



Australian Catholic Bishops Conference  
**National Centre for Pastoral Research**

# Mass attenders' attitudes to the English translation of the Mass

**A Report to the National Liturgical Council**  
**On questions included in the 2016 National Church Life Survey**

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## Background to the National Church Life Survey

In late 2016, more than a quarter of a million church-going Australians took part in the National Church Life Survey (NCLS) by completing a questionnaire on their faith, their involvement in church life, and a variety of other topics. These people came from over 3,000 parishes and local congregations representing more than 20 denominations and independent churches across the country.

Catholic parishes have participated in the last four National Church Life Surveys, in 2001, 2006, 2011 and 2016. A parallel project, the Catholic Church Life Survey (CCLS), was conducted in 1996.

## The national random sample

This report is based on questionnaires completed by Mass attenders in a national random sample of 193 parishes, selected so as to ensure there was a representative sample of parishes from each diocese. Once the national sample had been chosen, all other parishes were invited to take part in the survey, and 162 did so, meaning that a total of 355 Catholic parishes participated in the 2016 survey. These additional parishes received a report on their results, but as they are not part of the statistical sample their results are not included here.

Since the national random sample is statistically representative of all Catholic Church attenders in Australia, the findings of the survey can confidently be regarded as applying, with a high level of probability, to the whole Church in Australia.

## Weighting

Because the structure of the sample does not exactly match that of the dioceses from which it comes, the results have been modified by applying a corrective 'weight' to each diocese, so that they better reflect the distribution of Mass-attending Catholics across Australia.

## How the survey was conducted

All people aged 15 and over at Mass (or, in some places, services in the absence of a priest) on the day of the survey were invited to complete a questionnaire. The total number of completed questionnaires received from the parishes in the national sample was around 37,350.

In addition to the adult questionnaire, parishes could order optional questionnaires for children aged 8 to 14 years, a revised and shorter version of the adult survey. In total, 2,164 children completed the children's survey. However, results from the children's survey are not included in this report.

## Questionnaire versions

This extremely large sample meant that the project could investigate a wide variety of topics without making questionnaires unduly long. This was done by using a number of different versions of the questionnaire, distributed at random to the people at Mass on the Sunday of the survey. Questionnaire AC, which formed the basis of the report prepared for each parish, was completed by 67 per cent of respondents in each parish, while the remaining 33 per cent of respondents completed one of 20 other versions, each dealing with a different topic. Most of these versions were distributed to attenders of all denominations but two, Questionnaires S3 and X, were designed for use only in Catholic parishes.

The questions commissioned by the National Liturgical Council were included in Questionnaire S3, which was completed by 2,591 attenders.

## Contents of this report

The following elements make up this report:

- This introduction, containing background information about the survey.
- A demographic profile of the Mass attenders who answered the questions.
- The frequencies of other questions used in the cross-tabulations.
- The number and percentages of attenders who selected each response in the commissioned questions, that is, Questions 50 and 51 in Questionnaire S3.
- Cross-tabulations of the questions with age, sex and other key variables, with indicators of statistical significance.
- A copy of Questionnaire S3.

## A note on statistical significance

Each cross-tabulation in this report is marked as significant or not significant and the level of significance is also indicated.

To say that a result is statistically significant is to say that it is highly probable that the result shows an actual difference, not one that has arisen by chance. For example, if in a sample we find that 60 per cent of men and 40 per cent of women believe Statement A is true, this can either be due to chance factors which determined the make-up of our sample, or to an actual difference between what men and women believe. A statistically significant result is one where the likelihood of the result arising by chance is below a specified level of probability.

Statistical significance is usually reported at 0.05, 0.01 or 0.001 level, meaning that there is a less than five in one hundred chance, one in a hundred chance, or one in a thousand chance, respectively, that the result under discussion has arisen by chance. In the example above, a 0.001 level of statistical significance means that there is less than one chance in a thousand that the observed difference between men and women has arisen by chance. In other words, the observed difference is highly likely to reflect a real difference in what men and women believe.

However, it is important to note that saying a result is statistically significant is not the same as saying it is important. It may be that the difference between men and women in their belief about Statement A is not at all important or that it is not substantial. The importance of a result cannot be determined statistically. Rather, it is a matter for the judgement of those interpreting the results.

### Non-Catholic attenders

Not all Mass attenders in Catholic parishes are Catholics. About 2.6 per cent of Questionnaire S3 respondents were not Catholic.

### Analysis of the data

People are complex, and the data set used in this report is complex, too. Neither univariate analysis (e.g., the frequencies) nor bivariate analysis (e.g., cross-tabulations) tells the full story. This is because most, if not all, of the variables included in a bivariate analysis with the questions commissioned by the National Liturgical Council are correlated with other variables such as age and sex. Marital status provides a good example. Are differences in the opinions or practices of those who have never married and those who have been widowed a result of their marital status or their age, given that most of the former are young and most of the latter are much older? The best way to sort out such interrelationships is to use some form of multivariate analysis. This type of analysis is beyond the scope of this basic report, but can be carried out if required.

## Demographic profile of respondents to Questionnaire S3

Unweighted (actual) figures - All responses

Questionnaire S3 completed by 2,591 respondents in national random sample parishes.

