



Public extracts of the Confidential Report for the PCC of responses to the Parish Questionnaire about the Resolution

Anna C Page, 28 October 2022

In the analysis, the symbol 'n' represents the total number of individuals in the population (n=89 total respondents for the questionnaire) or in the sample for a given question subset.

A note about the researcher

The researcher is a member of the parish who regularly worships at SMSG though occasionally at All Saints, and is a member of the PCC, representing All Saints. She has lived and worshipped in the Parish for over 29 years.

The researcher recently completed an Open University Masters degree in Online and Distance Education - MA (ODE); this included a module called 'The Critical Researcher' which taught research methods and ethics. The researcher has previous experience of practicing mixed methods research due to her Open University staff member roles.

The researcher is very aware of her own long held views on the topic being explored and therefore potential bias. She sought to design quantitative (statistical) and qualitative (free text) questions which enabled people to express their views without using leading questions that might seek to influence responses in either direction. For this reason the draft questions and background information she compiled and provided to the congregation were seen, reviewed and commented upon by the PCC and several priests including two who are members of The Society.

Question 1

Please tell us what you like about worship in our Parish churches:

This question was designed to start the questionnaire positively by asking people to indicate what they like about worshipping in the two parish churches, with a 5 point likert scale provided for them to rate their preferences regarding each worship element listed and an 'other, please specify' option also provided.

Overwhelmingly most elements of worship were on the 'like' side of the range, with the musical contributions to worship particularly popular with people from both congregations.

There are some music differences in worship at the two churches:

- SMSG has a large pipe organ and the grand piano.
- All Saints has a small pipe organ which needs restoration, so an electronic keyboard organ is used instead when a musician is available to play it, with SMSG church band occasionally playing for services.
- The church choir is based at SMSG and has not sung for an All Saints service for some time, hence some respondents from All Saints did not make a choice about choir related elements.
- The two churches use different music for their mass settings (when sung).

Active participation by members of the congregation leading parts of the worship (readings, prayers) is generally appreciated in both churches. Prayers led by members of the congregation have not featured since the pandemic began, but were clearly popular for those who remembered them being done that way.

Anglo-Catholic liturgy is generally well liked, with a small percentage disliking it.

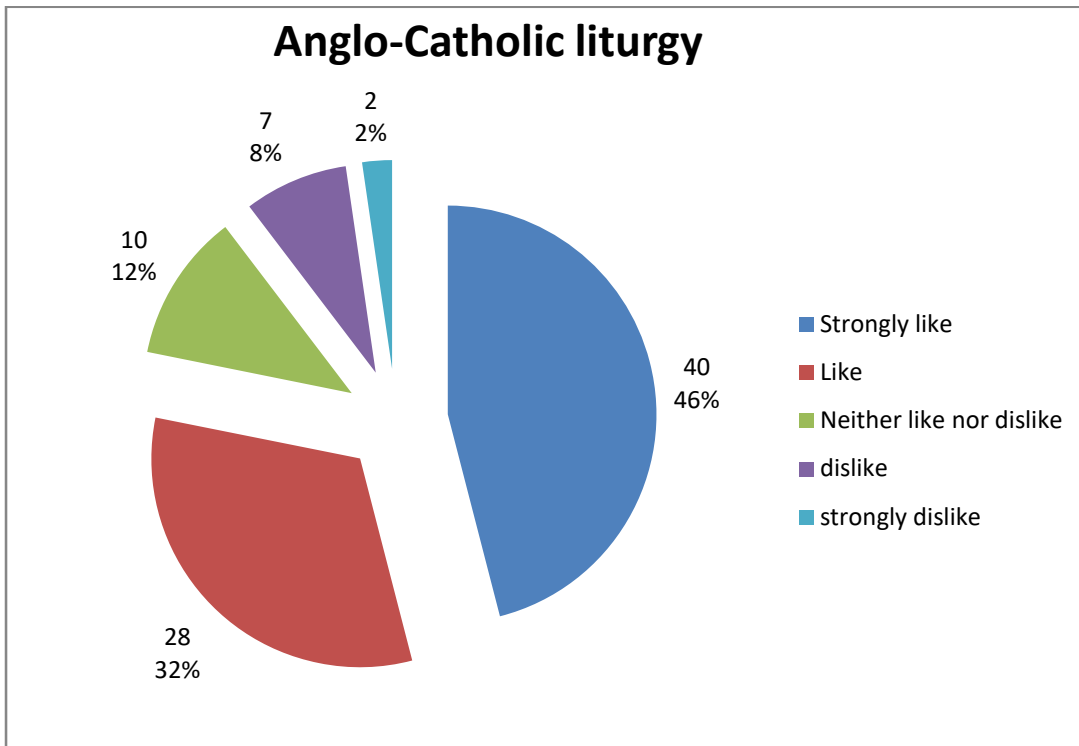
Ceremonial and witness processions (for example Palm Sunday) are generally well liked.

Some people are less keen on the occasional use of incense, and there was also some indication that sharing the peace was liked by some but not by others, with a few calls to move sharing the peace to a different place in the liturgy.

The pie charts in the following pages illustrate the extent to which each worship element is liked by the congregations. They use the combined data for both congregations.

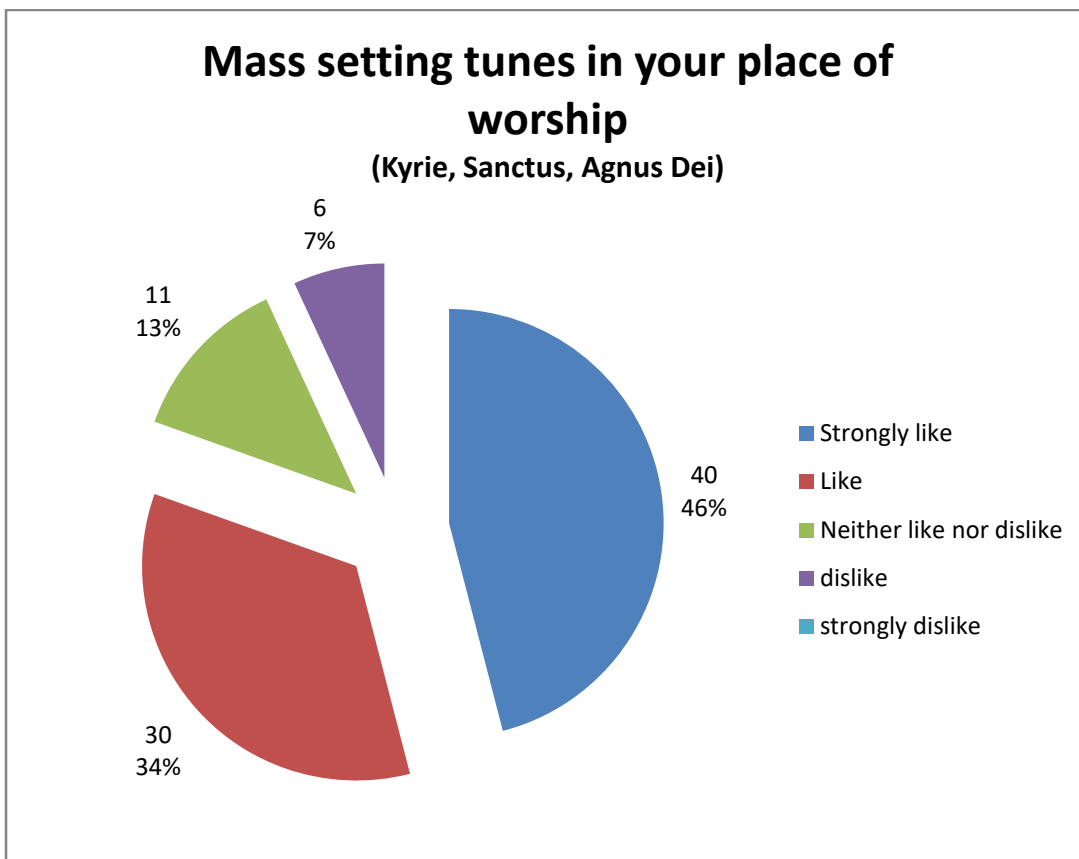
Anglo-Catholic liturgy

(n=87)



