

2021 National
Church Life
Survey



FOCUSED
ON THE

future

2021 National Church Life Survey

2021 National
Church Life
Survey



FOCUSED
ON THE

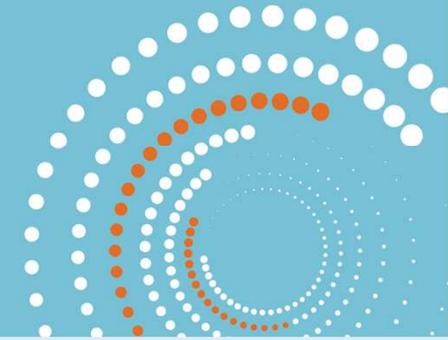
future

Everything churches need to know here:

2021ncls.org.au

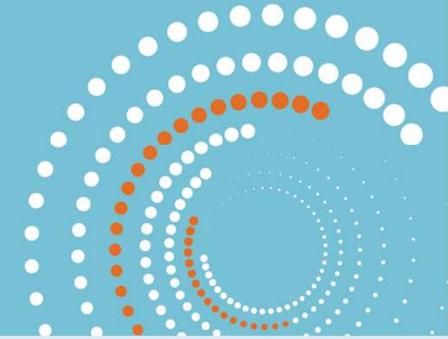
Also contact: mteulan@ncls.org.au (Martin)

ssterland@ncls.org.au (Sam)



Reasons churches do the NCLS

- to include everyone in a positive process that gives them a voice
- to discover strengths to celebrate and build on
- to discover areas that could do with more attention



Reasons churches do the NCLS

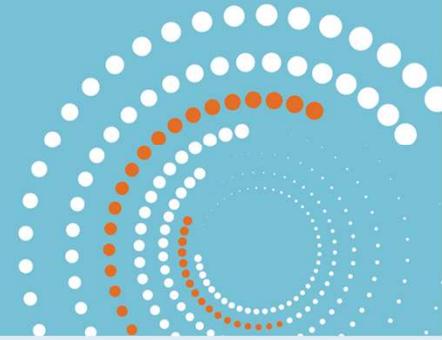
- to include everyone in a positive process that gives them a voice

Respectful

Unifying

Inspires commitment





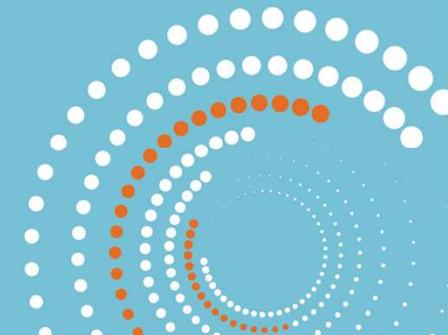
Reasons churches do the NCLS

- to discover strengths to celebrate and build on





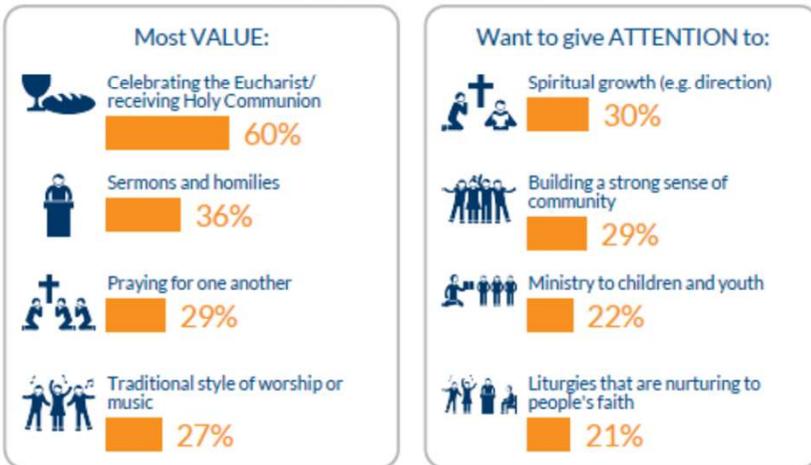
LISTEN TO EVERY voice



Church Life Profile

Bellville Parish
The Catholic Church in Australia

The people of this parish...



Note: Attenders could select up to three options so percentages may not add up to 100%

For example ...