*NOTE: Not all respondents to Questionnaire S3 answered every question. Older people (those aged 60 and over) were over-represented among non-respondents. Statistical tests show the effect of this non-response on the results reported here to be negligible.*

Age	Number	Per cent
15-29 years	217	9
30-49 years	537	22
50-69 years	889	36
70 years and over	830	34
Total	2,473	100

Sex	Number	Per cent
Female	1,551	63
Male	915	37
Total	2,466	100

State or Territory	Number	Per cent
NSW & ACT	1,308	51
Vic & Tas	490	19
Qld	510	20
SA & NT	141	5
WA	142	6
Total	2,591	100

Marital status	Number	Per cent
Never married	368	15
In first marriage	1,516	61
Remarried after divorce	90	4
Remarried after death of spouse	28	1
In a defacto relationship	55	2
Separated but not divorced	37	2
Divorced and not remarried	106	4
Widowed	292	12
Total	2,492	100

Type of primary school attended	Number	Per cent
Catholic	1,413	66
Government	657	31
Other	73	3
Total	2,143	100

Type of secondary school attended	Number	Per cent
Catholic	1,500	69
Government	552	25
Other	128	6
Total	2,180	100

Level of education	Number	Per cent
Primary school	117	5
Some secondary school	387	16
Completed secondary school	531	21
Trade certificate	203	8
Diploma or associate diploma	363	15
Bachelor degree	546	22
Post graduate degree or diploma	331	13
Total	2,478	100

Birthplace	Number	Per cent
Australia	1,488	59
NZ & Pacific Islands	46	2
Great Britain	83	3
Ireland	32	1
Italy	69	3
Malta	42	2
Other Europe	86	4
Vietnam	34	1
Philippines	279	11
India/Sri Lanka	142	6
Other Asia	100	4
Other	100	4
Total	2,501	100

Mother's birthplace	Number	Per cent
Australia	1,224	50
Other English speaking country	212	9
Non-English speaking country	996	41
Total	2,432	100

Father's birthplace	Number	Per cent
Australia	1,169	48
Other English speaking country	228	9
Non-English speaking country	1,017	42
Total	2,414	100

Religious affiliation	Number	Per cent
Catholic	2,411	97
Anglican	20	1
Uniting Church	6	0
Other Christian	25	1
Non-Christian religion	2	0
No religion	12	1
Total	2,476	100

Spouse's / partner's religious affiliation	Number	Per cent
Catholic	1,440	71
Anglican	103	5
Uniting Church	49	2
Other Christian	74	4
Non-Christian religion	25	1
No religion	90	4
No partner / Don't know	245	12
Total	2,026	100



## Other questions from Questionnaire S3 used in this report

Percentages have been weighted so that they better reflect the distribution of Mass attenders across Australia.

For each question, the actual (unweighted) number of respondents is shown as 'N = '

Totals for Questions 3, 4 and 5 exceed 100% because respondents could choose more than one response.

No. Question		No. Question	
<b>1a Frequency of attendance at Mass</b>	<b>Per cent</b>	<b>5 Leadership role in parish</b>	<b>Per cent</b>
First time	1	Reader or special minister of the Eucharist	21
Hardly ever / Special occasions	2	Music ministry	7
Less than once a month	1	Member of liturgy planning group	2
Once a month	2	Preparing adults for sacraments (eg, RCIA, marriage preparation)	1
Two or three times a month	7	Children's liturgy or sacrament preparation	4
Usually every week	73	Religious education teacher in a Government school	2
More than once a week	14	Visitor to sick, elderly, others in need	7
Total	100	Leader of a group in the parish	3
N = 2,085		Member of parish council or similar leadership group	4
<i>Note: in the 2011 report, the figures provided for the frequency of attendance were in response to the question 'How often do you go to Mass in this parish?', in contrast to this question which simply asks 'How often do you go to Mass?'.</i>		Member of a committee	5
<b>2 Length of attendance at this parish</b>	<b>Per cent</b>	Teacher in the parish school	2
Less than 1 year	7	Active involvement in parish school, but not as teacher	2
1 - 2 years	9	Other role not mentioned above	11
3 - 5 years	10	No leadership or ministry role	60
6 - 10 years	12	Total	129
11 - 20 years	17	N = 2,308	
More than 20 years	40	<b>7 Sense of belonging</b>	<b>Per cent</b>
I am visiting from another church	5	Strong and growing	38
I am visiting and do not regularly attend elsewhere	1	Strong and stable	31
Total	100	Strong, but perhaps not as strong as in the past	10
N = 2,539		Not a strong sense of belonging	18
<b>3 Involvement in parish groups</b>	<b>Per cent</b>	Don't know or not applicable	3
Yes, in small prayer, discussion or Bible study groups	10	Total	100
Yes, in clubs, social groups or other groups	23	N = 2,489	
No, we have no such groups	10	<b>8 In this parish, how many people do you know well enough to speak to?</b>	<b>Per cent</b>
No, I am not regularly involved	61	Everyone or nearly everyone	12
Total	104	Afair number of people	67
N = 2,450		Hardly anyone / no-one	21
<b>4 Involvement in parish outreach activities</b>	<b>Per cent</b>	Total	100
Yes, in outreach or evangelisation activities	8	N = 2,514	
Yes, in community service, social justice or welfare activities of this parish	19	<b>9 About how much do you or your family give each week, in total, to the support of the parish and the priest(s) in this parish?</b>	<b>Per cent</b>
No, we don't have such activities	9	Less than \$5	11
No, I am not regularly involved	67	\$5 to less than \$10	31
Total	103	\$10 to less than \$20	26
N = 2,471		\$20 to less than \$40	19
<b>6 Importance of parish community</b>	<b>Per cent</b>	\$40 or more	7
Very / extremely important	60	My family and I don't contribute financially here	3
Quite important	27	Don't know	4
A little / not important	12	Total	100
Total	100	N = 2,485	
N = 2,498			

Since 2011, we have been using a new English translation of the Mass, changing what the priest and the people say. For example, we now say 'And with your spirit' instead of 'And also with you', and 'Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof' instead of 'Lord, I am not worthy to receive you'.

