



# DIOCESE OF KILLALOE

## Post Primary Catechetics

<https://www.killaloediocese.ie/resources/secondary-catechetics/>

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### DIOCESE OF KILLALOE YOUTH MINISTRY SURVEY SUMMARY AND KEYPOINTS.

The document (Completed Survey Responses) contains extensive survey responses and data related to religious beliefs, practices, and community involvement among individuals, particularly focusing on young people. It includes information about their faith, religious affiliations, participation in religious events, and opinions on spirituality. The responses highlight diverse perspectives on religion, ranging from active involvement in religious practices to indifference or atheism. Many participants express interest in being more involved in their local faith communities, while others cite barriers such as lack of time, personal beliefs, or feeling judged. Suggestions for improving engagement include creating youth-focused events, fostering inclusivity, and addressing real-life issues. The document also touches on the role of the church in providing guidance, comfort, and a sense of community, with varying levels of interest in developing spirituality among young people.

#### Key Points from the Document:

##### **1. Religious Affiliation and Beliefs:**

The majority identify as Christians, particularly Roman Catholics, with some identifying as agnostic, atheist, or followers of other religions like Islam. A significant number of respondents express varying levels of faith, ranging from strong belief to scepticism or indifference.

##### **2. Religious Practices:**

Participation in religious practices varies widely, including weekly mass attendance, occasional attendance (e.g., Christmas, Easter), or no attendance at all. Some individuals engage in specific sacraments like Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation, while others do not participate in any religious rituals.

##### **3. Community Involvement:**

Many respondents express interest in being more involved in their local faith communities, such as through youth groups, pilgrimages, or volunteering. Others feel disconnected due to lack of time, personal beliefs, or feeling judged.

##### **4. Barriers to Engagement:**

Common barriers include busy schedules, lack of interest, feeling judged, or not finding relevance in religious practices. Some respondents suggest that religion is less popular among young people due to modern distractions like social media and changing societal values.

Brendan O'Brien,  
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### 5. Suggestions for Improvement:

- More youth-focused events, such as pilgrimages, youth groups, and tailored masses.
- Creating inclusive spaces for open dialogue and addressing real-life issues.
- Encouraging spirituality through education, mindfulness, and community-building activities.

### 6. Role of the Church:

The church is seen as a source of comfort, guidance, and community for some respondents. Others believe the church should focus on addressing contemporary issues, promoting inclusivity, and providing support for mental health and personal growth.

### 7. Young People's Interest in Spirituality:

Mixed responses: Some young people are interested in developing their spirituality, while others are indifferent or sceptical. Many believe spirituality is influenced by family, upbringing, and personal experiences.

#### General Observations:

- Religion is perceived as less central to the lives of young people compared to older generations.
- Some respondents suggest that young people may be open to spirituality but are hesitant to engage publicly due to fear of judgment or lack of understanding.

The document reflects a wide range of attitudes toward religion and spirituality, highlighting the need for tailored approaches to engage young people in faith communities. The document addresses youth spirituality through survey responses that highlight diverse perspectives, challenges, and suggestions for fostering spiritual growth among young people.

#### Key points include:

##### **Mixed Interest in Spirituality:**

- Some young people express interest in developing their spirituality, while others are indifferent or sceptical.
- Many believe spirituality is influenced by family, upbringing, and personal experiences.

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### **Barriers to Spiritual Development:**

- Common obstacles include busy schedules, lack of time, modern distractions (e.g., social media), and feeling judged or disconnected from religious communities.
- Some respondents feel that religion is less relevant to young people in today's world.

### **Suggestions for Engagement:**

- Youth-focused events such as pilgrimages, youth groups, and tailored masses.
- Creating inclusive spaces for open dialogue and addressing real-life issues.
- Providing education on spirituality and faith, including visits from priests to schools to explain religious concepts and foster understanding.

### **Role of the Church:**

- The church is seen as a potential source of comfort, guidance, and community for young people.
- Respondents suggest the church could connect better with youth by addressing their concerns, offering support, and creating opportunities for involvement.

### **Spirituality as a Personal Journey:**

- Some young people view spirituality as a personal exploration, often influenced by their family, friends, and life experiences.
- Others suggest that spirituality is not a priority for many young people due to societal changes and modern distractions.

Overall, the document emphasizes the importance of understanding the unique needs and challenges of young people in relation to spirituality and suggests ways to make faith communities more accessible and relevant to them.

**Note:** This summary and key points document was generated with the assistance of Adobe Reader AI Assistant, checked and edited by Brendan O'Brien.

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