You in 2016 - Bellville Parish (TZ9001, 682 forms)

SUMMARY PROFILE

The People of This Church



DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE



62% of all people are female and 38% are male

32% of all people have a university degree



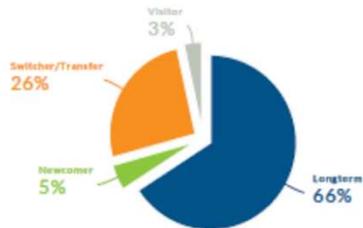
23% have a trade certificate, diploma or associate diploma



45% have primary or secondary school education



CHURCH BACKGROUND and ATTENDANCE



The AVERAGE AGE of people is 56 years



57% of all people were born in AUSTRALIA

43% were born overseas



39% speak a language other than ENGLISH at home

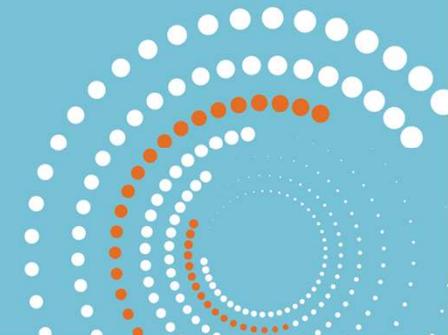


33% of attenders here are new arrivals to this parish in the past five years.

96% attend Mass at least monthly



LISTEN TO EVERY voice

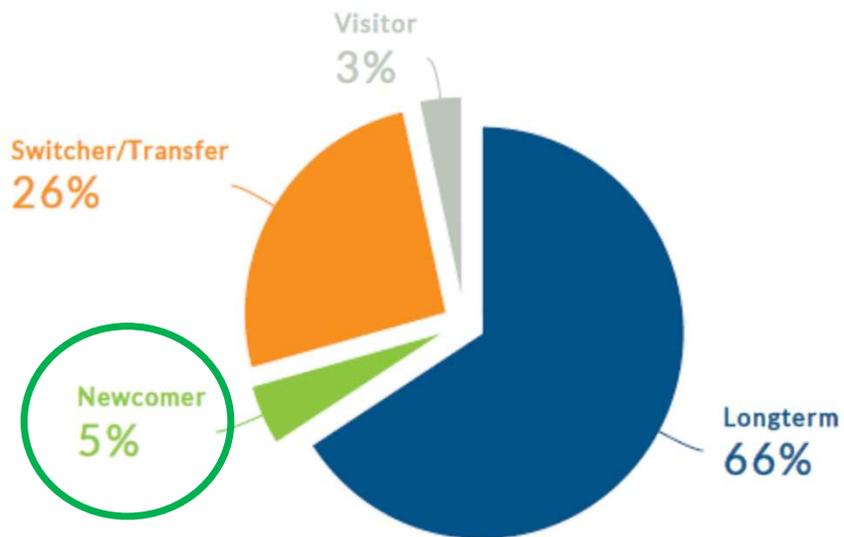
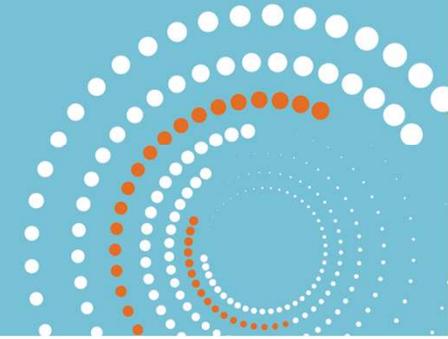


For example ...



CHURCH BACKGROUND and ATTENDANCE

LISTEN TO
EVERY
voice



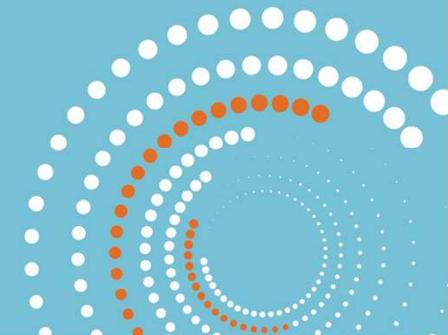
For example ...