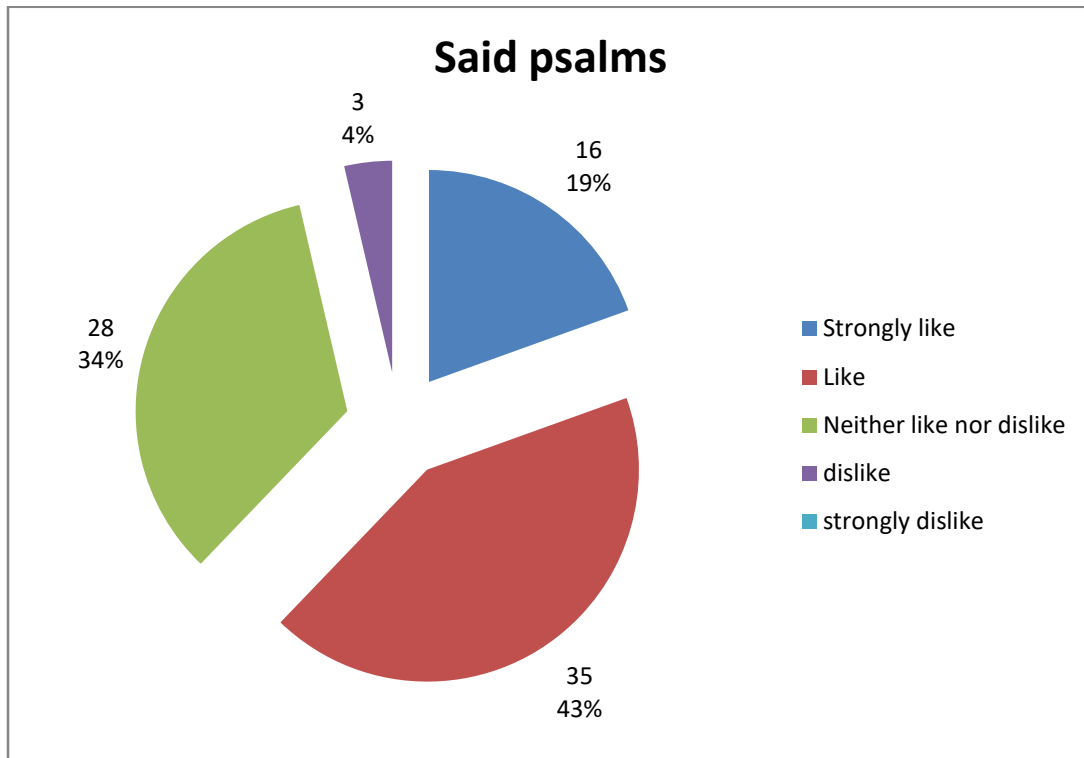
Mass setting tunes in your place of worship (Kyrie, Sanctus, Agnus Dei)

(n=87)



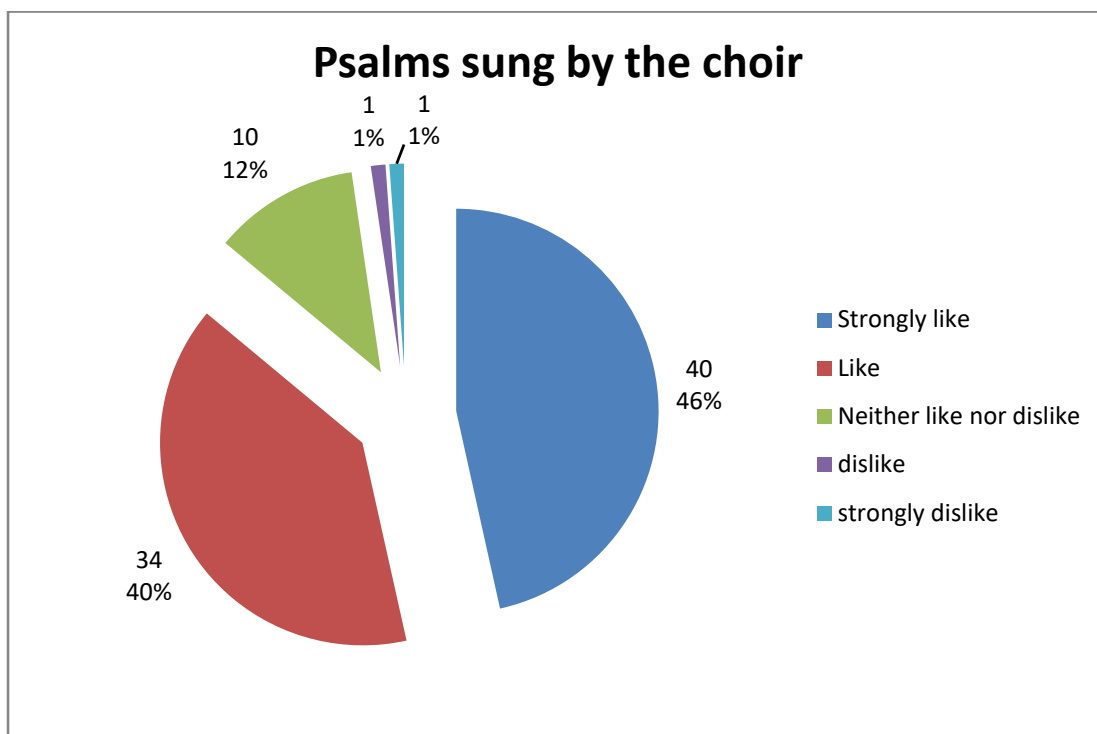
Said psalms

(n=82)



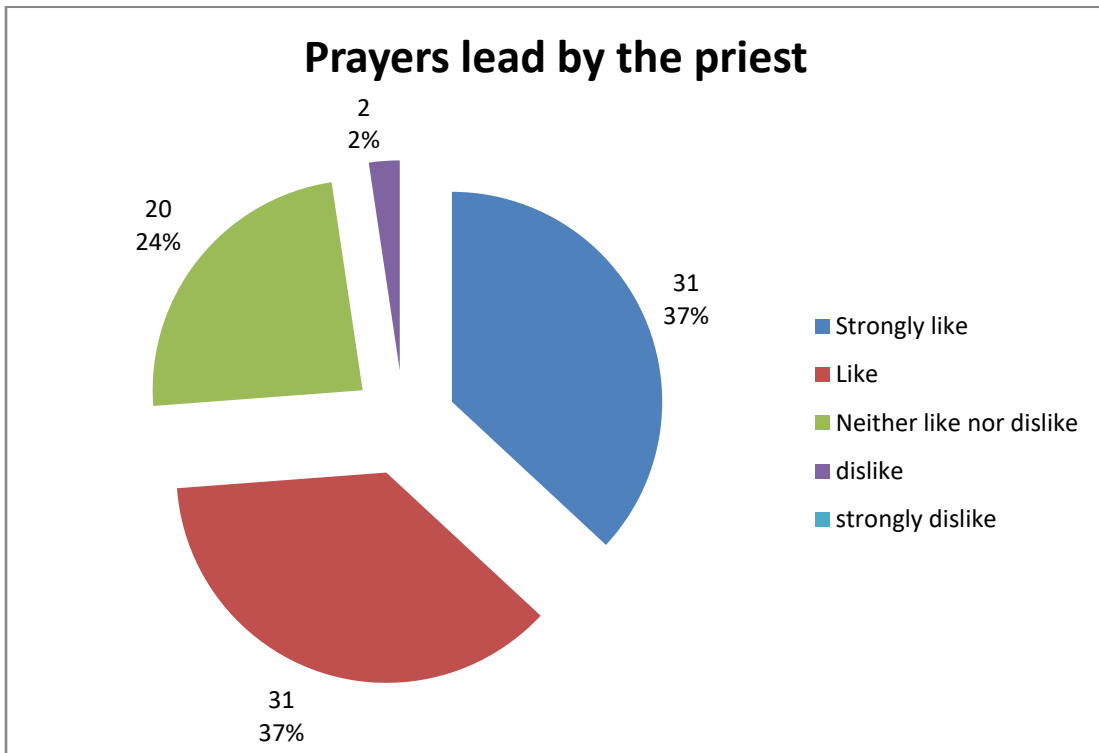
Psalms sung by the choir

(n=86)



