



Australian Catholic Bishops Conference

Pastoral Research Office

Mass attenders' responses to the clergy sexual abuse crisis

A Report to the Truth Justice and Healing Council

On questions included in the 2016 National Church Life Survey

Robert Dixon and Stephen Reid

Report prepared by: Pastoral Research Office
Australian Catholic Bishops Conference
Australian Catholic University
Locked Bag 4115
Fitzroy 3065
Victoria Australia

Telephone: +61 (0)3 9953 3457
Email: office@pro.catholic.org.au
Web: www.pro.catholic.org.au

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NCLS 2016: Questionnaire S3

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 parishes. The sample was designed with the intention of ensuring that a representative sample of parishes from every diocese took part. A representative sample was achieved in almost all dioceses. The final sample size was 195 parishes.

Once the national sample had been finalised, 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.

Because of the statistically representative nature of the national sample, the findings of the survey can confidently be regarded as applying, with a high level of probability, to all Mass attenders in Australia.

Weighting

For the sake of ensuring representativeness within each diocese, the sample was constructed so that at least seven parishes were selected from every diocese, resulting in a variation in the percentage of parishes sampled in each diocese. For example, 78 per cent of the nine parishes in the Diocese of Broome were selected in the sample, compared to just 7.4 per cent of the 216 parishes in the Archdiocese of Melbourne. In analysing the data for this report, each diocese has been assigned a numerical weight designed to correct the situation where some dioceses are overrepresented compared to others.

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

The 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 Truth Justice and Healing Council were included in Questionnaire S3, which was completed by 2,591 attenders from parishes in the national random sample.

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 39 to 45 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 Truth Justice and Healing 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

2016

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
15-34yrs	323	13
35-59yrs	812	33
60+yrs	1,337	54
Total	2,472	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	50
Vic & Tas	490	19
Qld	510	20
SA & NT	141	5
WA	142	5
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	1
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	3
Vietnam	34	1
Philippines	279	11
India/Sri Lanka	142	6
Other Asia	100	4
Other	103	4
Total	2,504	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

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

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.

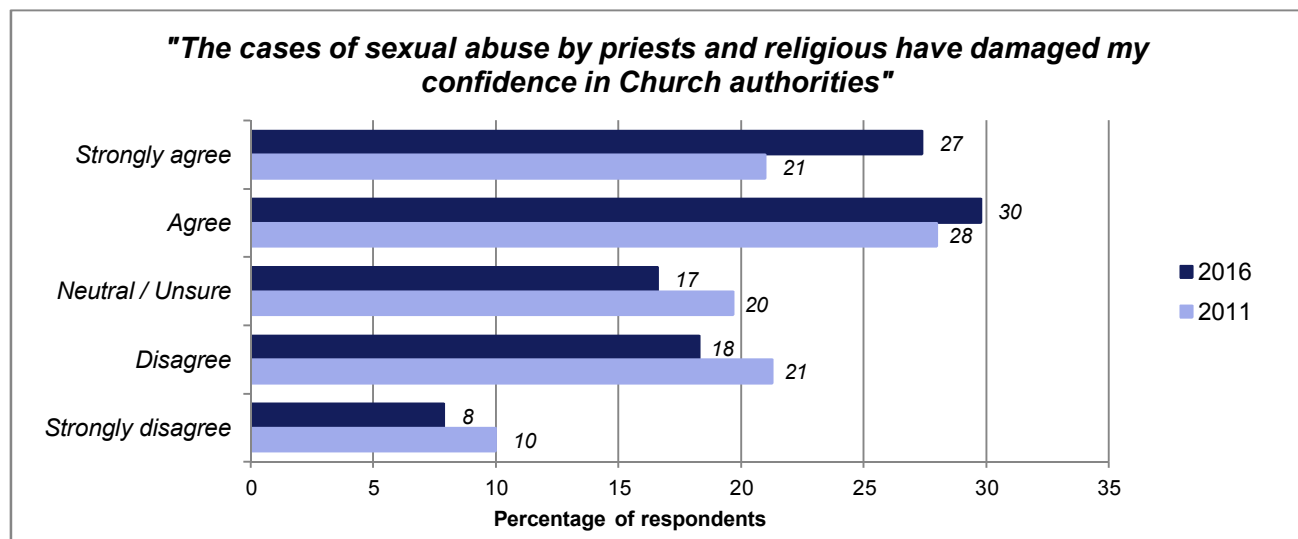
No. Question		No. Question	
1 Frequency of attendance at Mass	Per cent	5 Leadership role in <u>this</u> parish	Per cent
First time	1	Reader or special minister of the Eucharist	21
Hardly ever / Special occasions	2	Music ministry	7
Less than once a month	1	Member of liturgy planning group	2
Once a month	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
		Teacher in the parish school	2
		Active involvement in parish school, but not as teacher	2
		Other role not mentioned above	11
		No leadership or ministry role	60
		Total	129
		N = 2,308	
2 Length of attendance at this parish	Per cent	7 Sense of belonging	Per cent
Less than 1 year	7	Strong and growing	38
1 - 2 years	9	Strong and stable	31
3 - 5 years	10	Strong, but perhaps not as strong as in the past	10
6 - 10 years	12	Not a strong sense of belonging	18
11 - 20 years	17	Don't know or not applicable	3
More than 20 years	40	Total	100
I am visiting. I usually go to church somewhere else	5	N = 2,489	
I am visiting and do not regularly attend elsewhere	1		
Total	100		
N = 2,539			
3 Involvement in parish groups	Per cent	8 In this parish, how many people do you know well enough to speak to?	Per cent
Yes, in small prayer, discussion or Bible study groups	10	Everyone or nearly everyone	12
Yes, in clubs, social groups or other groups	23	A fair number of people	67
No, we have no such groups	10	Hardly anyone / no-one	21
No, I am not regularly involved	61	Total	100
Total	104	N = 2,514	
N = 2,450			
4 Involvement in parish outreach activities	Per cent	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?	Per cent
Yes, in outreach or evangelisation activities	8	Less than \$5	11
Yes, in community service, social justice or welfare activities of this parish	19	\$5 to less than \$10	31
No, we don't have such activities	9	\$10 to less than \$20	26
No, I am not regularly involved	67	\$20 to less than \$40	19
Total	103	\$40 or more	7
N = 2,471		My family and I don't contribute financially here	3
		Don't know	4
		Total	100
		N = 2,485	
6 Importance of parish community	Per cent		
Very / extremely important	60		
Quite important	27		
A little / not important	12		
Total	100		
N = 2,498			

Question 39

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

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

	2016 (%)	2011 (%)
Strongly agree	27	21
Agree	30	28
Neutral / Unsure	17	20
Disagree	18	21
Strongly disagree	8	10
Total	100	100
Responses	2,409	2,530



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

Age

15-34 yrs	20	22	24	20	13
35-59 yrs	28	26	20	18	8
60+ yrs	28	34	13	18	6

N = 2,363

Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.