... church is attracting newcomers (who have been away from church for some years)

... above average



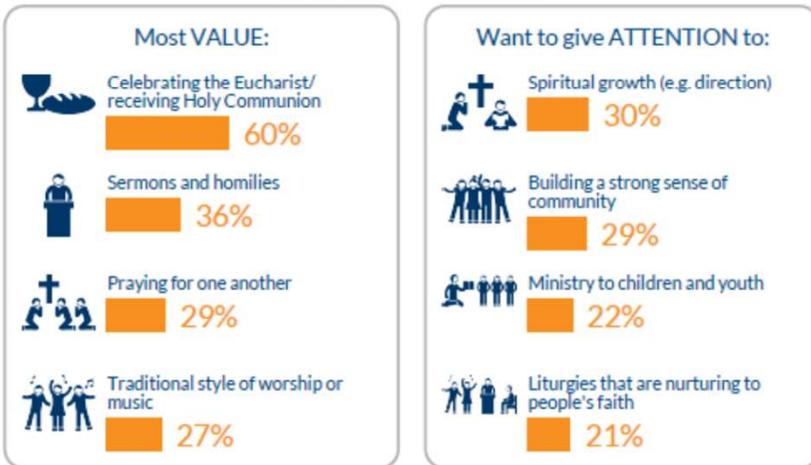
LISTEN TO EVERY voice



Church Life Profile

Bellville Parish
The Catholic Church in Australia

The people of this parish...



Note: Attenders could select up to three options so percentages may not add up to 100%

For example ...

You in 2016 - Bellville Parish (TZ9001, 682 forms)



Belonging Strong and Growing

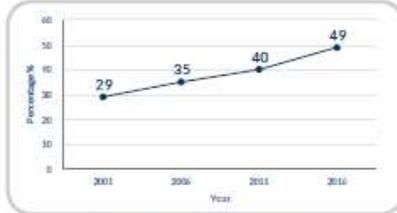
Sense of Belonging

49% of attenders said they have a strong sense of belonging to this parish, which is growing.



Source: 2016 NCLS, Bellville.

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



Source: Bellville, NCLS 2001, 2006, 2011, 2016

For example ...

Strong and Growing Belonging

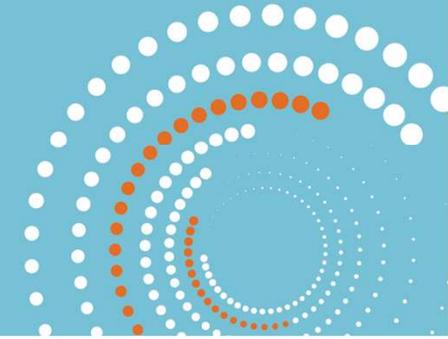
	You in 2016 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	Denom in 2016 (P9)
Sense of belonging to the parish			
Strong and growing	49	40	43
Strong and stable	27	31	28
Strong but weakening	7	6	8
No, but I am new here	3	4	4
No, and I wish I did by now	1	2	2
No, but I am happy as I am	10	13	10
Don't know/not applicable	3	4	3
Frequency of Mass attendance here			
First time/ hardly ever/ special occasions only	3	4	4
Less than once a month	1	2	2
Once a month	2	2	3
Two or three times a month	8	8	9
Usually every week	69	69	68
More than once a week	16	14	13
Regular participation in this parish's activities			
Small prayer, discussion or Bible study groups	13	12	12
Fellowship, clubs or other social groups	21	16	21
Evangelistic or outreach activities	6	6	8
Community service, social justice or welfare activities	17	12	19
Being Catholic is an important part of who I am			
Strongly agree or agree	96	N/A	95
Neutral/Unsure	2	N/A	3
Disagree or strongly disagree	1	N/A	1
Not applicable	1	N/A	1

You in 2016 - Bellville Parish (TZ9001, 682 forms)

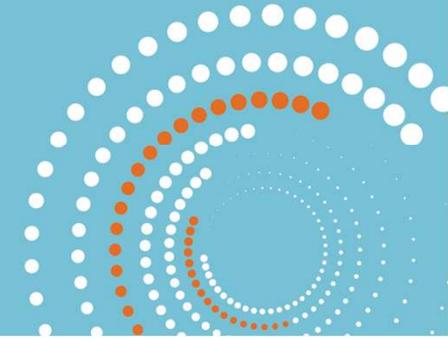
You in 2011 - Bellville Parish (TZ9001, 787 forms)

Denom in 2016 - The Catholic Church in Australia (TA000000, 36532 forms, 191 parishes)