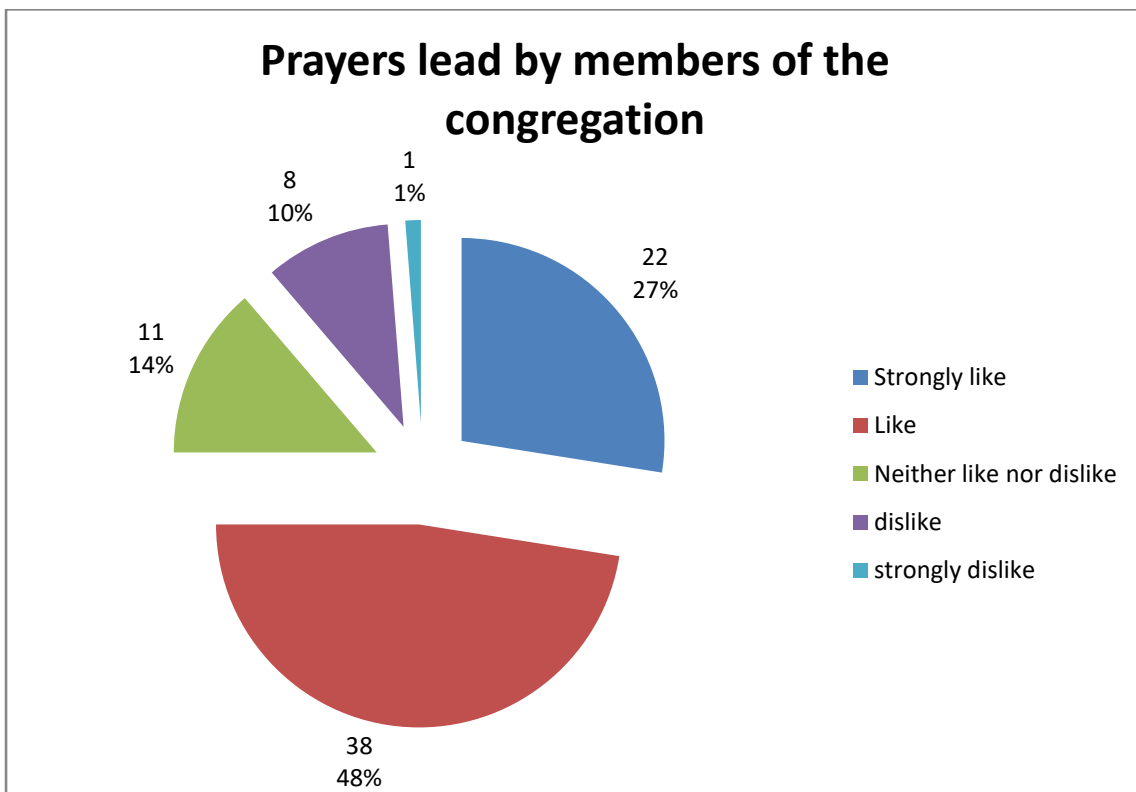
Prayers lead by the priest

(n=84)



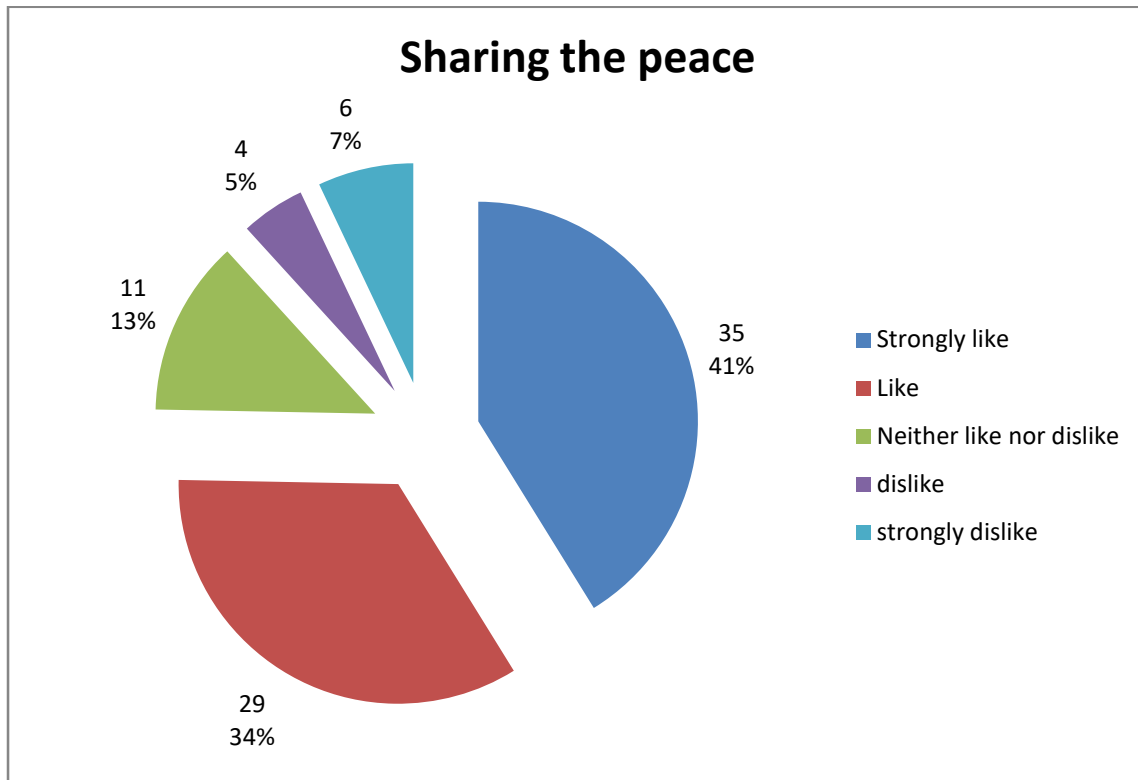
Prayers lead by members of the congregation

(n=80)



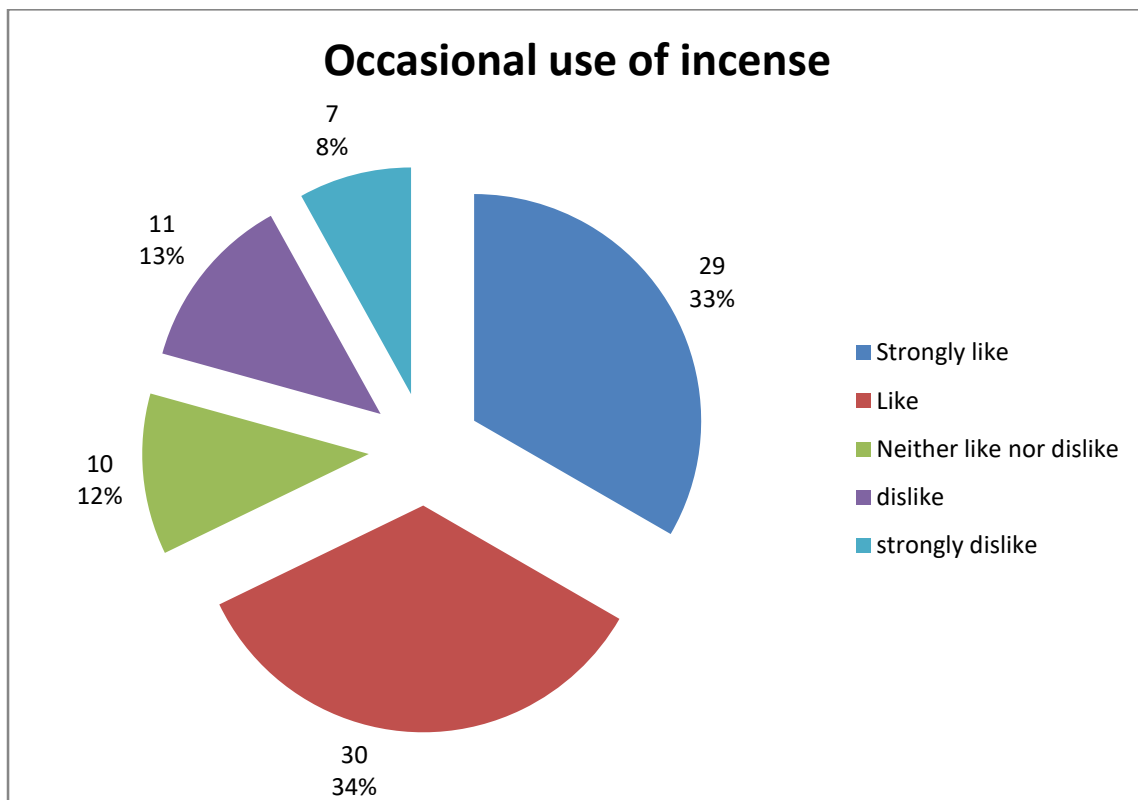
Sharing the peace

(n=85)