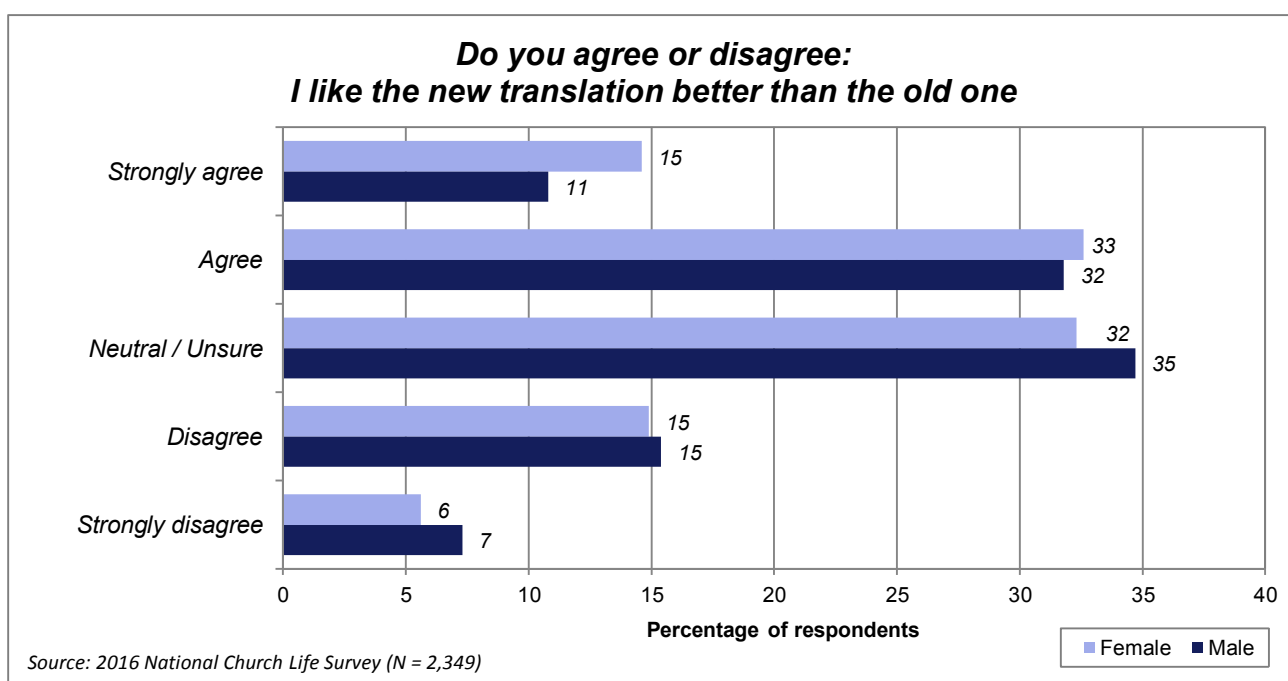
Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?  
(Mark one option on EACH line)

#### Question 50:

*I like the new translation better than the old one*

(N = 2,349 responses)

	(%)
Strongly agree	13
Agree	32
Neutral / Unsure	33
Disagree	15
Strongly disagree	6
Total	100



Question	Strongly agree (%)	Agree (%)	Neutral / Unsure (%)	Disagree (%)	Strongly disagree (%)
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#### Demographic characteristics

##### Age

15-29 years	17	30	36	9	9
30-49 years	11	30	40	11	9
50-69 years	12	31	31	20	5
70 years and over	15	36	30	15	4

N = 2,290. Significant at  $p < 0.001$  level.

##### Sex

Female	15	33	32	15	6
Male	11	32	35	15	7

N = 2,278. Significant at  $p < 0.05$  level.

Question	Strongly agree (%)	Agree (%)	Neutral / Unsure (%)	Disagree (%)	Strongly disagree (%)
<b>State / Territory</b>					
New South Wales & Australian Capital Territory	14	35	32	14	6
Victoria & Tasmania	10	29	36	16	9
Queensland	14	31	36	16	4
South Australia & Northern Territory	15	39	32	15	1
Western Australia	19	34	25	22	1
<i>N = 2,349. Significant at <math>p &lt; 0.001</math> level.</i>					
<b>Marital Status</b>					
Never Married	14	27	32	14	13
Married	12	32	35	16	5
Seperated / Divorced	14	36	26	17	8
Widowed	19	39	25	16	1
<i>N = 2,303. Significant at <math>p &lt; 0.001</math> level.</i>					
<b>Type of primary school attended</b>					
Catholic	12	31	33	17	6
Government	12	34	36	13	7
Other	19	32	32	6	11
<i>N = 2,018. Significant at <math>p &lt; 0.05</math> level.</i>					
<b>Type of secondary school attended</b>					
Catholic	12	32	34	17	6
Government	13	32	34	16	6
Other	11	36	32	12	9
<i>N = 2,050. Not significant.</i>					
<b>Level of Education</b>					
No Post Secondary	16	38	29	14	3
Diploma / Trade Certificate	13	30	34	17	6
Degree or Higher	10	27	36	16	10
<i>N = 2,293. Significant at <math>p &lt; 0.001</math> level.</i>					
<b>Birthplace</b>					
Australia	12	29	34	17	8
Other English speaking country	11	32	28	23	6
Non-English speaking country	17	38	32	10	3
<i>N = 2,313. Significant at <math>p &lt; 0.001</math> level.</i>					
<b>Mother's birthplace</b>					
Australia	12	29	34	18	7
Other English speaking country	12	33	27	24	5
Non-English speaking country	15	37	33	10	5
<i>N = 2,260. Significant at <math>p &lt; 0.001</math> level.</i>					
<b>Father's birthplace</b>					
Australia	11	30	34	18	7
Other English speaking country	15	28	27	24	5
Non-English speaking country	14	37	34	10	5
<i>N = 2,245. Significant at <math>p &lt; 0.001</math> level.</i>					
<b>Religion</b>					
Catholic	13	33	32	16	6
Other Christian / other religion	9	14	65	5	7
<i>N = 2,268. Significant at <math>p &lt; 0.001</math> level.</i>					
<b>Religion of spouse / partner</b>					
Catholic	13	32	35	16	5
Other Christian / other religion	9	36	37	16	2
No Religion	8	25	34	19	14
<i>N = 1,646. Significant at <math>p &lt; 0.01</math> level.</i>					