Sex

Female	26	29	18	19	8
Male	29	32	15	17	8

N = 2,348

Not significant

Marital Status

Never Married	22	26	25	17	10
Married	27	31	15	19	8
Separated / Divorced	39	21	15	17	8
Widowed	30	34	16	14	6

N = 2,378

Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.

Type of primary school attended

Catholic	27	30	17	19	8
Government	26	31	16	19	8
Other	23	23	22	18	14

N = 2,071

Not significant

Question	Strongly agree (%)	Agree (%)	Neutral / Unsure (%)	Disagree (%)	Strongly disagree (%)
Type of secondary school attended					
Catholic	27	31	15	20	7
Government	25	31	17	16	11
Other	26	22	25	15	13
<i>N = 2,105</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.01$ level.</i>					
Level of Education					
No Post Secondary	25	29	18	20	8
Diploma / Trade Certificate	23	32	17	18	9
Degree or Higher	33	29	15	16	7
<i>N = 2,368</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.01$ level.</i>					
Birthplace					
Australia	27	32	16	19	7
Other English speaking country	35	31	14	14	6
Non-English speaking country	26	26	19	19	9
<i>N = 2,387</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.05$ level.</i>					
Mother's birthplace					
Australia	27	32	14	20	7
Other English speaking country	33	33	13	14	6
Non-English speaking country	25	26	22	17	9
<i>N = 2,328</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>					
Father's birthplace					
Australia	28	32	15	18	7
Other English speaking country	30	31	12	21	5
Non-English speaking country	26	27	20	18	9
<i>N = 2,316</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.05$ level.</i>					
Religion					
Catholic	27	30	16	19	8
Other Christian / other religion	20	21	34	18	7
<i>N = 2,339</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.01$ level. Insufficient cases to provide result for 'No religion'.</i>					
Religion of spouse / partner					
Catholic	27	31	15	19	8
Other Christian / other religion	28	31	13	22	6
No Religion	32	25	19	23	1
<i>N = 1,700</i>					
<i>Not significant</i>					
State / Territory					
New South Wales & Australian Capital Territory	26	31	17	17	9
Victoria & Tasmania	33	28	13	18	9
Queensland	24	33	17	19	7
South Australia & Northern Territory	26	29	23	15	8
Western Australia	16	23	26	32	3
<i>N = 2,409</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>					
Participation in the parish					
Frequency of attendance at Mass (in general)					
First time / rarely / special occasions	43	25	10	12	10
Less than weekly	39	34	9	13	5
Weekly or more often	25	30	18	19	8
<i>N = 1,955</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>					

Question	Strongly agree (%)	Agree (%)	Neutral / Unsure (%)	Disagree (%)	Strongly disagree (%)
Length of attendance in this parish					
Up to 5 years	29	27	18	17	9
6 to 20 years	26	29	20	18	8
More than 20 years	27	32	15	19	8
Visitor	29	37	9	22	4
<i>N = 2,377</i>					
<i>Not significant</i>					
Involvement in parish groups, ministries or activities					
Is not involved	29	31	18	15	7
Is involved	24	28	14	24	9
<i>N = 2,303</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>					
Involvement in parish outreach activities					
Is not involved	28	30	18	16	7
Is involved	26	28	12	25	9
<i>N = 2,333</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>					
Leadership or ministry role in parish					
No	28	30	20	16	7
Yes	26	29	13	23	9
<i>N = 2,193</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>					
Importance of parish community					
A little / not important	34	30	18	11	7
Quite important	29	31	19	12	8
Very / extremely important	25	29	15	22	8
<i>N = 2,354</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>					
Sense of belonging to the parish					
Strong and growing	25	25	17	22	11
Strong and stable	24	32	17	20	7
Strong, but less so than in the past	42	34	12	9	3
Not a strong sense of belonging	28	32	19	14	9
<i>N = 2,289</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>					
How many people do you know well enough to speak to?					
Everyone or nearly everyone	23	28	18	22	9
A fair number of people	26	30	18	18	8
Hardly anyone / no-one	32	29	14	17	8
<i>N = 2,370</i>					
<i>Not significant.</i>					
Weekly giving to the parish					
Nothing to less than \$5	31	25	16	18	10
\$5-\$10	28	29	20	17	6
\$10-\$20	28	32	16	16	8
More than \$20	23	30	15	22	9
<i>N = 2,259</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.05$ 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 = '

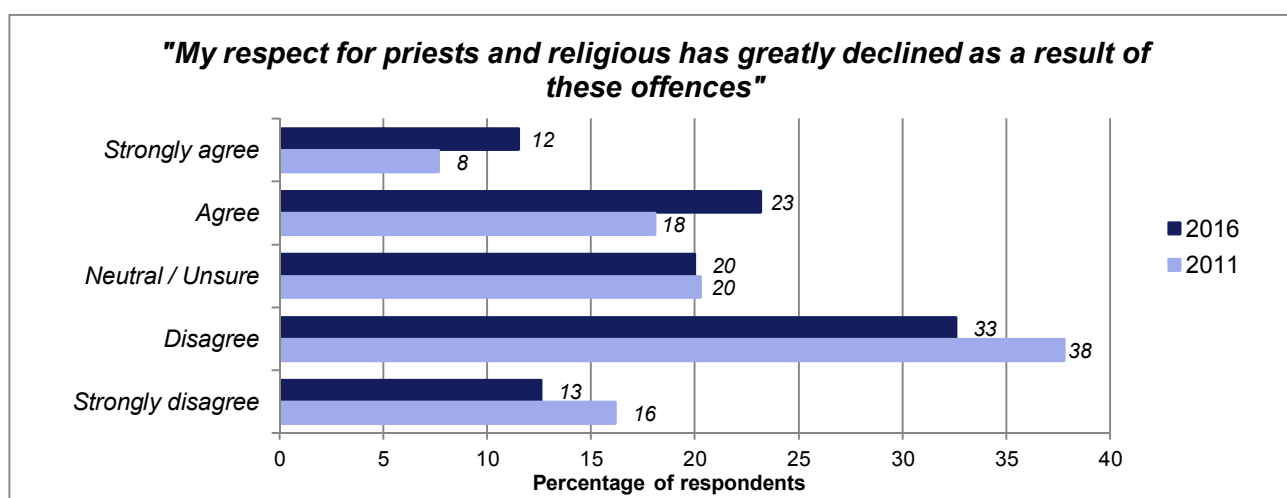
Percentages add to 100 across each row.

Question 40

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

"My respect for priests and religious has greatly declined as a result of these offences"

	2016 (%)	2011 (%)
Strongly agree	12	8
Agree	23	18
Neutral / Unsure	20	20
Disagree	33	38
Strongly disagree	13	16
Total	100	100
Responses	2,390	2,491



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

Age

15-34 yrs	7	21	24	33	14
35-59 yrs	16	20	23	28	12
60+ yrs	9	26	17	35	12

N = 2,344

Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.