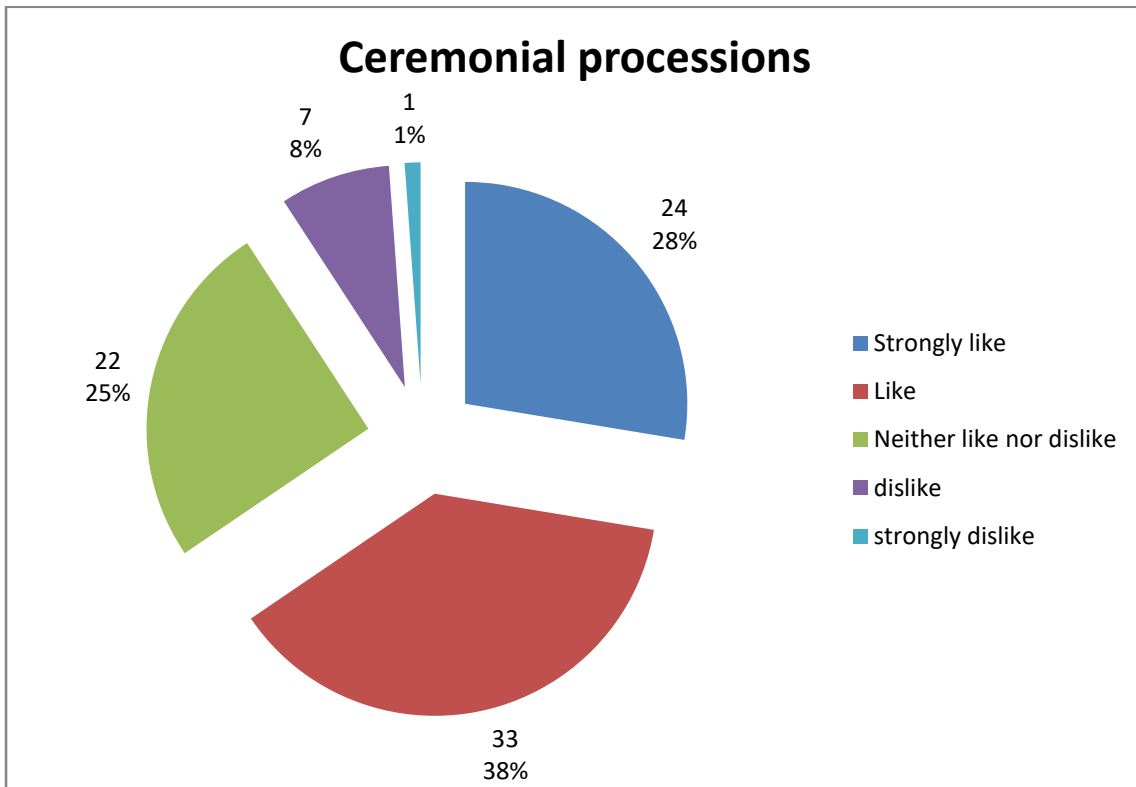
Occasional use of incense

(n=87)



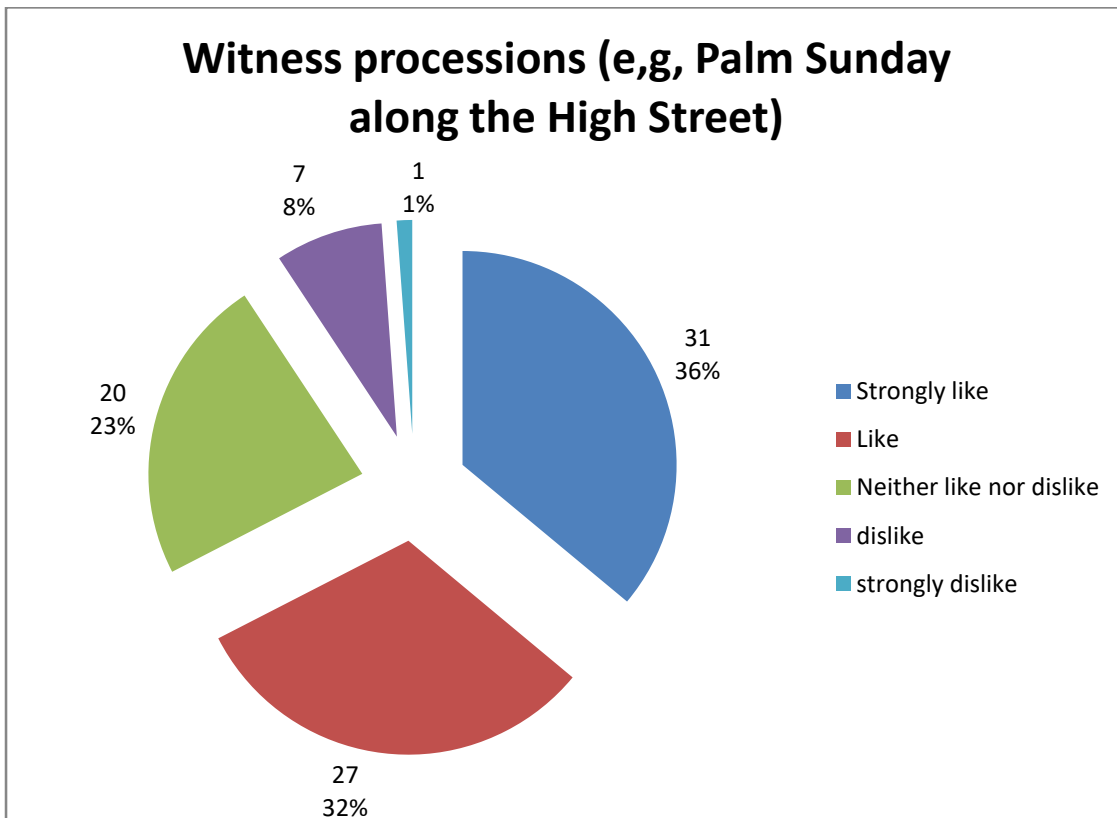
Ceremonial processions

(n=87)



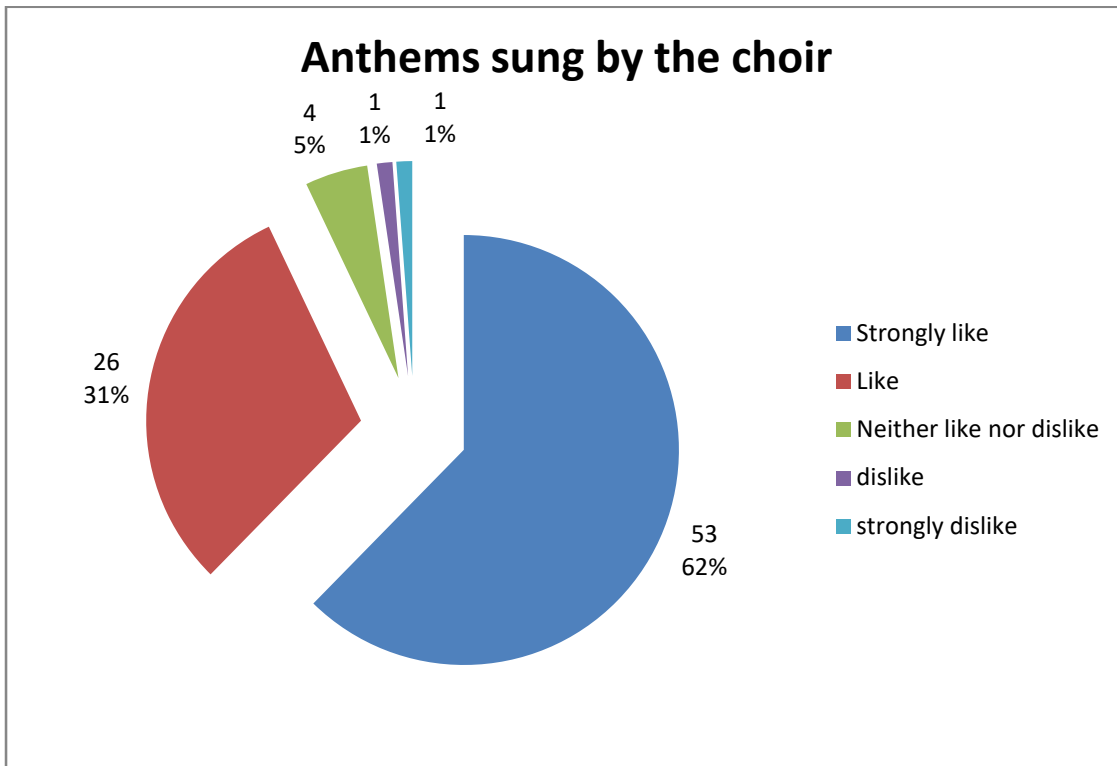
Witness processions (e.g, Palm Sunday along the High Street)

(n=86)