Question	Strongly agree (%)	Agree (%)	Neutral / Unsure (%)	Disagree (%)	Strongly disagree (%)
<b>Participation in the parish</b>					
<b>Frequency of attendance at Mass (in general)</b>					
First time / rarely / special occasions	14	14	50	15	8
Less than weekly	6	26	36	17	15
Weekly or more often	14	33	32	15	5
<i>N = 1,920. Significant at <math>p &lt; 0.001</math> level.</i>					
<b>Length of attendance</b>					
Up to 5 years	12	34	35	12	7
6 to 20 years	15	30	35	16	5
More than 20 years	14	34	32	16	6
Visitor	7	29	31	23	10
<i>N = 2,320. Significant at <math>p &lt; 0.05</math> level.</i>					
<b>Involvement in parish groups</b>					
Is involved	17	34	32	13	5
Is not involved	12	31	35	16	7
<i>N = 2,253. Significant at <math>p &lt; 0.01</math> level.</i>					
<b>Involvement in parish outreach activities</b>					
Is involved	16	35	26	18	5
Is not involved	12	32	36	14	7
<i>N = 2,277. Significant at <math>p &lt; 0.001</math> level.</i>					
<b>Leadership or ministry role in parish</b>					
Yes	15	33	28	18	6
No	11	32	38	13	6
<i>N = 2,140. Significant at <math>p &lt; 0.001</math> level.</i>					
<b>Importance of parish community</b>					
Very / extremely important	17	35	30	13	5
Quite important	8	30	36	17	8
A little / not important	6	26	43	17	9
<i>N = 2,300. Significant at <math>p &lt; 0.001</math> level.</i>					
<b>Sense of belonging to the parish</b>					
Strong and growing	20	34	30	11	5
Strong and stable	10	32	35	18	6
Strong, but less so than in the past	7	32	36	17	8
Not a strong sense of belonging	10	31	35	17	7
<i>N = 2,237. Significant at <math>p &lt; 0.001</math> level.</i>					
<b>How many people do you know well enough to speak to?</b>					
Everyone or nearly everyone	17	40	23	15	5
A fair number of people	14	33	34	14	5
Hardly anyone / no-one	10	28	37	16	10
<i>N = 2,315. Significant at <math>p &lt; 0.001</math> level.</i>					
<b>Weekly giving to the parish</b>					
Nothing to less than \$5	12	28	33	15	12
\$5-\$10	12	36	33	13	6
\$10-\$20	16	33	33	15	3
More than \$20	14	30	32	18	6
<i>N = 2,211. Significant at <math>p &lt; 0.001</math> level.</i>					

**Statistical Note:**

Results have been weighted so that they better reflect the distribution of Church attenders across Australia.

For each question, the actual (unweighted) number of respondents is shown as 'N = '

Percentages add to 100 across each row.

Since 2011, we have been using a new English translation of the Mass, changing what the priest and the people say. For example, we now say 'And with your spirit' instead of 'And also with you', and 'Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof' instead of 'Lord, I am not worthy to receive you'.

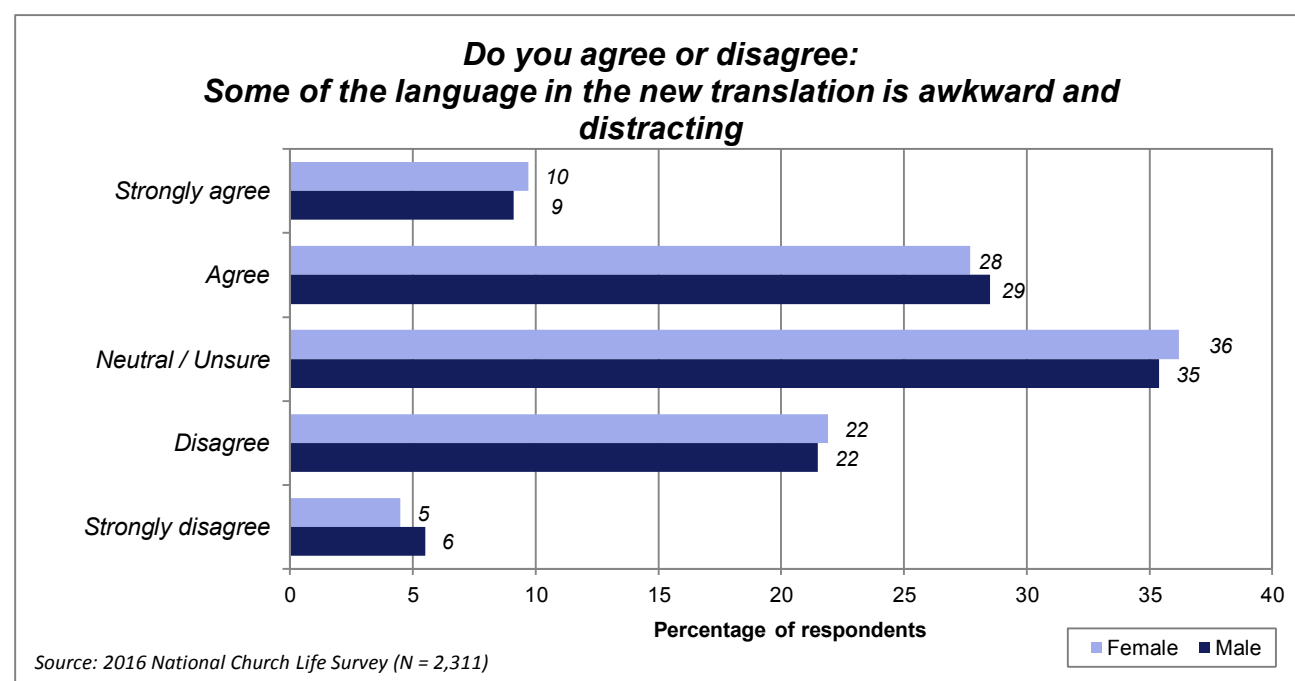
Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?  
(Mark one option on EACH line)

