%	47%

Children's Faith

Role Models for Faith

Family members who are a good examples of people who follow Jesus

Mum	79%
Dad	53%
Grandmother	58%
Grandfather	42%
Sisters or brothers	16%
Other family adults (e.g. step-parents, aunts, uncles)	42%

Adults not part of family who are good examples of people who follow Jesus

Sunday School teachers	11%
Youth leaders	6%
The minister/pastor/priest at church	83%
Other adults at church	17%
School teacher or other school staff	50%
Other adults (e.g. sports coach, music teacher or others)	6%

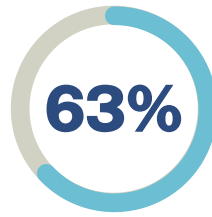
Children whose family members often do the following

	Often	Sometimes	Never
Have discussions with the child about God or Christian faith	37%	63%	0%
Read the Bible or pray with the child	47%	37%	16%
Ask the child what they have learned at church	5%	58%	37%
Talk with the child about questions, doubts or worries about Christian faith	17%	61%	22%

Technology and Faith Activities



Have a mobile phone

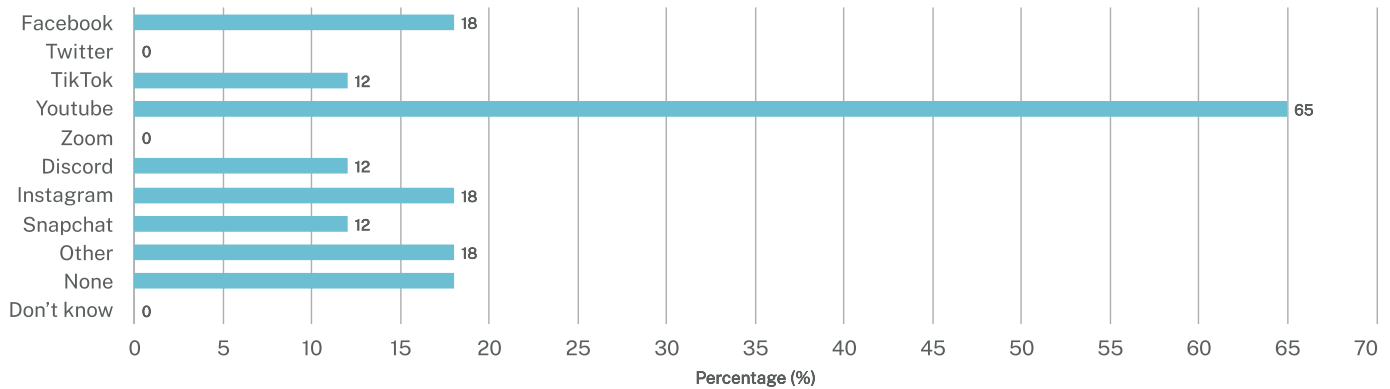


Have a computer they can use

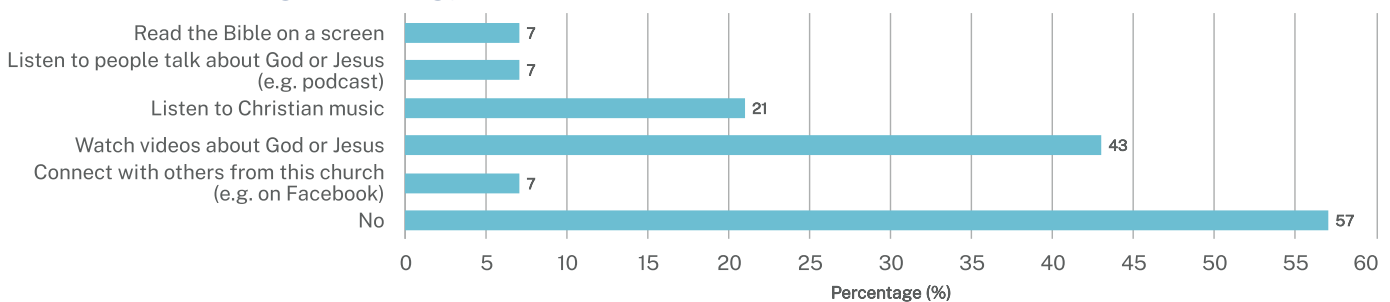


Have a tablet

Social networking sites used in the last week



Faith activities using technology



Your results

This Church Life Profile contains your church's unique results from your participation in the 2021 National 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