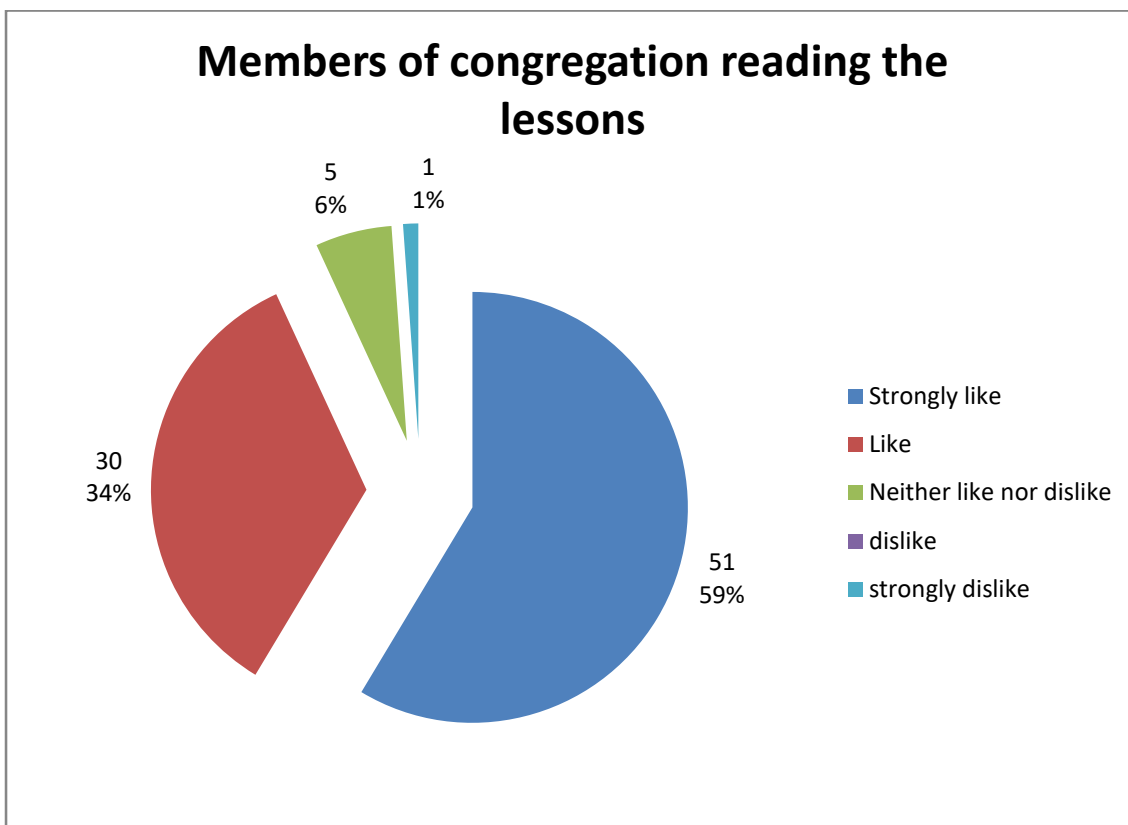
Anthems sung by the choir

(n=85)



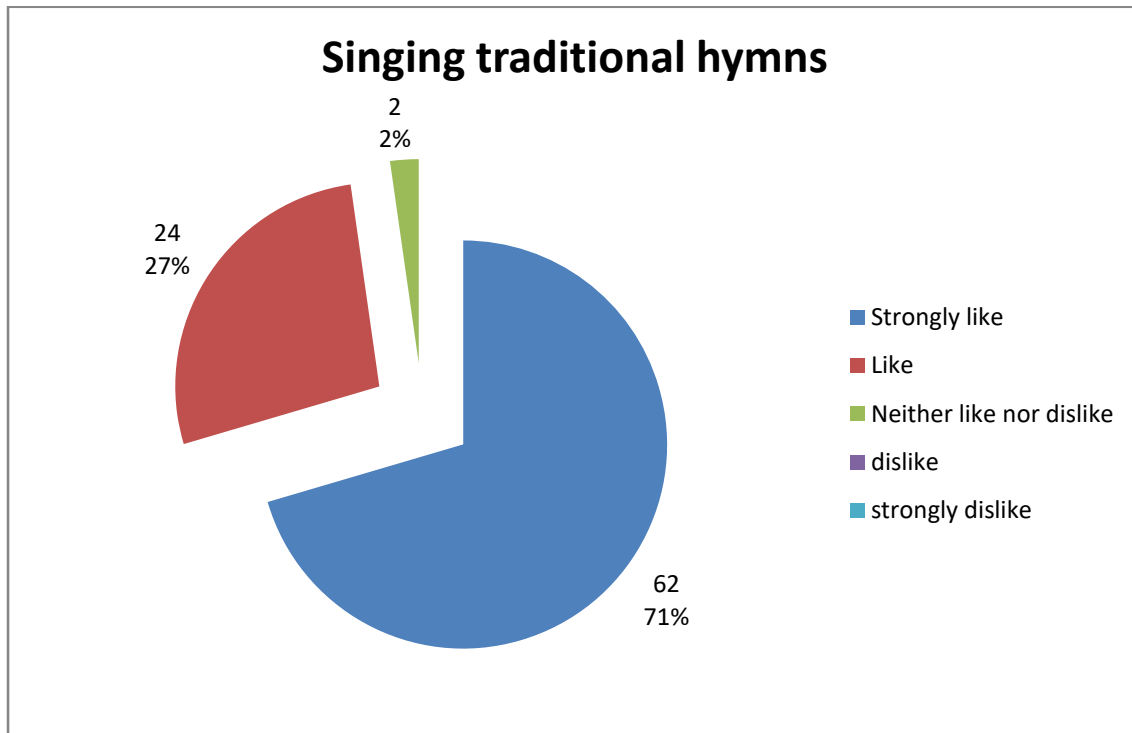
Members of congregation reading the lessons

(n=87)



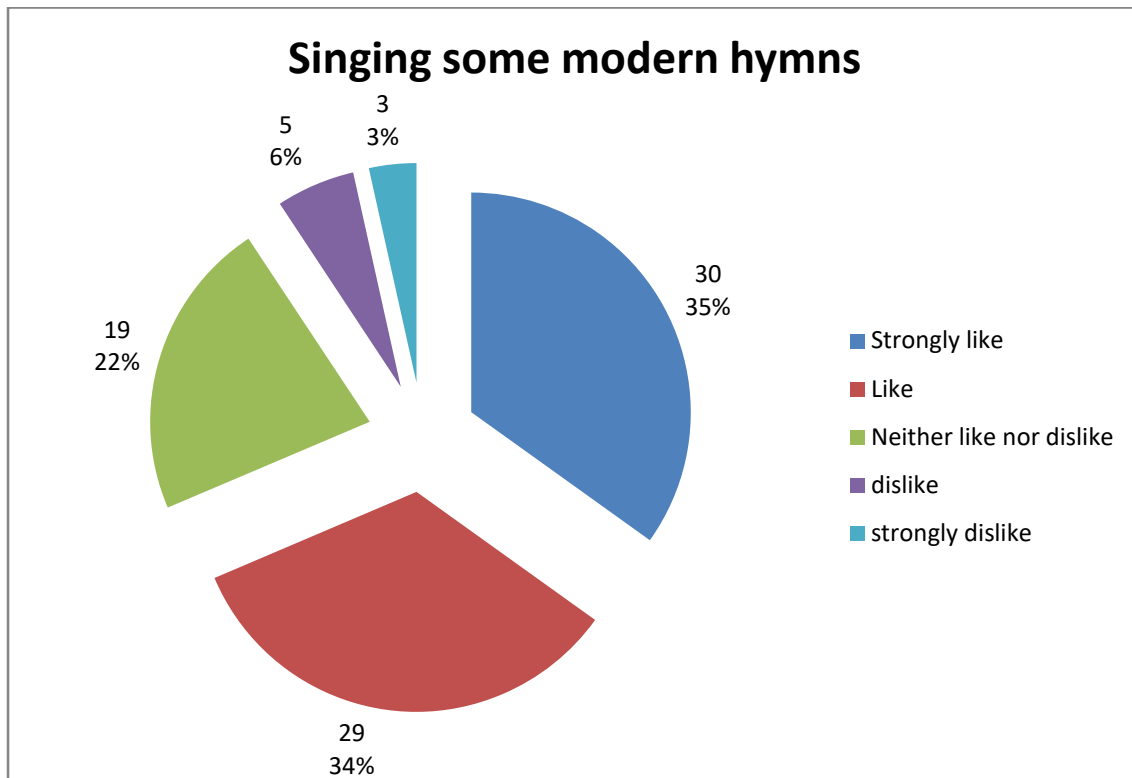
Singing traditional hymns

(n=88)