#### Question 51:

**Some of the language in the new translation is awkward and distracting**

(N = 2,311 responses)

	(%)
Strongly agree	9
Agree	28
Neutral / Unsure	37
Disagree	21
Strongly disagree	5
Total	100



Question	Strongly agree (%)	Agree (%)	Neutral / Unsure (%)	Disagree (%)	Strongly disagree (%)
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#### Demographic characteristics

##### Age

15-29 years	8	14	36	27	15
30-49 years	8	19	42	25	6
50-69 years	10	29	36	21	4
70 years and over	10	36	34	18	3

N = 2,258. Significant at  $p < 0.001$  level.

##### Sex

Female	10	28	36	22	5
Male	9	29	35	22	6

N = 2,242. Not significant.

Question	Strongly agree (%)	Agree (%)	Neutral / Unsure (%)	Disagree (%)	Strongly disagree (%)
<b>State / Territory</b>					
New South Wales & Australian Capital Territory	10	27	34	24	5
Victoria & Tasmania	11	30	36	16	6
Queensland	7	29	38	22	4
South Australia & Northern Territory	5	19	44	27	4
Western Australia	4	33	43	19	2
<i>N = 2,311. Significant at <math>p &lt; 0.01</math> level.</i>					
<b>Marital Status</b>					
Never Married	15	21	32	22	10
Married	8	28	38	22	4
Seperated / Divorced	16	32	32	18	3
Widowed	6	37	35	18	4
<i>N = 2,266. Significant at <math>p &lt; 0.001</math> level.</i>					
<b>Type of primary school attended</b>					
Catholic	10	29	35	21	5
Government	9	24	40	22	5
Other	6	27	34	24	9
<i>N = 1,995. Not significant.</i>					
<b>Type of secondary school attended</b>					
Catholic	10	29	34	23	5
Government	8	24	40	22	7
Other	6	28	37	23	7
<i>N = 2,026. Not significant.</i>					
<b>Level of Education</b>					
No Post Secondary	6	31	37	21	5
Diploma / Trade Certificate	8	29	36	22	4
Degree or Higher	13	25	35	22	5
<i>N = 2,258. Significant at <math>p &lt; 0.001</math> level.</i>					
<b>Birthplace</b>					
Australia	11	31	34	20	5
Other English speaking country	10	34	31	18	8
Non-English speaking country	7	22	41	26	4
<i>N = 2,277. Significant at <math>p &lt; 0.001</math> level.</i>					
<b>Mother's birthplace</b>					
Australia	11	31	34	19	5
Other English speaking country	8	38	31	18	5
Non-English speaking country	7	22	40	26	5
<i>N = 2,236. Significant at <math>p &lt; 0.001</math> level.</i>					
<b>Father's birthplace</b>					
Australia	11	32	33	19	5
Other English speaking country	9	36	34	15	6
Non-English speaking country	7	21	41	26	5
<i>N = 2,224. Significant at <math>p &lt; 0.001</math> level.</i>					
<b>Religion</b>					
Catholic	9	28	36	22	5
Other Christian / other religion	2	22	55	14	7
<i>N = 2,236. Significant at <math>p &lt; 0.05</math> level.</i>					
<b>Religion of spouse / partner</b>					
Catholic	9	29	38	20	4
Other Christian / other religion	5	20	38	33	5
No Religion	11	33	30	21	5
<i>N = 1,626. Significant at <math>p &lt; 0.01</math> level.</i>					

Question	Strongly agree (%)	Agree (%)	Neutral / Unsure (%)	Disagree (%)	Strongly disagree (%)
<b>Participation in the parish</b>					
<b>Frequency of attendance at Mass (in general)</b>					
First time / rarely / special occasions	16	16	55	9	5
Less than weekly	12	36	36	12	4
Weekly or more often	9	28	35	23	5
<i>N = 1,891. Significant at <math>p &lt; 0.001</math> level.</i>					
<b>Length of attendance</b>					
Up to 5 years	10	23	40	20	7
6 to 20 years	7	27	37	24	6
More than 20 years	9	31	36	20	4
Visitor	14	28	30	26	2
<i>N = 2,285. Significant at <math>p &lt; 0.01</math> level.</i>					
<b>Involvement in parish groups</b>					
Is involved	10	29	32	24	5
Is not involved	9	28	38	21	5
<i>N = 2,222. Not significant.</i>					
<b>Involvement in parish outreach activities</b>					
Is involved	10	30	31	24	5
Is not involved	9	27	38	21	5
<i>N = 2,248. Significant at <math>p &lt; 0.05</math> level.</i>					
<b>Leadership or ministry role in parish</b>					
Yes	12	32	29	23	6
No	8	26	41	21	5
<i>N = 2,115. Significant at <math>p &lt; 0.001</math> level.</i>					
<b>Importance of parish community</b>					
Very / extremely important	8	26	35	26	5
Quite important	11	31	38	16	4
A little / not important	11	29	42	14	4
<i>N = 2,267. Significant at <math>p &lt; 0.001</math> level.</i>					
<b>Sense of belonging to the parish</b>					
Strong and growing	10	23	38	24	5
Strong and stable	8	32	32	23	6
Strong, but less so than in the past	14	27	38	18	3
Not a strong sense of belonging	8	30	40	17	6
<i>N = 2,197. Significant at <math>p &lt; 0.001</math> level.</i>					
<b>How many people do you know well enough to speak to?</b>					
Everyone or nearly everyone	10	34	29	23	5
A fair number of people	9	28	37	22	5
Hardly anyone / no-one	9	24	41	20	7
<i>N = 2,281. Significant at <math>p &lt; 0.05</math> level.</i>					
<b>Weekly giving to the parish</b>					
Nothing to less than \$5	15	30	33	17	6
\$5-\$10	7	25	41	23	3
\$10-\$20	8	30	34	22	7
More than \$20	9	27	36	23	6
<i>N = 2,172. Significant at <math>p &lt; 0.001</math> level.</i>					

**Statistical Note:**

Results have been weighted so that they better reflect the distribution of Church attenders across Australia.