Sex

Female	11	23	20	33	13
Male	12	23	20	33	12

N = 2,329

Not significant

Marital Status

Never Married	8	22	23	33	15
Married	12	23	20	33	12
Separated / Divorced	22	19	14	36	10
Widowed	11	27	18	30	14

N = 2,359

Significant at $p < 0.05$ level.

Type of primary school attended

Catholic	11	22	19	35	14
Government	11	24	22	31	12
Other	13	23	32	21	11

N = 2,057

Significant at $p < 0.05$ level.

Question	Strongly agree (%)	Agree (%)	Neutral / Unsure (%)	Disagree (%)	Strongly disagree (%)
Type of secondary school attended					
Catholic	10	22	19	36	12
Government	12	25	21	28	15
Other	12	27	25	26	10
<i>N = 2,095</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.05$ level.</i>					
Level of Education					
No Post Secondary	10	25	22	31	12
Diploma / Trade Certificate	11	22	18	32	18
Degree or Higher	14	22	19	34	11
<i>N = 2,349</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>					
Birthplace					
Australia	10	24	19	34	14
Other English speaking country	20	17	18	34	11
Non-English speaking country	13	24	22	30	11
<i>N = 2,370</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>					
Mother's birthplace					
Australia	9	23	19	35	14
Other English speaking country	18	20	18	34	11
Non-English speaking country	12	24	23	31	11
<i>N = 2,311</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>					
Father's birthplace					
Australia	9	24	19	34	14
Other English speaking country	16	14	21	40	10
Non-English speaking country	12	24	22	30	11
<i>N = 2,300</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>					
Religion					
Catholic	11	22	20	34	13
Other Christian / other religion	10	26	39	15	10
<i>N = 2,324</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level. Insufficient cases to provide result for 'No religion'.</i>					
Religion of spouse / partner					
Catholic	11	23	20	33	13
Other Christian / other religion	10	26	17	37	9
No Religion	11	22	31	25	11
<i>N = 1,687</i>					
<i>Not significant</i>					
State / Territory					
New South Wales & Australian Capital Territory	11	23	21	30	14
Victoria & Tasmania	15	27	15	30	14
Queensland	9	22	21	37	11
South Australia & Northern Territory	10	19	27	36	7
Western Australia	8	9	29	48	6
<i>N = 2,390</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>					
Participation in the parish					
Frequency of attendance at Mass (in general)					
First time / rarely / special occasions	27	40	17	6	10
Less than weekly	20	31	21	25	4
Weekly or more often	10	22	21	34	14
<i>N = 1,941</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>					

Question	Strongly agree (%)	Agree (%)	Neutral / Unsure (%)	Disagree (%)	Strongly disagree (%)
Length of attendance in this parish					
Up to 5 years	13	23	21	29	13
6 to 20 years	10	21	24	34	11
More than 20 years	10	25	17	33	14
Visitor	21	19	17	39	4
<i>N = 2,357</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>					
Involvement in parish groups, ministries or activities					
Is not involved	13	24	22	30	11
Is involved	8	21	15	38	17
<i>N = 2,293</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>					
Involvement in parish outreach activities					
Is not involved	13	24	22	29	12
Is involved	8	20	14	42	16
<i>N = 2,318</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>					
Leadership or ministry role in parish					
No	13	25	22	28	12
Yes	8	20	16	41	15
<i>N = 2,182</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>					
Importance of parish community					
A little / not important	17	28	21	26	8
Quite important	13	25	25	25	11
Very / extremely important	10	22	18	36	14
<i>N = 2,342</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>					
Sense of belonging to the parish					
Strong and growing	8	19	19	36	17
Strong and stable	10	23	19	35	13
Strong, but less so than in the past	18	31	25	20	6
Not a strong sense of belonging	14	28	24	25	10
<i>N = 2,276</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>					
How many people do you know well enough to speak to?					
Everyone or nearly everyone	12	19	20	35	14
A fair number of people	10	23	21	33	13
Hardly anyone / no-one	16	25	19	29	10
<i>N = 2,354</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.01$ level.</i>					
Weekly giving to the parish					
Nothing to less than \$5	20	23	22	22	12
\$5-\$10	11	25	22	32	10
\$10-\$20	9	26	19	33	13
More than \$20	8	18	18	39	17
<i>N = 2,244</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ 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 = '

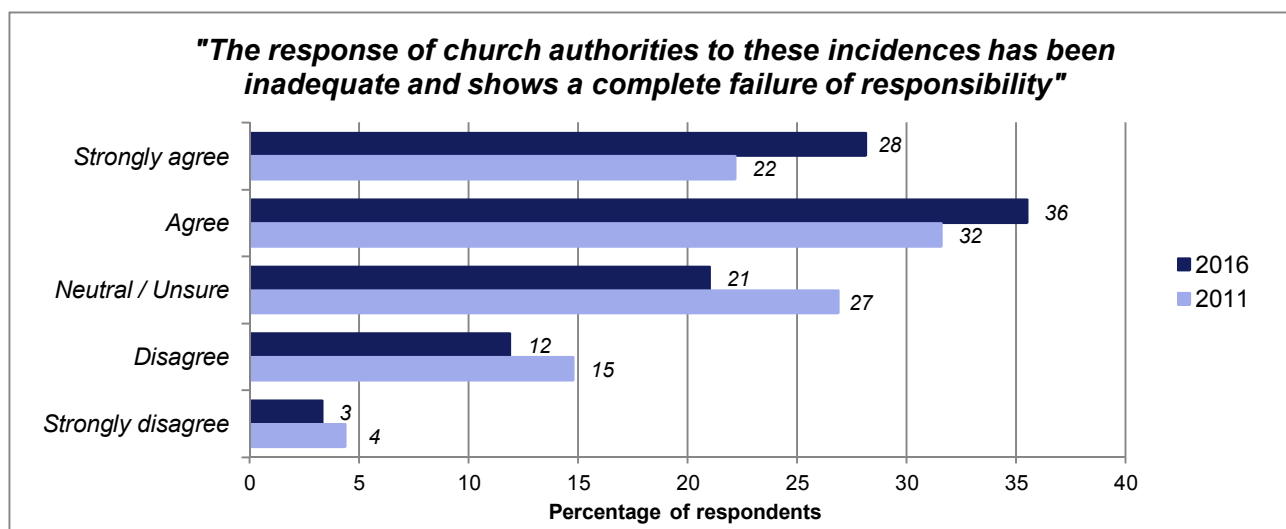
Percentages add to 100 across each row.