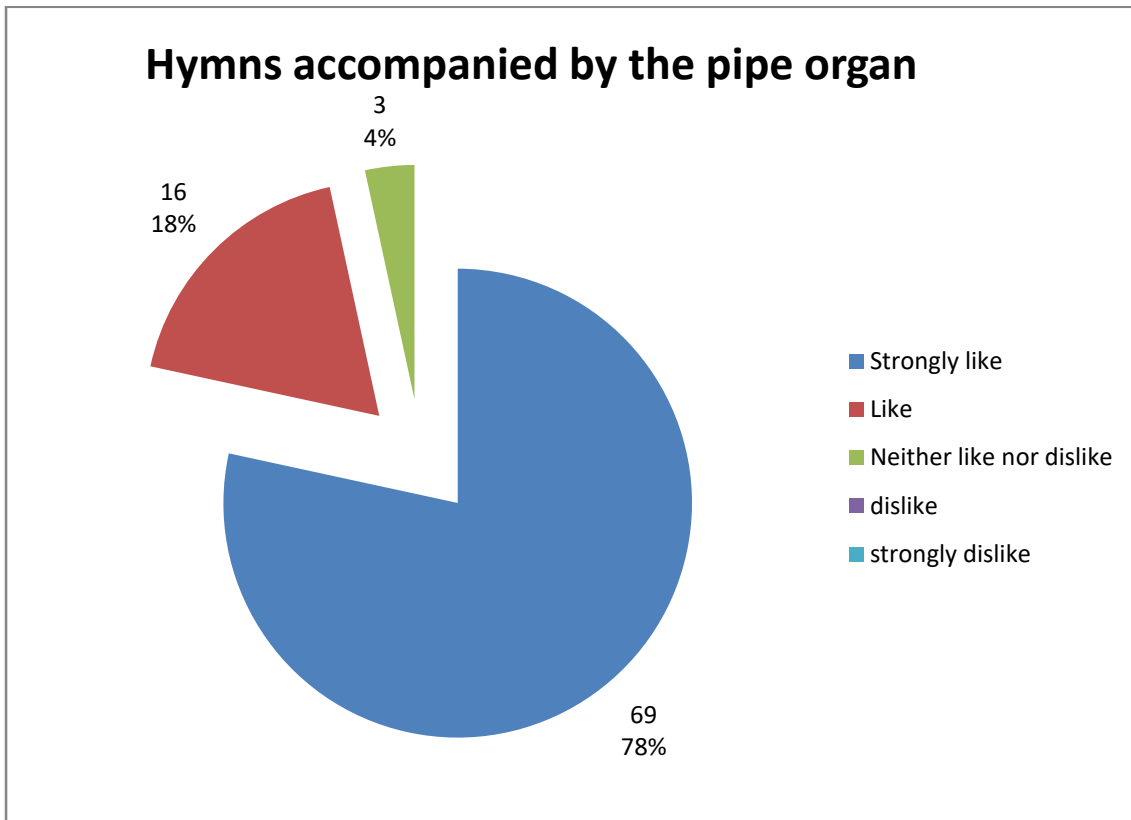
Singing some modern hymns

(n=86)



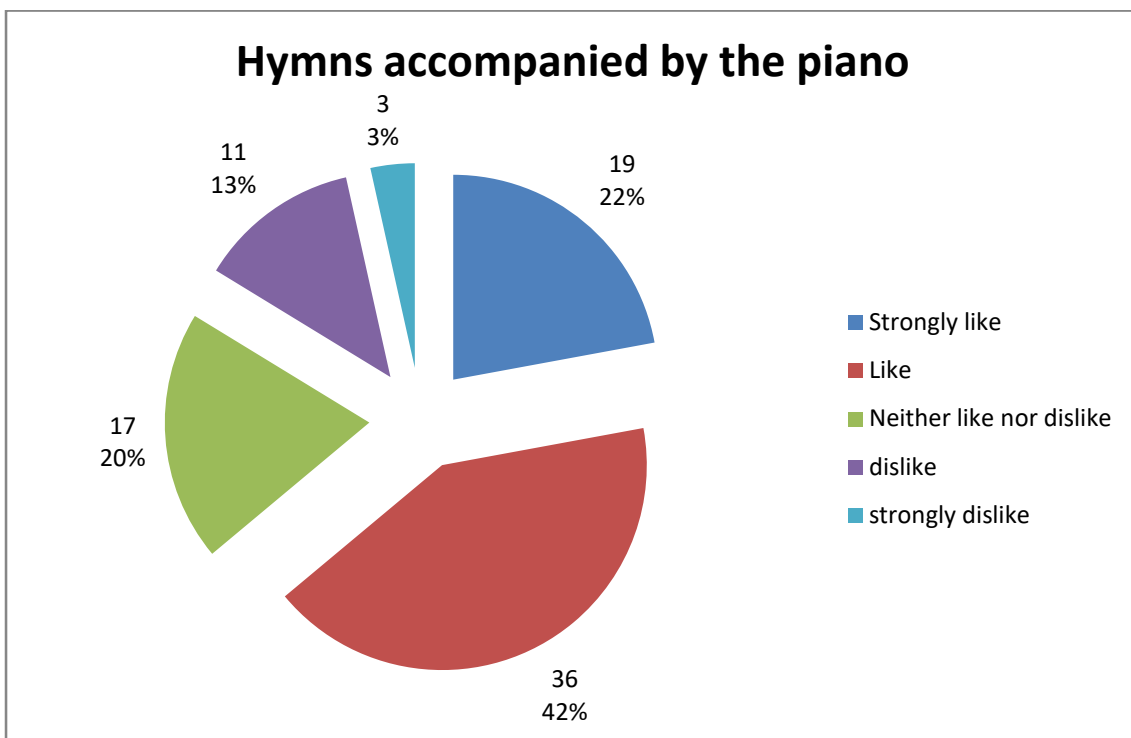
Hymns accompanied by the pipe organ

(n=88)



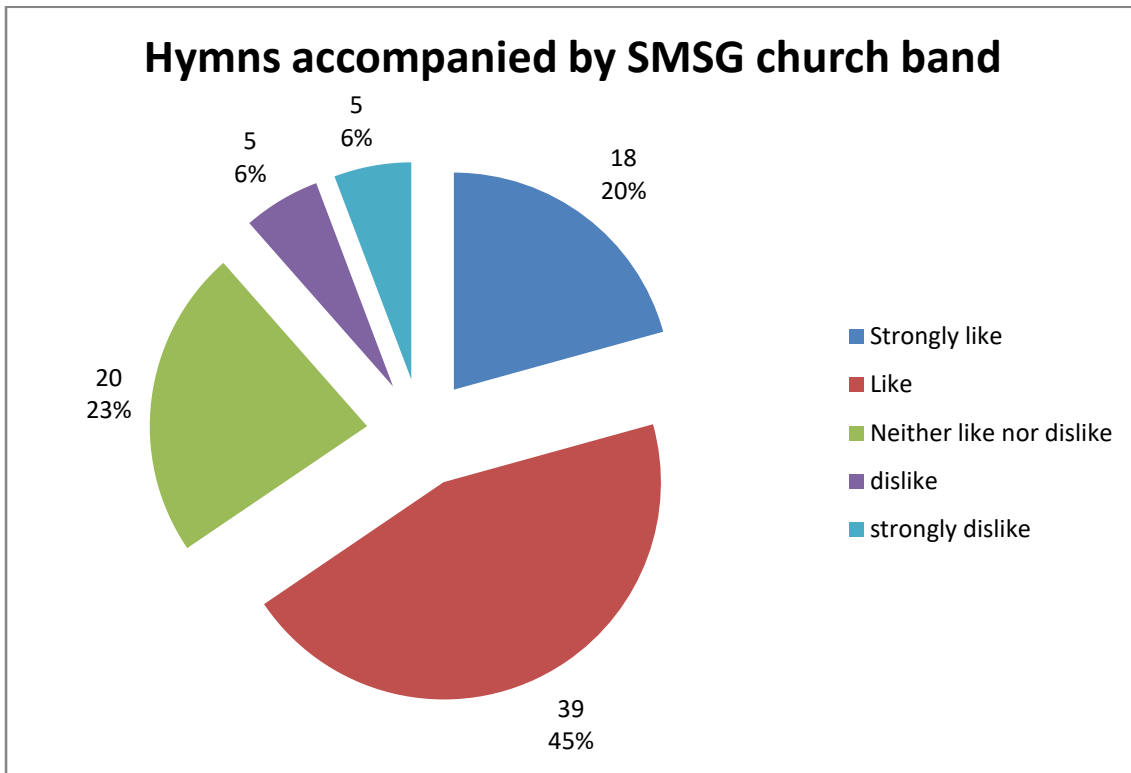
Hymns accompanied by the piano

(n=86)