For each question, the actual (unweighted) number of respondents is shown as 'N = '

Percentages add to 100 across each row.

# Thank you for taking part in this survey

- Please use a BLACK OR BLUE PEN or dark pencil and press firmly.
- FILL IN or CROSS the box next to the category that best describes your response ( ☐ or ☒ ). PLEASE DO NOT USE TICKS.
- Choose ONE ONLY for each question unless it states otherwise.  
Example: Do you eat fruit? ☒ Yes ☐ No

## Mass Centre Code

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S3



### 1. How often do you go to Mass? Please answer for how often you go to Mass, AND for how often you go to Mass in this parish. (Mark an option in BOTH columns)

	Generally?	Here?
This is my first time	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hardly ever/special occasions only	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Less than once a month	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Once a month	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Two or three times a month	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Usually every week	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
More than once a week	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### 2. How long have you been going to church at this parish?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 1 year | <input type="checkbox"/> More than 20 years                                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1-2 years        | <input type="checkbox"/> I am visiting. I usually go to church somewhere else |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3-5 years        | <input type="checkbox"/> I am visiting and do not regularly go anywhere else  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 6-10 years       |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 11-20 years      |   |

### 3. Are you regularly involved in any group activities here? (Mark ALL that apply)

- ☐ Yes, in small prayer, discussion or Bible study groups  
☐ Yes, in clubs, social groups or other types of groups  
☐ No, we have no such groups  
☐ No, I am not regularly involved

### 4. Do you regularly take part in any parish activities reaching out to the wider community (e.g. community service, social justice, welfare, outreach, evangelisation)? (Mark ALL that apply)

- ☐ Yes, in outreach or evangelisation activities  
☐ Yes, in community service, social justice or welfare activities of this parish  
☐ No, we don't have such activities  
☐ No, I am not regularly involved

### 5. Do you currently perform any of these leadership or ministry roles in this parish? (Mark ALL that apply)

- ☐ Reader (lector) or special minister of the Eucharist  
☐ Music ministry (e.g. choir, organist, musician)  
☐ Member of a liturgy planning group  
☐ Preparing adults for sacraments (e.g. RCIA, marriage preparation)  
☐ Involved in children's liturgy or sacrament preparation  
☐ Religious education teacher in a government school  
☐ Visitor to the sick or elderly or others in need  
☐ Leader of a group (e.g. a prayer, discussion, youth or social group)  
☐ Member of the parish council or similar leadership group  
☐ Member of a committee  
☐ Teacher in the parish school  
☐ Actively involved in the parish school (not as a teacher)  
☐ Another role not mentioned above  
☐ I do not have any leadership or ministry role at present

### 6. How important is this parish community in your life?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Not at all important | <input type="checkbox"/> Very important      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A little important   | <input type="checkbox"/> Extremely important |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Quite important      |  |

### 7. Do you have a strong sense of belonging to this parish?

- ☐ Yes, a strong sense of belonging, which is growing  
☐ Yes, a strong sense - about the same as last year  
☐ Yes, although perhaps not as strongly as in the past  
☐ No, but I am new here ☐ No, but I am happy as I am  
☐ No, and I wish I did by now ☐ Don't know/Not applicable

### 8. In this parish, how many people do you know well enough to speak to?

- ☐ Everyone or nearly everyone  
☐ A fair number of people  
☐ Hardly anyone/no-one

### 9. About how much do you or your family give each week, in total, to the support of the parish and the priest(s) in this parish?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Less than \$5          | <input type="checkbox"/> \$40 or more                                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$5 to less than \$10  | <input type="checkbox"/> My family and I don't contribute financially here |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$10 to less than \$20 | <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$20 to less than \$40 |  |

### 10. Which of the following statements describe your view of the Parish Pastoral Council in this parish? (Mark ALL that apply)

- ☐ The Parish Council has a prominent role in parish leadership  
☐ Parish Council members share responsibility for parish life  
☐ The Parish Council encourages all parishioners to get involved in parish life  
☐ The Parish Council spells out how the mission of the Church is to be realised in this parish  
☐ The Parish Council is a good thing, but it doesn't have any real authority  
☐ The Parish Council doesn't achieve much as far as I can tell  
☐ I don't know much about what the Parish Council does  
☐ This parish doesn't have a Parish Council

### 11. What is the STARTING TIME of the church service(s) that you regularly attend here? (Mark up to TWO)

**This service** (Leave blank if you are a visitor)

(Write time, e.g. 09:45 and mark am or pm, and day of week)

↳  :  ☐ am ☐ pm    Sun M T W T F Sat

#### Another church service you regularly attend here

(Only fill this in if it applies to you)

↳  :  ☐ am ☐ pm    Sun M T W T F Sat

This form will be scanned - Please mark boxes ☒ and ☐ and WRITE NUMBERS CLEARLY to help scanning process

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## About You

### 12. In what year were you born?

Please write the year in the squares:

--	--	--	--

### 13. What is your gender?

☐ Female ☐ Male

NB: If you identify as 'Other', this option is in the online survey.