Question 41

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

"The response of church authorities to these incidences has been inadequate and shows a complete failure of responsibility"

	2016 (%)	2011 (%)
Strongly agree	28	22
Agree	36	32
Neutral / Unsure	21	27
Disagree	12	15
Strongly disagree	3	4
Total	100	100
Responses	2,375	2,461



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

Age

15-34 yrs	14	25	37	16	8
35-59 yrs	30	33	24	11	2
60+ yrs	30	40	15	11	3

N = 2,330

Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.

Sex

Female	29	36	21	12	3
Male	26	36	22	12	5

N = 2,311

Significant at $p < 0.05$ level.

Marital Status

Never Married	25	28	32	11	5
Married	28	36	20	13	3
Separated / Divorced	43	31	11	12	3
Widowed	28	43	16	8	4

N = 2,344

Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.

Type of primary school attended

Catholic	30	36	20	12	3
Government	26	38	22	11	3
Other	22	18	39	17	4

N = 2,049

Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.

Question	Strongly agree (%)	Agree (%)	Neutral / Unsure (%)	Disagree (%)	Strongly disagree (%)
Type of secondary school attended					
Catholic	28	37	20	12	3
Government	26	36	24	11	3
Other	28	25	26	16	5
<i>N = 2,086</i>					
<i>Not significant</i>					
Level of Education					
No Post Secondary	25	39	21	11	4
Diploma / Trade Certificate	25	34	22	15	4
Degree or Higher	33	33	21	11	2
<i>N = 2,330</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>					
Birthplace					
Australia	31	35	20	11	3
Other English speaking country	31	39	19	9	3
Non-English speaking country	22	34	25	14	4
<i>N = 2,351</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.01$ level.</i>					
Mother's birthplace					
Australia	32	36	18	11	3
Other English speaking country	32	39	18	8	2
Non-English speaking country	22	34	27	14	3
<i>N = 2,298</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>					
Father's birthplace					
Australia	33	35	18	12	3
Other English speaking country	28	42	16	8	6
Non-English speaking country	22	34	27	14	3
<i>N = 2,288</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>					
Religion					
Catholic	28	36	20	12	3
Other Christian / other religion	24	31	41	5	0
<i>N = 2,305</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.01$ level. Insufficient cases to provide result for 'No religion'.</i>					
Religion of spouse / partner					
Catholic	26	38	21	12	3
Other Christian / other religion	30	32	19	17	2
No Religion	43	30	16	10	1
<i>N = 1,680</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.01$ level.</i>					
State / Territory					
New South Wales & Australian Capital Territory	26	36	22	12	4
Victoria & Tasmania	37	33	16	12	2
Queensland	23	40	23	12	2
South Australia & Northern Territory	24	34	29	13	1
Western Australia	14	37	26	12	12
<i>N = 2,375</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>					
Participation in the parish					
Frequency of attendance at Mass (in general)					
First time / rarely / special occasions	37	31	25	4	2
Less than weekly	39	31	20	8	2
Weekly or more often	27	37	21	12	3
<i>N = 1,929</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.05$ level.</i>					

Question	Strongly agree (%)	Agree (%)	Neutral / Unsure (%)	Disagree (%)	Strongly disagree (%)
Length of attendance in this parish					
Up to 5 years	26	32	26	11	5
6 to 20 years	26	35	24	13	2
More than 20 years	31	38	16	12	4
Visitor	33	39	15	12	1
<i>N = 2,345</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>					
Involvement in parish groups, ministries or activities					
Is not involved	29	34	22	11	3
Is involved	26	38	18	15	3
<i>N = 2,277</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.01$ level.</i>					
Involvement in parish outreach activities					
Is not involved	29	34	23	11	3
Is involved	27	40	15	14	4
<i>N = 2,303</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>					
Leadership or ministry role in parish					
No	28	33	24	11	4
Yes	30	36	17	13	3
<i>N = 2,165</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.05$ level.</i>					
Importance of parish community					
A little / not important	42	29	22	5	2
Quite important	29	34	26	8	3
Very / extremely important	25	37	18	16	4
<i>N = 2,327</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>					
Sense of belonging to the parish					
Strong and growing	23	37	21	16	4
Strong and stable	27	37	21	11	3
Strong, but less so than in the past	48	31	15	5	1
Not a strong sense of belonging	28	31	26	10	4
<i>N = 2,261</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>					
How many people do you know well enough to speak to?					
Everyone or nearly everyone	25	39	15	18	3
A fair number of people	28	36	21	12	3
Hardly anyone / no-one	31	31	25	9	4
<i>N = 2,341</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.01$ level.</i>					
Weekly giving to the parish					
Nothing to less than \$5	31	30	21	12	6
\$5-\$10	29	36	22	11	2
\$10-\$20	26	38	21	12	4
More than \$20	26	37	20	13	4
<i>N = 2,229</i>					
<i>Not significant</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 = '

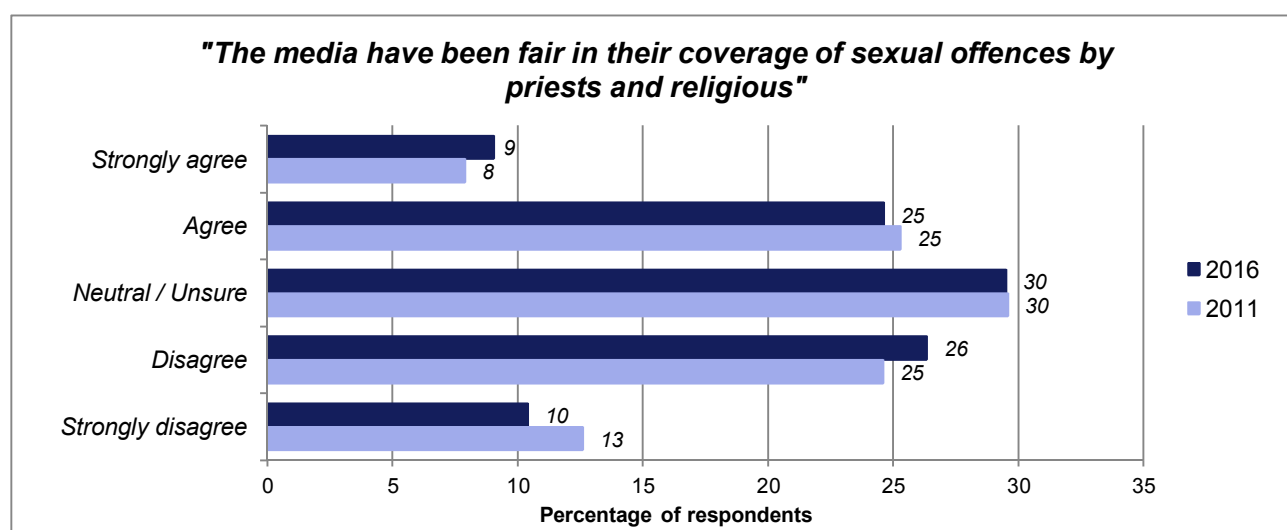
Percentages add to 100 across each row.