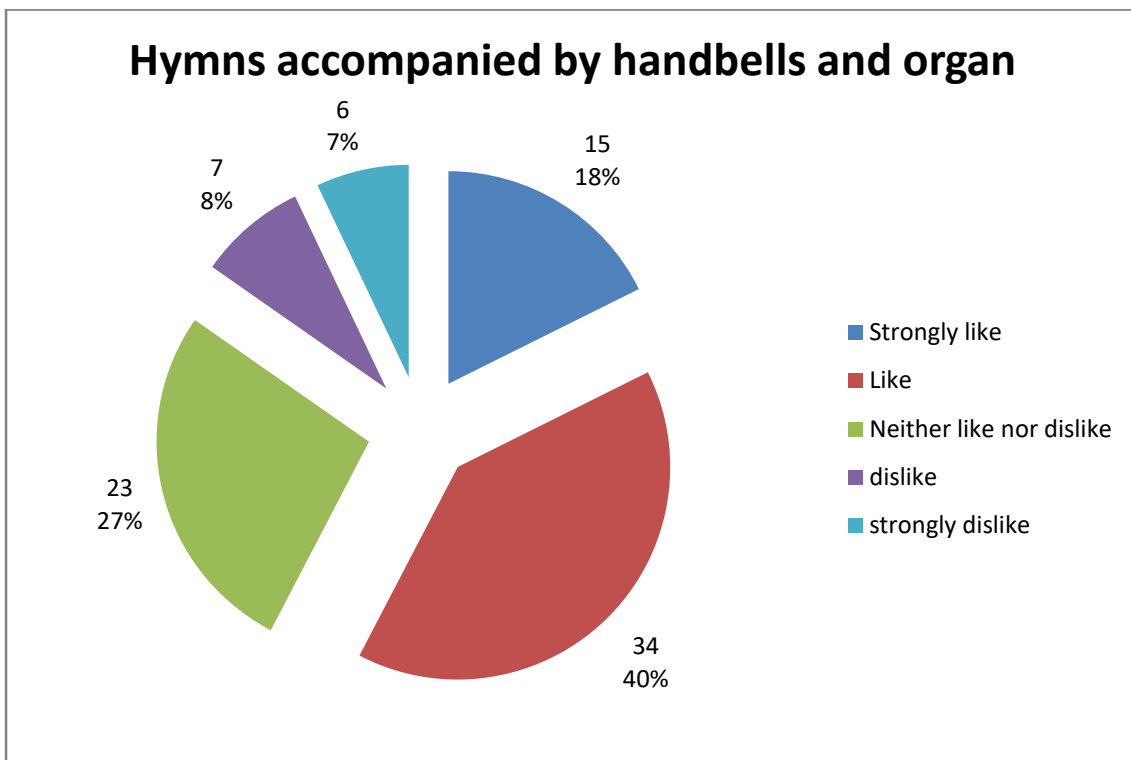
Hymns accompanied by SMSG church band

(n=87)



Hymns accompanied by handbells and organ

(n=85)



Questions 4, 5a and 5b

Questions 4, 5a and 5b aimed to try and get a picture of people’s views on the ordination of women before and after the meeting plus the information provided in the Interregnum news sheets and files were made available. Some people unable to attend the meeting did not complete these questions or only completed some of them.

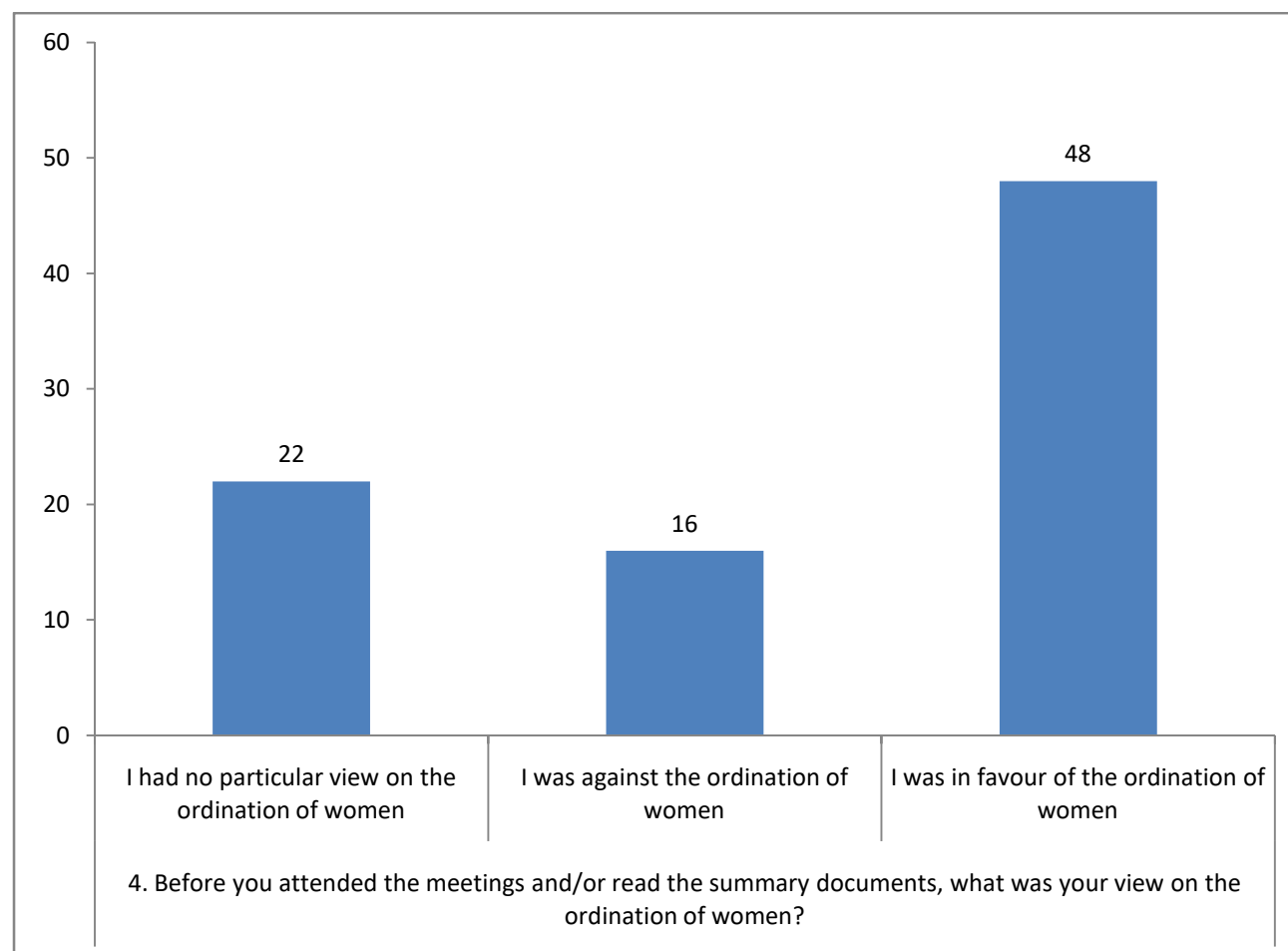
There was a very slight shift towards being in favour of the ordination of women, mainly from those who previously had no particular view or had not indicated their previous view.

Several people who indicated they are in favour of the ordination of women or have no particular view chose a preference for a male priest for this parish in Question 5b. This may indicate their acknowledgement of a need for a gradual change to accommodate those in the parish who would not accept a female priest as Rector, if the resolution is rescinded.