### 14. Which term best describes your present marital status?

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Never married           | <input type="checkbox"/> In a defacto relationship |
| <input type="checkbox"/> In first marriage       | <input type="checkbox"/> Separated                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Remarried after divorce | <input type="checkbox"/> Divorced                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Remarried after widowed | <input type="checkbox"/> Widowed                   |

### 15. What is the highest educational qualification you have completed?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Primary school               | <input type="checkbox"/> Bachelor degree from a university or equivalent institution |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Some secondary school        | <input type="checkbox"/> Postgraduate degree or diploma                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Completed secondary school   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trade certificate            |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Diploma or associate diploma |  |

### 16. Where were you born? Where was your mother born? Where was your father born?

(Please mark an option in EVERY COLUMN)

	You	Mother	Father
Australia	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
New Zealand	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pacific Islands	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Great Britain	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ireland (incl. N. Ireland)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Italy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Malta	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other Southern Europe	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Northern or Western Europe	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Eastern Europe/former USSR	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Middle East/North Africa	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Republic of South Africa	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other Africa	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mauritius	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
North America	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Central or South America	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
China/Hong Kong	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Korea	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vietnam	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Philippines	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
India/Sri Lanka	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other Asia	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Don't know	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### 17. At home, do you speak a language other than English?

- ☐ English only
- ☐ English plus other language(s)
- ☐ Non-English language(s) only

### 18. What is your religious denomination? And that of your spouse or partner?

	Yours	Your spouse/partner
Catholic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Anglican	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Uniting Church	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other Christian	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Non-Christian religion	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
No religion	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I have no spouse or partner/Don't know	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### What type of school did you (or do you now) mainly attend? (Mark ONE in each row)

	Catholic	Government	Other
19. Primary School	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20. Secondary School	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## About Your Faith

### 21. Are you a Catholic?

Yes, I became a Catholic when I was

- |                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> A baby     | <input type="checkbox"/> An adult            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A child    | <input type="checkbox"/> I am not a Catholic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A teenager |  |

### 22. Do you agree or disagree? 'Being Catholic is an important part of who I am'

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Strongly agree | <input type="checkbox"/> Disagree          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agree          | <input type="checkbox"/> Strongly disagree |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral/Unsure | <input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable    |

### 23. How important is God in your life?

- ☐ God does not matter to me at all
- ☐ Fairly important, but many other things are more important
- ☐ God is more important to me than almost anything else
- ☐ God is the most important reality in my life

### How often do you... (Mark one box on EACH line)

	Every day /most days	A few times a week	Once a week	Occasionally	Hardly ever	Never
24. Spend time in private prayer or meditation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
25. Say the Rosary?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
26. Read the Bible alone?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### 27. Which of the following comes closest to expressing your belief about the Resurrection of Christ? (Mark ONE only)

- ☐ Christ was raised by God's power from death to life — really, bodily, physically
- ☐ Christ 'rose from the dead', not literally, but in the Christian community's faith in God's power to give life
- ☐ Christ did not rise from the dead in any sense
- ☐ Don't know

### 28. Which of the following comes closest to expressing your idea about God? (Mark ONE only)

- ☐ There is one God, three divine persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit
- ☐ God exists and is a divine person, but not Father, Son and Holy Spirit
- ☐ God is not a person, but the name we give to a higher power in the universe, the mysterious and creative source of life
- ☐ We and the universe are in God, part of God, identified with God
- ☐ God is not 'out there', but is found only within each person
- ☐ We cannot know for sure whether God exists
- ☐ God does not exist

### 29. Which of the following statements about the consecrated bread and wine at Mass expresses your belief? (Mark ONE only)

- ☐ They truly become the sacred Body and Blood of Christ
- ☐ They remain bread and wine

**30. Which of the following comes closest to your belief about the Virgin Birth?**

- ☐ Mary gave birth to Jesus without having had sexual intercourse
- ☐ The Virginity of Mary is not meant to be taken literally; it is a way of saying that Jesus is the Son of God

**31. Do you think that it is wrong for a man and a woman to have sexual relations before marriage?**

- ☐ Always morally wrong
- ☐ Not wrong, if they are committed to a long-term relationship
- ☐ Not wrong in any circumstances

**32. Which statement is closest to your attitude toward abortion?**

- ☐ Abortion is always morally wrong
- ☐ Abortion is justified only in extreme circumstances (e.g. rape, risk to the mother's life, etc)
- ☐ Abortion is justified in a wider range of circumstances, but not in every case
- ☐ Abortion is not wrong in any circumstances
- ☐ Don't know

**33. Which of the following statements best describes the way you make decisions about moral issues?**

- ☐ I always follow the teachings of the Church
- ☐ I look to the teaching of the Church for guidance, but then I follow my own conscience
- ☐ The teachings of the Church do not influence my decisions about moral issues

## The Sacrament of Penance/Reconciliation

**34. How often have you been to the First Rite of Reconciliation in the past 12 months? ('Going to confession' individually, privately, with no communal celebration)**

- ☐ Usually every week ☐ Once or twice
- ☐ About once a month ☐ I haven't been to First Rite
- ☐ A few times during the year ☐ at all in the past 12 months

**35. How often have you taken part in the Second Rite in the last 12 months? (Communal prayers of preparation, then individual confessions — usually, several priests are present)**

- ☐ A few times during the year
- ☐ Once or twice
- ☐ Not in the past twelve months
- ☐ The Second Rite was not held in my parish or nearby

**36. Compared with 5 years ago, how often do you go to Reconciliation (any rite) now?**

- ☐ I go more often now ☐ I go less often now
- ☐ I go just as often ☐ I don't go at all