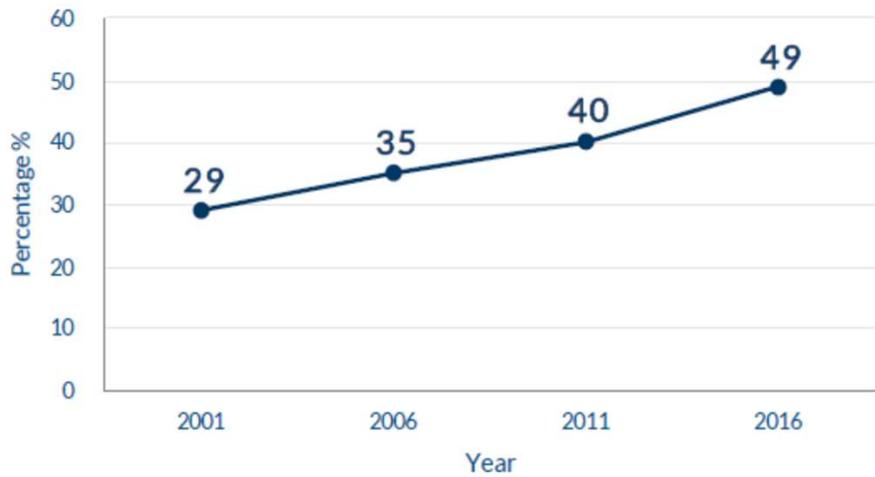
LISTEN TO
EVERY
voice



LISTEN TO EVERY *voice*



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

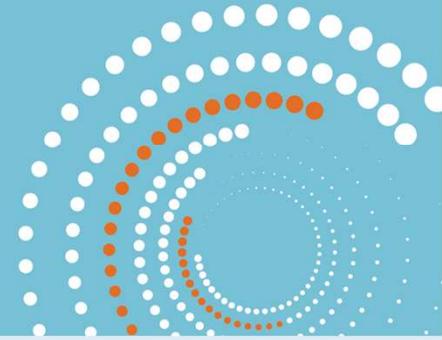


Source: Bellville, NCLS 2001, 2006, 2011, 2016

For example ...

... sense of belonging by
attenders has been growing

... and now above average



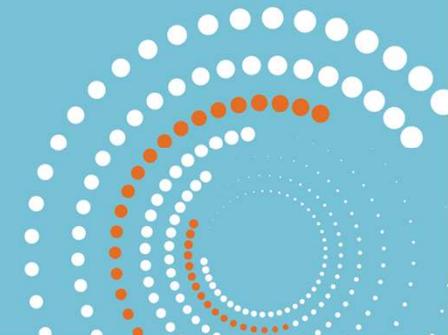
Reasons churches do the NCLS

- to discover areas that could do with more attention





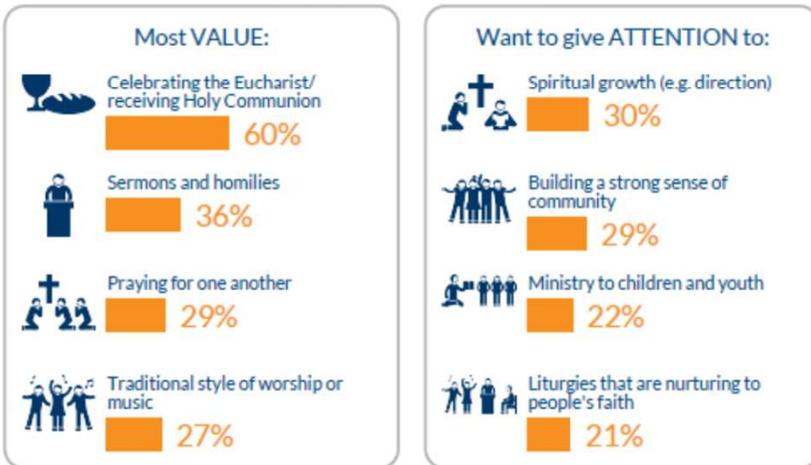
LISTEN TO EVERY voice



Church Life Profile

Bellville Parish
The Catholic Church in Australia

The people of this parish...



Note: Attenders could select up to three options so percentages may not add up to 100%

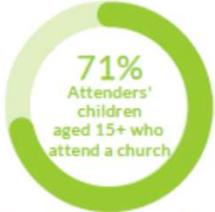
For example ...

You in 2016 - Bellville Parish (TZ9001, 682 forms)

People of this Church Children and Youth

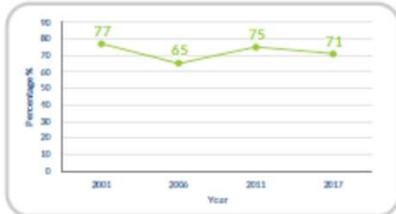
Children and Church Attendance

71% is the proportion of attenders' children (aged 15+ and living at home) who attend a church



Source: 2017 CLS, Community Church

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



Source: Community Church, NCLS 2001, 2006, 2011, 2017

For example ...