Question 4

Before you attended the meeting and/or read the summary documents, what was your view on the ordination of women? (n=86)

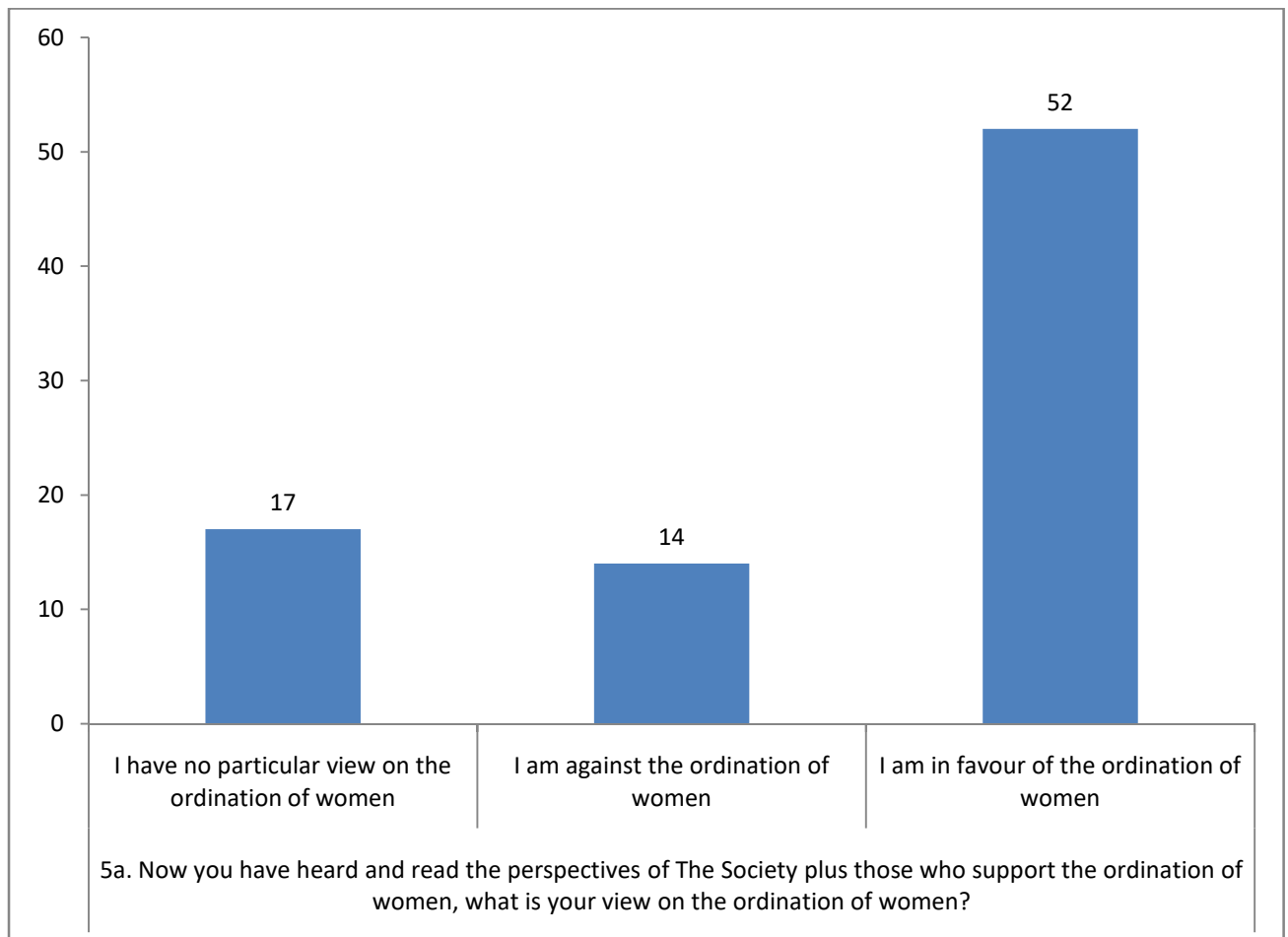
| I had no particular view on the ordination of women | I was against the ordination of women | I was in favour of the ordination of women |
|---|---------------------------------------|--|
| 22 | 16 | 48 |
| 26% | 19% | 56% |



Question 5a

Now you have heard and read the perspectives of The Society plus those who support the ordination of women, what is your view on the ordination of women? (n=83)

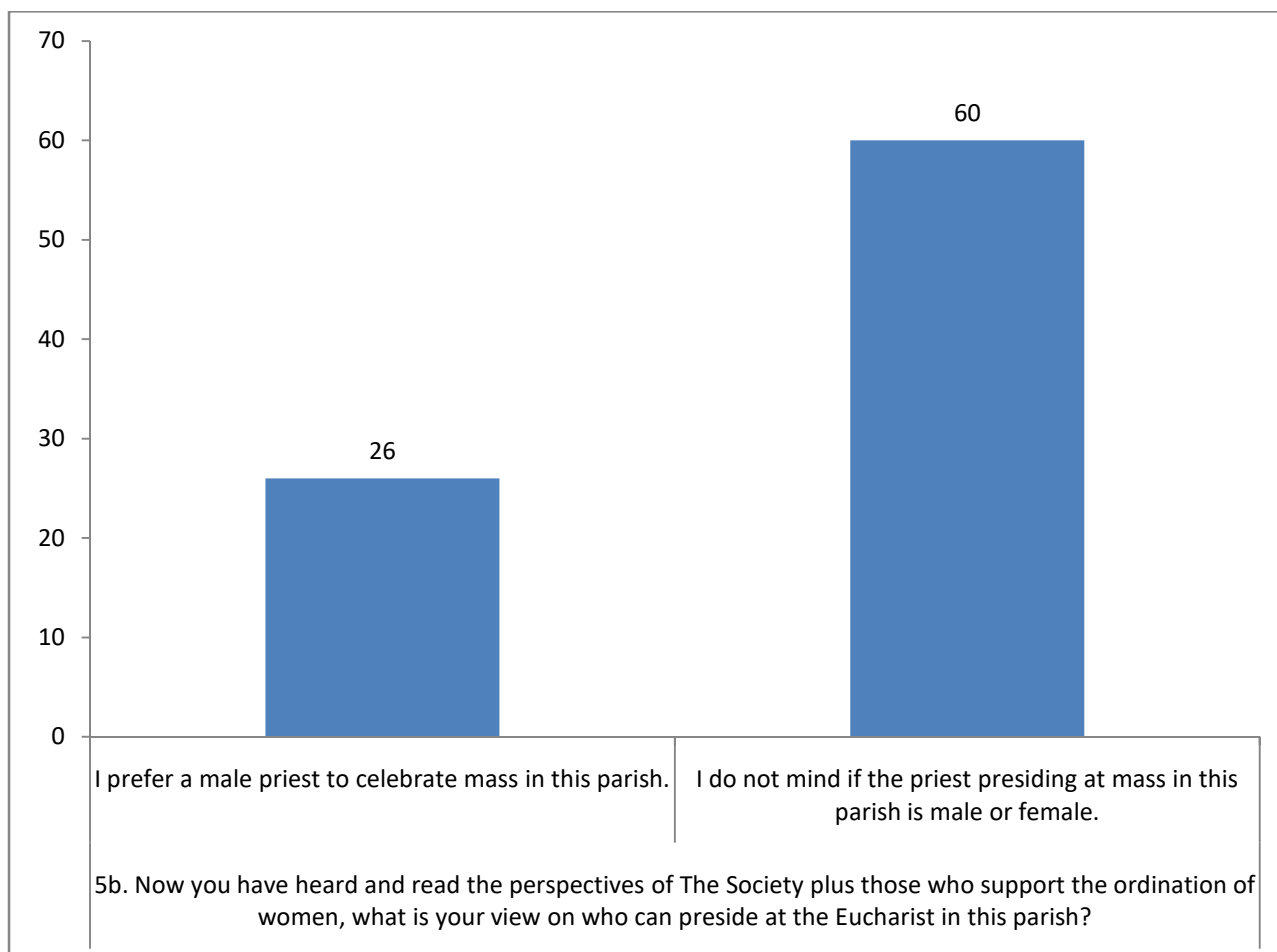
| I have no particular view on the ordination of women | I am against the ordination of women | I am in favour of the ordination of women |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|
| 17 | 14 | 52 |
| 20% | 17% | 63% |



Question 5b

Now you have heard and read the perspectives of The Society plus those who support the ordination of women, what is your view on who can preside at the Eucharist in this parish? (n=86)

| I prefer a male priest to celebrate mass in this parish. | I do not mind if the priest presiding at mass in this parish is male or female. |
|--|---|
| 26 | 60 |
| 30% | 70% |



3 people who responded to the questionnaire did not indicate a choice for 5b; all 3 of them indicated support for the ordination of women in other questions.

Of the 26 who selected 'I prefer a male priest to celebrate mass in this parish', 2 had not selected a choice for 5a, 8 have no particular view on the ordination of women, 14 are against the ordination of women and 2 are in favour of the ordination of women (neither of whom made any comments on their questionnaires).

Of the 60 who selected 'I do not mind if the priest presiding at mass in this parish is male or female', 1 did not select a choice for 5a, 9 have no particular view on the ordination of women and 50 are in favour of the ordination of women.