Question 42

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

"The media have been fair in their coverage of sexual offences by priests and religious"

	2106 (%)	2011 (%)
Strongly agree	9	8
Agree	25	25
Neutral / Unsure	30	30
Disagree	26	25
Strongly disagree	10	13
Total	100	100
Responses	2,377	2,457



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

Age

15-34 yrs	3	16	43	27	10
35-59 yrs	11	23	36	20	10
60+ yrs	9	28	22	30	10

N = 2,336

Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.

Sex

Female	10	24	30	28	8
Male	7	25	30	25	14

N = 2,321

Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.

Marital Status

Never Married	7	18	31	31	12
Married	9	26	31	24	10
Separated / Divorced	10	30	23	28	9
Widowed	11	24	22	33	10

N = 2,350

Significant at $p < 0.01$ level.

Type of primary school attended

Catholic	8	24	29	28	12
Government	8	28	29	26	9
Other	8	21	41	21	10

N = 2,049

Not significant

Question	Strongly agree (%)	Agree (%)	Neutral / Unsure (%)	Disagree (%)	Strongly disagree (%)
Type of secondary school attended					
Catholic	9	24	28	28	11
Government	9	26	32	24	9
Other	3	22	39	24	12
<i>N = 2,089</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.05$ level.</i>					
Level of Education					
No Post Secondary	10	27	27	27	9
Diploma / Trade Certificate	9	20	31	26	15
Degree or Higher	8	24	32	26	10
<i>N = 2,337</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.01$ level.</i>					
Birthplace					
Australia	9	24	25	29	12
Other English speaking country	10	22	33	28	7
Non-English speaking country	8	26	37	20	8
<i>N = 2,357</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>					
Mother's birthplace					
Australia	9	26	22	30	13
Other English speaking country	9	23	32	29	7
Non-English speaking country	8	23	39	22	8
<i>N = 2,305</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>					
Father's birthplace					
Australia	9	26	23	31	12
Other English speaking country	8	24	28	28	12
Non-English speaking country	8	23	39	21	8
<i>N = 2,294</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>					
Religion					
Catholic	9	24	29	27	10
Other Christian / other religion	7	38	42	5	8
<i>N = 2,311</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level. Insufficient cases to provide result for 'No religion'.</i>					
Religion of spouse / partner					
Catholic	8	25	30	26	11
Other Christian / other religion	11	27	31	26	5
No Religion	12	23	36	20	9
<i>N = 1,679</i>					
<i>Not significant</i>					
State / Territory					
New South Wales & Australian Capital Territory	10	28	30	23	9
Victoria & Tasmania	10	21	29	27	14
Queensland	8	22	29	32	8
South Australia & Northern Territory	4	28	35	28	4
Western Australia	4	24	24	35	13
<i>N = 2,377</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>					
Participation in the parish					
Frequency of attendance at Mass (in general)					
First time / rarely / special occasions	27	16	31	18	8
Less than weekly	14	31	35	18	2
Weekly or more often	7	25	28	29	11
<i>N = 1,936</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>					

Question	Strongly agree (%)	Agree (%)	Neutral / Unsure (%)	Disagree (%)	Strongly disagree (%)
Length of attendance in this parish					
Up to 5 years	6	25	35	22	12
6 to 20 years	8	27	28	28	9
More than 20 years	12	23	28	26	11
Visitor	13	19	25	39	4
N = 2,348					
Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.					
Involvement in parish groups, ministries or activities					
Is not involved	10	25	32	23	9
Is involved	8	24	24	32	13
N = 2,280					
Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.					
Involvement in parish outreach activities					
Is not involved	10	25	32	23	10
Is involved	7	25	21	36	12
N = 2,308					
Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.					
Leadership or ministry role in parish					
No	9	26	33	23	10
Yes	9	22	25	32	12
N = 2,174					
Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.					
Importance of parish community					
A little / not important	12	31	30	19	8
Quite important	8	27	32	22	10
Very / extremely important	9	23	29	29	11
N = 2,330					
Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.					
Sense of belonging to the parish					
Strong and growing	9	24	30	26	12
Strong and stable	7	25	29	28	11
Strong, but less so than in the past	15	30	27	20	8
Not a strong sense of belonging	8	23	32	26	11
N = 2,263					
Significant at $p < 0.05$ level.					
How many people do you know well enough to speak to?					
Everyone or nearly everyone	12	24	27	28	9
A fair number of people	8	25	30	26	10
Hardly anyone / no-one	10	23	31	24	12
N = 2,344					
Not significant					
Weekly giving to the parish					
Nothing to less than \$5	9	26	35	22	9
\$5-\$10	9	26	34	22	9
\$10-\$20	9	27	25	29	10
More than \$20	8	22	27	30	14
N = 2,235					
Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.					

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 = '

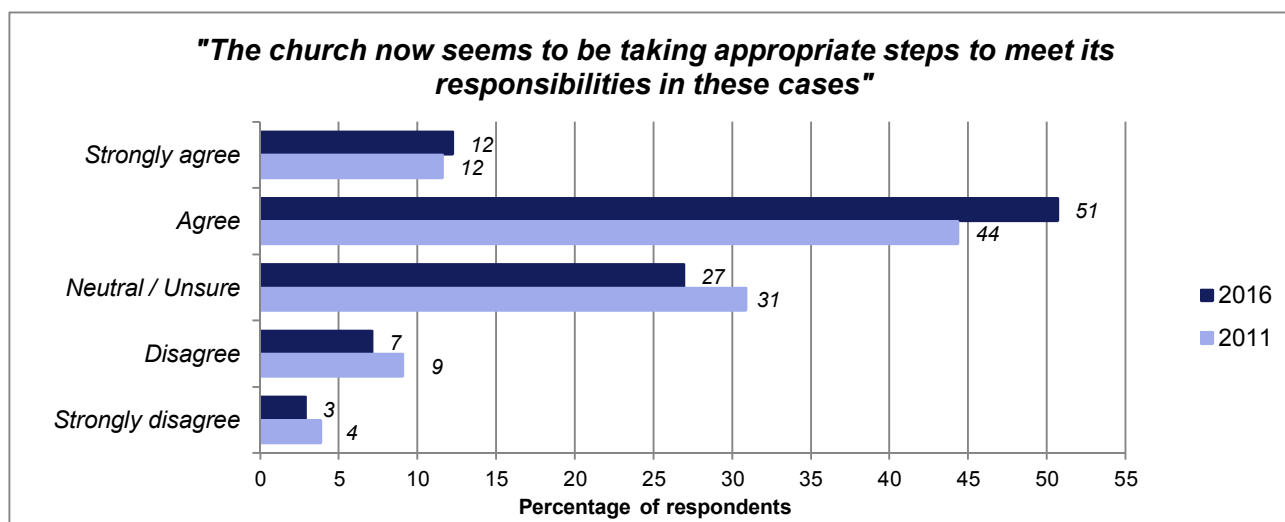
Percentages add to 100 across each row.

