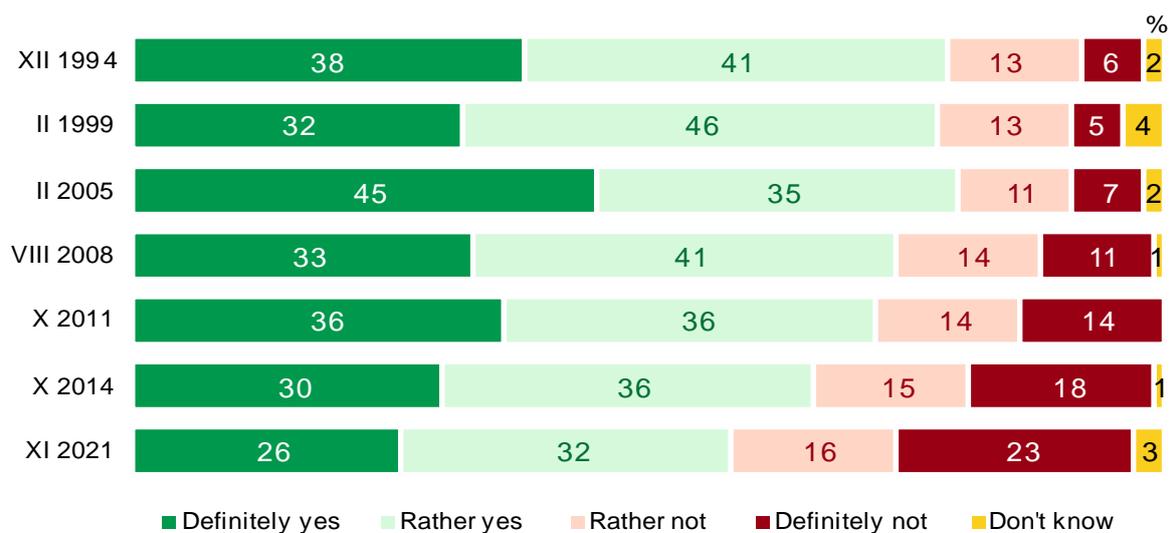


## The local parish, its perception and functions

In the last years, the percentage of adult Poles connected with their parish has been decreasing. A sense of connection with the local parish is now declared by 58% of respondents: 8 points less than in 2014, 14 points less than in 2011 and as much as 22 points less than in 2005.

**Do you feel a member of the parish in your neighbourhood/village i.e. do you feel connected with it?**



The responses show that the main areas of parish activity, apart from celebrating the Holy Mass and other religious services and practices, include organizing pilgrimages, help for the

poorest and running a website. Activities aimed at children and young people are an important field of activity: parishes organize activities on site and holiday trips.

**From the list, please select all activities organized by the parish operating in your neighbourhood / village.**

*Responses of people who have contact with the parish or knowledge about its activities (N = 784).*



Almost one-third of respondents (32%) claim that they themselves or someone in their household have used the activities and initiatives organized by the local parish. Participation in pilgrimages to places of worship inland was definitely the most frequent (48% of those who took advantage of the activities organized by the parish). Less commonly used are: cultural events, such as concerts or theatrical performances (21%), summer trips for children and youth (19%), sports or tourist events (13%), pilgrimages to places of

worship abroad (12%), and activities for the youth (12%). In the case of other activities, the proportion of indications did not exceed a few percent.

More than one-third of people having contacts with their parish (37%) sometimes work for it, at least occasionally, on a volunteer basis. On average, people who practice religion regularly also work for the local parish. Taking into account the socio-demographic characteristics, the active groups are: rural residents, especially farmers, and the poor.

**Do you ever work voluntarily without pay for the benefit of the church and parishioners in a parish operating in your neighbourhood / village?**

*Responses of people who have contact with the parish or knowledge about its activities (N = 784).*



In general, only a relatively small proportion of respondents believe that they have an influence on the matters of the parish operating in their place of residence (19% of those who have contact with the local parish). The feeling of influence on the affairs of their parish is strongly conditioned by the frequency of participation in religious practices: nearly half of those practicing a few times a week (49%) declare it, but only 29% of those practicing once a week.

**Do you feel that you have an influence on the affairs of the parish operating in your neighbourhood / village?**

*Responses of people who have contact with the parish or knowledge about its activities (N = 784).*



It is interesting to note that the vast majority (78%) of people declaring that they have no influence on the affairs of their parish would not want to have it.

More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "The local parish, its perception and functions", January 2021. Fieldwork for national sample: November 2021, N=1100. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.