**37. Why did you go to Reconciliation last time you went? (Mark the TWO most important reasons)**

- ☐ For spiritual direction
- ☐ For counselling and help with problems
- ☐ To receive God's forgiveness for my sins and grace to live a better life
- ☐ To worship a merciful God
- ☐ To be reconciled with others
- ☐ Because I was afraid of God's judgement
- ☐ To set a good example for my children
- ☐ Other reason

## Issues in Ministry

**38. Do you accept the practice whereby divorced Catholics who have remarried without an annulment of their previous marriage are refused Communion?**

- ☐ Yes, with no difficulty ☐ No
- ☐ Yes, with some difficulty ☐ Don't know
- ☐ Yes, with great difficulty

**Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? (Mark one box on EACH line)**

**39. The cases of sexual abuse by priests and religious have damaged my confidence in Church authorities**

- Strongly agree ☐ Agree ☐ Neutral/Unsure ☐ Disagree ☐ Strongly disagree ☐

**40. My respect for priests and religious has greatly declined as a result of these offences**

- Strongly agree ☐ Agree ☐ Neutral/Unsure ☐ Disagree ☐ Strongly disagree ☐

**41. The response of Church authorities to these incidences has been inadequate and shows a complete failure of responsibility**

- Strongly agree ☐ Agree ☐ Neutral/Unsure ☐ Disagree ☐ Strongly disagree ☐

**42. The media have been fair in their coverage of sexual offences by priests and religious**

- Strongly agree ☐ Agree ☐ Neutral/Unsure ☐ Disagree ☐ Strongly disagree ☐

**43. The Church now seems to be taking appropriate steps to meet its responsibilities in these cases**

- Strongly agree ☐ Agree ☐ Neutral/Unsure ☐ Disagree ☐ Strongly disagree ☐

**44. Church authorities can be trusted when they speak about child sexual abuse**

- Strongly agree ☐ Agree ☐ Neutral/Unsure ☐ Disagree ☐ Strongly disagree ☐

**45. How aware are you of the safeguards and procedures that the Church has put in place to eradicate sexual abuse and support those who have been affected?**

- ☐ I am not at all aware of what the Church has done to address this issue
- ☐ I know the Church has addressed the issue, but I'm not very aware of how this has been done
- ☐ I am reasonably aware of how the Church has addressed this issue, but I'm not aware of the details
- ☐ I have a detailed knowledge of what the Church has done to address this issue

**46. Have you heard of Pope Francis's encyclical on the environment, "Laudato Si': On Care for Our Common Home"? If yes, where have you heard about it? (Mark ALL that apply)**

- ☐ Local parish ☐ Church agencies (e.g. Catholic Earthcare)
- ☐ Media ☐ I have not heard of the encyclical
- ☐ Dedicated workshops
- ☐ Church leaders (e.g. bishops)

**47. How familiar are you with the contents of the encyclical?**

- Not at all ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5 ☐ Very familiar

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48. How much has the Pope’s message in the encyclical impacted on your beliefs and practices, would you say?

Not at all					Very much
1	2	3	4	5	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

49. Do you believe that Christians have a responsibility to actively care for the environment?

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, and I am very active	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, and I am a little active	<input type="checkbox"/> Unsure
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, but I am currently not active	

Since 2011, we have been using a new English translation of the Mass, changing what the priest and the people say. For example, we now say ‘And with your spirit’ instead of ‘And also with you’, and ‘Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof’ instead of ‘Lord, I am not worthy to receive you’.

Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? (Mark one option on EACH line)

50. I like the new translation better than the old one

Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral/Unsure	Disagree	Strongly disagree
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

51. Some of the language in the new translation is awkward and distracting

Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral/Unsure	Disagree	Strongly disagree
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? (Mark one option on EACH line)

52. The preaching I hear in this parish is very helpful to me in everyday life

Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral/Unsure	Disagree	Strongly disagree
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

53. This parish plays an active role in the local community

Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral/Unsure	Disagree	Strongly disagree
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

54. This parish reaches out to people in need

Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral/Unsure	Disagree	Strongly disagree
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

55. My spiritual needs are being met in this parish

Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral/Unsure	Disagree	Strongly disagree
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Children and Schooling

56. What do you think are the most important things to look for in choosing a school?

(Mark up to THREE in BOTH columns)

	Primary school	Secondary school
School discipline	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quality school leadership and teaching	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Convenient school location	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Religious education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Values that are important to the child's family	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Academic reputation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quality of facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Class sizes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
School fees	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Caring and nurturing environment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Range of subjects offered	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Single-sex education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Co-education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Extra-curricular opportunities, e.g. sport, music	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Support for additional learning needs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

57. How many children do you have?

☐ None ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5 or more

58. Please answer the questions below for each of your children, starting with the eldest.

If you have more than 5 children, answer for the first 5.

	Eldest Child	Child No 2	Child No 3	Child No 4	Child No 5
What is his/her age in years?	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	years	years	years	years	years

What type of primary school does (or did) he/she mainly attend?

	Eldest Child	Child No 2	Child No 3	Child No 4	Child No 5
Catholic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Government	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

What type of secondary school does (or did) he/she mainly attend?

	Eldest Child	Child No 2	Child No 3	Child No 4	Child No 5
Catholic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Government	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

This question is only for those who have, or once had, children of school age.

59. If you did not choose a Catholic school for your child(ren), what were the main reasons?

(Mark up to THREE in BOTH columns)

	Primary school	Secondary school
Poor facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
School fees too high	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Revelations of sexual abuse in some schools	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Poor school discipline	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Inconvenient school location	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Poor quality religious education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Weak Catholic ethos	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Poor academic reputation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Large class sizes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Not welcoming	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of support for additional learning needs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Inadequate range of subjects offered	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Poor range of extra-curricular opportunities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Some other reason	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Thank you for your help today