Question 43

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

"The church now seems to be taking appropriate steps to meet its responsibilities in these cases"

	2016 (%)	2011 (%)
Strongly agree	12	12
Agree	51	44
Neutral / Unsure	27	31
Disagree	7	9
Strongly disagree	3	4
Total	100	100
Responses	2,379	2,487



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

Age

15-34 yrs	10	35	46	7	2
35-59 yrs	12	42	34	9	4
60+ yrs	13	60	18	6	3

N = 2,335

Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.

Sex

Female	12	50	28	7	3
Male	12	52	25	7	3

N = 2,320

Not significant

Marital Status

Never Married	9	41	39	8	2
Married	12	53	26	7	3
Separated / Divorced	15	44	25	6	10
Widowed	19	56	19	6	0

N = 2,351

Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.

Type of primary school attended

Catholic	12	50	26	8	3
Government	9	54	29	5	2
Other	4	43	38	12	4

N = 2,044

Significant at $p < 0.01$ level.

Question	Strongly agree (%)	Agree (%)	Neutral / Unsure (%)	Disagree (%)	Strongly disagree (%)
Type of secondary school attended					
Catholic	12	52	26	7	3
Government	10	50	30	6	4
Other	6	39	41	12	2
<i>N = 2,087</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.01$ level.</i>					
Level of Education					
No Post Secondary	15	54	22	7	2
Diploma / Trade Certificate	10	52	28	7	3
Degree or Higher	10	46	32	8	4
<i>N = 2,339</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>					
Birthplace					
Australia	11	52	26	8	3
Other English speaking country	9	47	32	9	4
Non-English speaking country	14	50	28	6	2
<i>N = 2,356</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.01$ level.</i>					
Mother's birthplace					
Australia	12	56	22	8	3
Other English speaking country	10	47	31	9	3
Non-English speaking country	12	46	34	6	2
<i>N = 2,304</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>					
Father's birthplace					
Australia	12	54	23	8	3
Other English speaking country	10	55	26	6	4
Non-English speaking country	12	46	33	7	2
<i>N = 2,293</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>					
Religion					
Catholic	12	51	26	7	2
Other Christian / other religion	10	45	33	7	5
<i>N = 2,313</i>					
<i>Not significant. Insufficient cases to provide result for 'No religion'.</i>					
Religion of spouse / partner					
Catholic	10	54	26	7	2
Other Christian / other religion	15	47	28	7	2
No Religion	16	53	19	7	5
<i>N = 1,683</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>					
State / Territory					
New South Wales & Australian Capital Territory	14	48	28	7	3
Victoria & Tasmania	10	49	28	8	5
Queensland	12	55	25	7	1
South Australia & Northern Territory	12	53	24	8	3
Western Australia	13	66	18	2	0
<i>N = 2,379</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.01$ level.</i>					
Participation in the parish					
Frequency of attendance at Mass (in general)					
First time / rarely / special occasions	4	24	47	6	18
Less than weekly	5	41	33	14	7
Weekly or more often	13	53	26	7	2
<i>N = 1,935</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>					

Question	Strongly agree (%)	Agree (%)	Neutral / Unsure (%)	Disagree (%)	Strongly disagree (%)
Length of attendance in this parish					
Up to 5 years	10	45	35	7	3
6 to 20 years	15	50	25	8	2
More than 20 years	12	55	23	7	3
Visitor	9	49	27	9	6
N = 2,349					
Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.					
Involvement in parish groups, ministries or activities					
Is not involved	11	47	31	8	3
Is involved	14	59	20	6	2
N = 2,279					
Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.					
Involvement in parish outreach activities					
Is not involved	11	48	30	8	3
Is involved	14	59	18	6	2
N = 2,307					
Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.					
Leadership or ministry role in parish					
No	11	48	30	8	3
Yes	12	53	25	6	3
N = 2,172					
Significant at $p < 0.05$ level.					
Importance of parish community					
A little / not important	7	35	36	17	4
Quite important	9	47	34	8	3
Very / extremely important	14	56	22	5	3
N = 2,328					
Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.					
Sense of belonging to the parish					
Strong and growing	17	54	21	5	2
Strong and stable	10	57	25	6	2
Strong, but less so than in the past	8	39	36	14	4
Not a strong sense of belonging	9	40	39	9	2
N = 2,262					
Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.					
How many people do you know well enough to speak to?					
Everyone or nearly everyone	21	55	19	4	2
A fair number of people	11	54	26	7	2
Hardly anyone / no-one	10	39	36	11	5
N = 2,343					
Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.					
Weekly giving to the parish					
Nothing to less than \$5	8	40	38	11	3
\$5-\$10	12	46	31	8	3
\$10-\$20	13	56	24	6	1
More than \$20	14	58	19	5	3
N = 2,235					
Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.					

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.

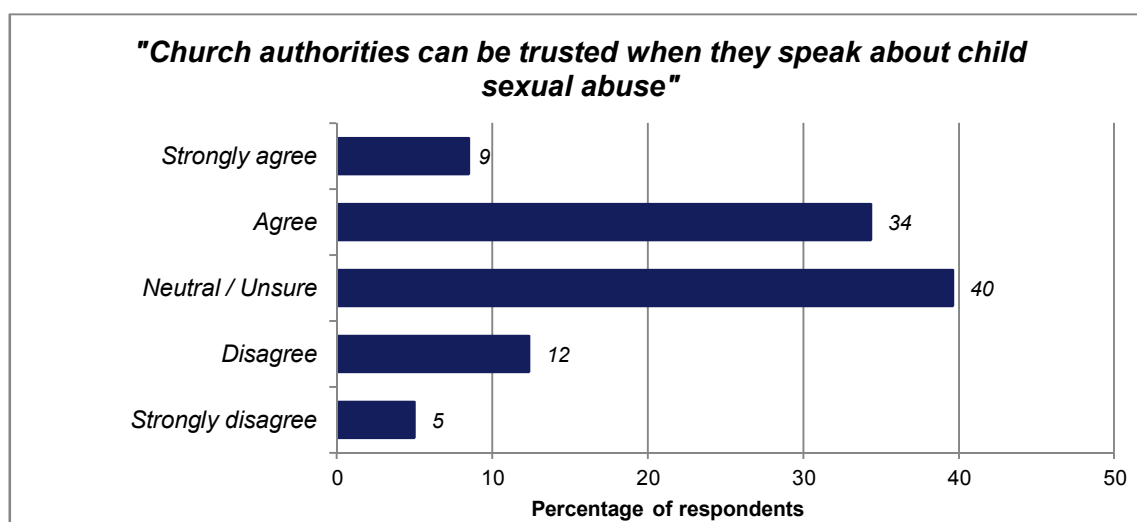
Question 44

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

"Church authorities can be trusted when they speak about child sexual abuse"

(This was a new question in 2016)

	2016 (%)
Strongly agree	9
Agree	34
Neutral / Unsure	40
Disagree	12
Strongly disagree	5
Total	100
Responses	2,382



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

Age

15-34 yrs	9	31	45	9	6
35-59 yrs	7	30	44	12	7
60+ yrs	9	38	36	13	4

N = 2,337

Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.

