

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

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Mass counts in 2024 show increase in attendance for fourth year straight

The counts take place annually over three weekends in October

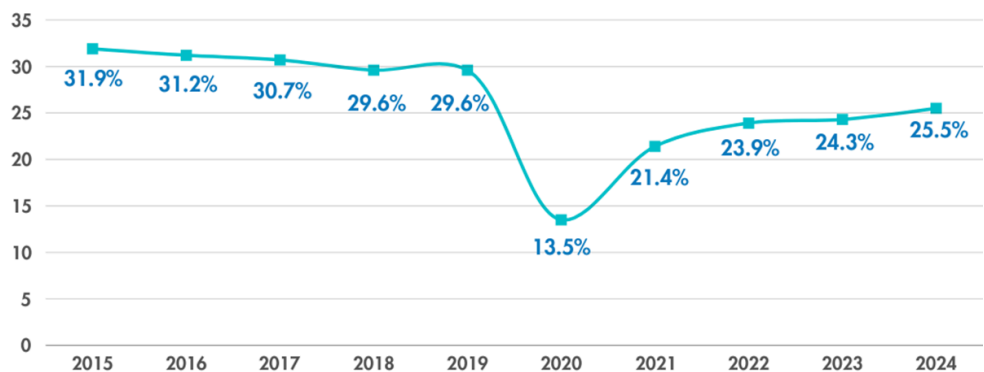
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Mass attendance in the Archdiocese of St. Louis increased for the fourth year straight in 2024, according to a report from the archdiocesan Office of Pastoral Planning.

Mass attendance counts were conducted over three weekends in October at 140 parishes and worship sites in the Archdiocese of St. Louis. (Five parishes did not participate in this year's counts.)

Mass attendance over 10 years



Courtesy Office of Pastoral Planning

The highlights: 25.5% of Catholics registered in parishes attended Mass, up from 24.3% in 2023.



The actual number of Catholics at Mass also increased by more than 2,000 worshippers over 2023.

85 parishes and worship sites saw an increase in Mass attendance over last year.

The increase in Mass attendance comes despite fewer Mass times overall. In 2024, 35 parishes offered fewer weekend Masses than in 2023. And in 2023, following the All Things New pastoral planning announcements, 10 merged or subsumed parishes no longer offered weekend Masses, and 57 parishes or churches offered fewer weekend Masses than the previous year.

Mass attendance is still below pre-COVID rates, however. In 2019, 29.6% of registered Catholics were counted at Mass. In 2020, the number dipped to 13.5% in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. Since 2021, Mass attendance has been increasing each year.

This is the 14th year the Archdiocese of St. Louis has conducted October Mass attendance counts.

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