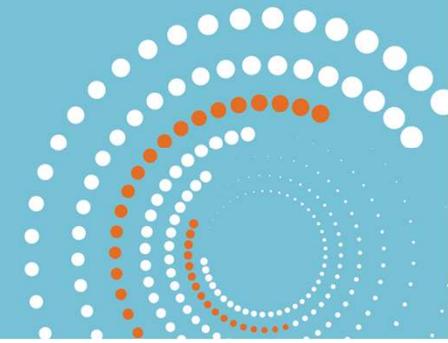
Children and Youth

	You in 2017 (%)	You in 2011 (%)	All NCLS in 2011 (%)
Young people (aged 15-19) at your local church			
Young people who completed the survey	7	4	5
Young people who have been attending more than 5 years	5	4	3
Young people who have been attending 5 years or less	1	0	2
Satisfaction with what is offered for particular age groups			
Satisfaction with what is offered here "for people your own age":			
All attenders very satisfied or satisfied	78	N/A	N/A
15-18 year olds very satisfied or satisfied	67	N/A	N/A
19-25 year olds very satisfied or satisfied	50	N/A	N/A
Satisfaction with what is offered here "for children aged under 12 years": **			
All attenders very satisfied or satisfied	83	81	58
Satisfaction with what is offered here "for youth aged 12-18 years": **			
All attenders very satisfied or satisfied	74	68	43
15-18 year olds very satisfied or satisfied	67	56	63
Church attendance pattern of attenders' children (still living at home)			
Attenders' children aged 15 and over still living at home: *			
Still attend this church	51	66	46
Attend elsewhere	21	10	13
Do not attend any church	26	23	40
Attenders' children aged 0-14 still living at home: *			
Still attend this church	96	97	86
Attend elsewhere	2	1	7
Do not attend any church	4	3	8

* Note: All child attendance options could be selected, so percentages may not add to 100%
 ** Note: A new instruction was added to this question in 2016: "Please answer even if nothing age-specific is offered"
 † Results not provided as there were less than 6 responses

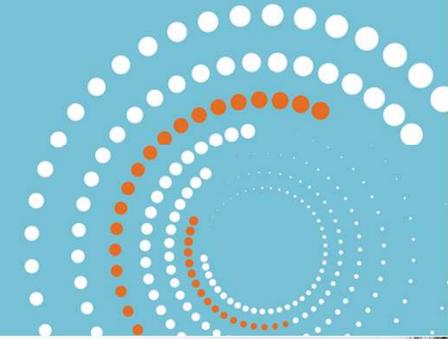
You in 2017 - Community Church, Churchville (Z2100050, 233 forms, 18 child forms)
 You in 2011 - Community Church, Churchville (Z2100050, 231 forms)
 All NCLS in 2011 - Australian Attenders (0000000, 227063 forms, 3003 churches)

LISTEN TO
EVERY
voice



Children and Youth	You in 2016 (%)	You in 2011 (%)
Church attendance pattern of attenders' children (still living at home)		
Attenders' children aged 15 and over still living at home: ⁺		
Still attend this church	51	66
Attend elsewhere	21	10
Do not attend any church	26	23

Church was retaining 2/3 of youth/young adults, now retaining 1/2



Reasons churches do the NCLS

- to include everyone in a positive process that gives them a voice
- to discover strengths to celebrate and build on
- to discover areas that could do with more attention

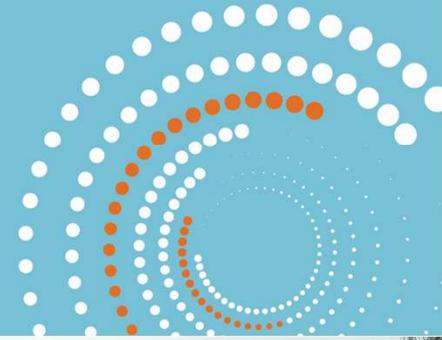


FOCUSED
ON THE
future



Final thoughts to share

- ❖ Now, more than ever, we need to hear their voices!
- ❖ Sample churches
- ❖ Leader survey – with reports to come if desired
- ❖ National Church Census – with reports to come if desired



Discussion