Sex

Female	8	33	41	13	5
Male	9	37	38	12	4

N = 2,320

Not significant

Marital Status

Never Married	8	28	46	10	8
Married	8	37	39	12	4
Separated / Divorced	11	23	42	12	13
Widowed	13	33	35	16	3

N = 2,353

Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.

Type of primary school attended

Catholic	7	35	39	13	5
Government	8	33	44	11	4
Other	8	30	43	6	13

N = 2,052

Significant at $p < 0.05$ level.

Question	Strongly agree (%)	Agree (%)	Neutral / Unsure (%)	Disagree (%)	Strongly disagree (%)
Type of secondary school attended					
Catholic	7	35	39	13	5
Government	9	30	46	11	4
Other	7	36	35	12	10
<i>N = 2,089</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.05$ level.</i>					
Level of Education					
No Post Secondary	10	40	37	11	3
Diploma / Trade Certificate	9	34	42	13	3
Degree or Higher	6	29	42	14	8
<i>N = 2,339</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>					
Birthplace					
Australia	7	33	40	14	6
Other English speaking country	8	23	47	15	6
Non-English speaking country	10	41	37	8	3
<i>N = 2,361</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>					
Mother's birthplace					
Australia	8	34	38	15	6
Other English speaking country	7	24	46	17	6
Non-English speaking country	9	38	41	8	4
<i>N = 2,307</i>					
Father's birthplace					
Australia	8	33	39	14	6
Other English speaking country	8	31	40	15	5
Non-English speaking country	9	37	41	9	4
<i>N = 2,297</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.05$ level.</i>					
Religion					
Catholic	9	35	40	12	5
Other Christian / other religion	7	35	38	18	2
<i>N = 2,317</i>					
<i>Not significant. Insufficient cases to provide result for 'No religion'.</i>					
Religion of spouse / partner					
Catholic	8	39	37	13	4
Other Christian / other religion	6	30	49	12	3
No Religion	7	23	52	9	9
<i>N = 1,683</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>					
State / Territory					
New South Wales & Australian Capital Territory	10	34	40	11	4
Victoria & Tasmania	6	29	40	16	9
Queensland	7	43	36	12	2
South Australia & Northern Territory	9	38	40	10	3
Western Australia	8	47	41	5	0
<i>N = 2,382</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>					
Participation in the parish					
Frequency of attendance at Mass (in general)					
First time / rarely / special occasions	4	6	50	19	21
Less than weekly	1	23	52	12	12
Weekly or more often	9	35	39	12	4
<i>N = 1,939</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>					

Question	Strongly agree (%)	Agree (%)	Neutral / Unsure (%)	Disagree (%)	Strongly disagree (%)
Length of attendance in this parish					
Up to 5 years	7	31	46	9	6
6 to 20 years	9	35	40	12	4
More than 20 years	9	37	36	14	4
Visitor	7	28	42	13	9
<i>N = 2,350</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.01$ level.</i>					
Involvement in parish groups, ministries or activities					
Is not involved	8	34	41	12	6
Is involved	10	37	37	12	4
<i>N = 2,286</i>					
<i>Not significant</i>					
Involvement in parish outreach activities					
Is not involved	8	34	41	12	6
Is involved	10	37	36	13	4
<i>N = 2,310</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.05$ level.</i>					
Leadership or ministry role in parish					
No	7	35	42	12	5
Yes	9	34	37	14	6
<i>N = 2,178</i>					
<i>Not significant</i>					
Importance of parish community					
A little / not important	2	22	47	19	10
Quite important	6	31	43	14	6
Very / extremely important	11	39	36	11	4
<i>N = 2,334</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>					
Sense of belonging to the parish					
Strong and growing	13	39	34	10	3
Strong and stable	7	38	40	13	3
Strong, but less so than in the past	5	24	44	18	9
Not a strong sense of belonging	5	28	49	11	7
<i>N = 2,269</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>					
How many people do you know well enough to speak to?					
Everyone or nearly everyone	14	37	34	10	4
A fair number of people	8	36	39	13	4
Hardly anyone / no-one	6	28	44	14	9
<i>N = 2,347</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>					
Weekly giving to the parish					
Nothing to less than \$5	6	27	46	12	9
\$5-\$10	7	34	41	12	6
\$10-\$20	9	39	36	14	2
More than \$20	10	36	39	11	4
<i>N = 2,237</i>					
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>					

Statistical Note:

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

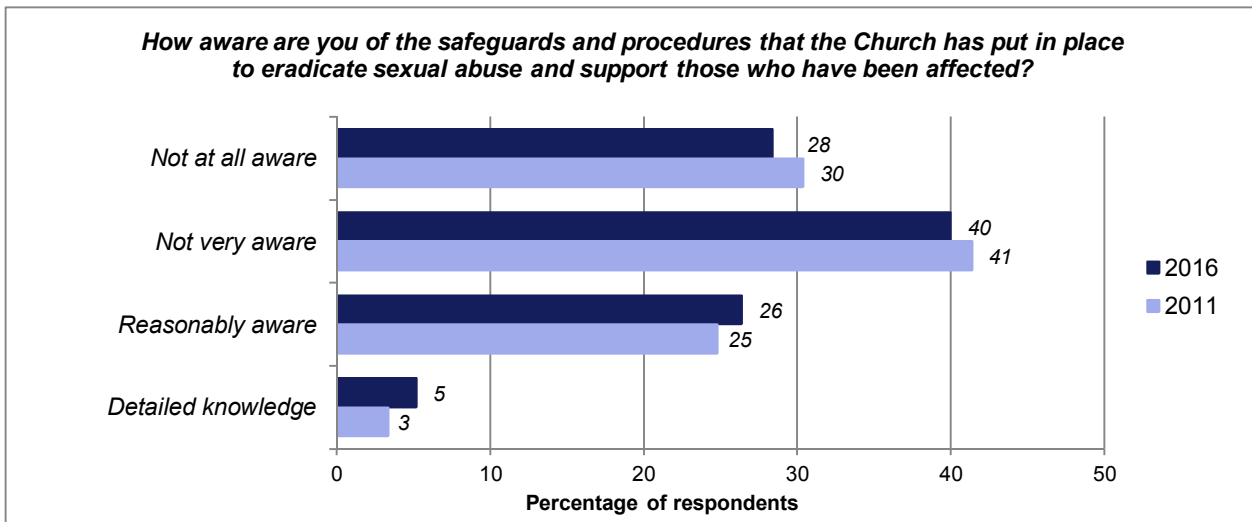
For each question, the actual (unweighted) number of respondents is shown as 'N = '

Percentages add to 100 across each row.

Question 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?

	2016 (%)	2011 (%)
<i>I am not at all aware of what the Church has done to address this issue</i>	28	30
<i>I know the Church has addressed the issue, but I'm not very aware of how this has been done</i>	40	41
<i>I am reasonably aware of how the Church has addressed this issue, but I'm not aware of the details</i>	26	25
<i>I have a detailed knowledge of what the Church has done to address this issue</i>	5	3
Total	100	100
Responses	2,353	2,464



Question	Not at all aware (%)	Not very aware (%)	Reasonably aware (%)	Detailed knowledge (%)
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Demographic characteristics

Age

15-34 yrs	45	37	14	4
35-59 yrs	31	41	22	6
60+ yrs	22	40	32	5

N = 2,315

Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.

Sex

Female	29	39	27	5
Male	26	41	26	6

N = 2,295

Not significant

Marital Status

Never Married	38	32	24	6
Married	26	42	26	5
Separated / Divorced	29	31	33	8
Widowed	28	42	27	3

N = 2,327

Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.

Question	Not at all aware (%)	Not very aware (%)	Reasonably aware (%)	Detailed knowledge (%)
Type of primary school attended				
Catholic	26	41	28	5
Government	28	38	28	6
Other	38	41	21	0
<i>N = 2,038</i>				
<i>Not significant</i>				
Type of secondary school attended				
Catholic	25	42	28	5
Government	33	34	27	7
Other	37	41	17	4
<i>N = 2,064</i>				
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>				
Level of Education				
No Post Secondary	32	38	25	4
Diploma / Trade Certificate	25	45	27	4
Degree or Higher	27	39	27	7
<i>N = 2,316</i>				
<i>Significant at $p < 0.05$ level.</i>				
Birthplace				
Australia	27	40	28	5
Other English speaking country	38	28	28	6
Non-English speaking country	28	44	23	6
<i>N = 2,335</i>				
<i>Significant at $p < 0.05$ level.</i>				
Mother's birthplace				
Australia	23	41	30	5
Other English speaking country	38	28	28	6
Non-English speaking country	32	41	22	5
<i>N = 2,282</i>				
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>				
Father's birthplace				
Australia	23	42	30	5
Other English speaking country	35	27	31	6
Non-English speaking country	33	41	21	5
<i>N = 2,268</i>				
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>				
Religion				
Catholic	27	40	27	5
Other Christian / other religion	50	41	9	0
<i>N = 2,392</i>				
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level. Insufficient cases to provide result for 'No religion'.</i>				
Religion of spouse / partner				
Catholic	26	41	27	6
Other Christian / other religion	30	42	24	4
No Religion	34	38	24	4
<i>N = 1,665</i>				
<i>Not significant</i>				
State / Territory				
New South Wales & Australian Capital Territory	31	41	23	5
Victoria & Tasmania	29	40	26	6
Queensland	23	39	31	7
South Australia & Northern Territory	21	46	28	5
Western Australia	29	28	38	4
<i>N = 2,353</i>				
<i>Significant at $p < 0.01$ level.</i>				

Question	Not at all aware (%)	Not very aware (%)	Reasonably aware (%)	Detailed knowledge (%)
Participation in the parish				
Frequency of attendance at Mass (in general)				
First time / rarely / special occasions	66	23	4	6
Less than weekly	40	38	18	5
Weekly or more often	25	40	29	5
<i>N = 1,922</i>				
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>				
Length of attendance in this parish				
Up to 5 years	35	40	19	6
6 to 20 years	28	39	27	6
More than 20 years	24	42	29	5
Visitor	31	31	34	4
<i>N = 2,323</i>				
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>				
Involvement in parish groups, ministries or activities				
Is not involved	33	39	24	4
Is involved	19	42	31	8
<i>N = 2,261</i>				
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>				
Involvement in parish outreach activities				
Is not involved	33	40	23	4
Is involved	14	41	36	9
<i>N = 2,286</i>				
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>				
Leadership or ministry role in parish				
No	33	42	21	4
Yes	20	38	35	7
<i>N = 2,151</i>				
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>				
Importance of parish community				
A little / not important	39	37	21	3
Quite important	31	42	24	3
Very / extremely important	25	40	28	7
<i>N = 2,310</i>				
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>				
Sense of belonging to the parish				
Strong and growing	27	40	27	7
Strong and stable	24	43	29	4
Strong, but less so than in the past	35	36	25	4
Not a strong sense of belonging	35	40	21	4
<i>N = 2,244</i>				
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>				
How many people do you know well enough to speak to?				
Everyone or nearly everyone	18	43	32	7
A fair number of people	28	40	27	5
Hardly anyone / no-one	37	39	19	4
<i>N = 2,322</i>				
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ level.</i>				
Weekly giving to the parish				
Nothing to less than \$5	38	33	24	5
\$5-\$10	29	46	23	3
\$10-\$20	25	43	25	8
More than \$20	21	38	34	7
<i>N = 2,212</i>				
<i>Significant at $p < 0.001$ 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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Not at all 1 2 3 4 5 Very much

☐ Yes, and I am very active
 ☐ No
☐ Yes, and I am a little active
 ☐ Unsure
☐ Yes, but I am currently not active

Strongly agree Agree Neutral/Unsure Disagree Strongly disagree

Strongly agree Agree Neutral/Unsure Disagree Strongly disagree

Strongly agree Agree Neutral/Unsure Disagree Strongly disagree

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Strongly agree Agree Neutral/Unsure Disagree Strongly disagree

Strongly agree Agree Neutral/Unsure Disagree Strongly disagree

Strongly agree Agree Neutral/Unsure Disagree Strongly disagree

(Mark up to THREE in BOTH columns)

☐ None ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5 or more

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

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

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

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

(Mark up to THREE in BOTH columns)

	Primary school	Secondary school
1. The teacher's role is to deliver knowledge.		
2. Learning is a process of discovery.		
3. Assessment is used to measure learning.		
4. The curriculum is a set of prescribed topics.		
5. The classroom is a place where students learn.		
6. The teacher is the authority in the classroom.		
7. Learning is a social process.		
8. The curriculum is flexible and adaptable.		
9. Assessment is used to improve learning.		
10. The classroom is a community.		
11. The teacher is a facilitator of learning.		
12. Learning is a lifelong process.		
13. The curriculum is based on real-world experiences.		
14. Assessment is used to assess student progress.		
15. The classroom is a space for exploration.		
16. The teacher is a guide on the side.		
17. Learning is a personal journey.		
18. The curriculum is designed to challenge students.		
19. Assessment is used to provide feedback.		
20. The classroom is a place of collaboration.		

Thank you for your help today

