

Fires and Attempted Fires in Catholic Buildings in France

Census 2017–2026

198 fires or attempted fires affecting Catholic buildings recorded in France since January 2017.

187 distinct Catholic buildings affected.

78 distinct departments/territories affected over the 2017–2026 period.

Buildings concerned

Churches, chapels, basilicas, cathedrals, or parts directly attached to these places of worship.

Departments / territories affected

Ain (01), Aisne (02), Allier (03), Hautes-Alpes (05), Alpes-Maritimes (06), Ariège (09), Aude (11), Aveyron (12), Bouches-du-Rhône (13), Calvados (14), Cantal (15), Charente (16), Charente-Maritime (17), Corrèze (19), Côtes-d'Armor (22), Doubs (25), Drôme (26), Eure (27), Finistère (29), Haute-Garonne (31), Gers (32), Gironde (33), Hérault (34), Ille-et-Vilaine (35), Indre (36), Indre-et-Loire (37), Isère (38), Landes (40), Loire (42), Haute-Loire (43), Loire-Atlantique (44), Loir-et-Cher (45), Maine-et-Loire (49), Manche (50), Marne (51), Haute-Marne (52), Mayenne (53), Meurthe-et-Moselle (54), Meuse (55), Morbihan (56), Moselle (57), Nord (59), Oise (60), Orne (61), Pas-de-Calais (62), Puy-de-Dôme (63), Pyrénées-Atlantiques (64), Hautes-Pyrénées (65), Pyrénées-Orientales (66), Bas-Rhin (67), Haut-Rhin (68), Rhône (69), Saône-et-Loire (71), Sarthe (72), Savoie (73), Haute-Savoie (74), Paris (75), Seine-Maritime (76), Seine-et-Marne (77), Yvelines (78), Deux-Sèvres (79), Somme (80), Tarn (81), Tarn-et-Garonne (82), Vendée (85), Vienne (86), Haute-Vienne (87), Vosges (88), Essonne (91), Hauts-de-Seine (92), Val-d'Oise (93), Corse-du-Sud (2A), Haute-Corse (2B), Guadeloupe (971), Martinique (972), La Réunion (974), Nouvelle-Calédonie (988).

Event dates

2017

Date	Location	Building	Nature	Origin / investigation
Jan. 6, 2017	Saint-Étienne (42)	Saint-Charles Cathedral	Nativity scene and chapel set on fire	Confirmed deliberate act
Jan. 27, 2017	Le Havre (76)	Saint-Vincent-de-Paul Church	Nativity scene set on fire inside the church	Deliberate act, perpetrator identified
Feb. 5, 2017	Le Havre (76)	Saint-Joseph Church	Confessional curtains set on fire	Deliberate act, perpetrator identified
Mar. 25, 2017	Bernaville (80)	Bernaville Chapel	Roof completely destroyed, walls blackened	Undetermined origin, investigation open

Date	Location	Building	Nature	Origin / investigation
Jun. 27, 2017	Fontainebleau (77)	Trinity Chapel, Château de Fontainebleau	Fire broke out in the chapel attic	Accidental, welding work identified as cause
Aug. 29, 2017	Guilmécourt, Petit-Caux (76)	Saint-Vaast Church	Bell tower struck by lightning, causing a fire	Accidental / natural, lightning
Aug. 30, 2017	Nice (06)	Saint-Roch Church	Attempted arson of the altar	Deliberate act, perpetrator sought

2017 Summary

- 7 events recorded
- 7 distinct Catholic buildings
- 5 departments affected
- 4 confirmed deliberate / criminal acts
- 0 suspected deliberate / criminal acts
- 2 accidental / natural events
- 1 event of undetermined origin

57% of the events recorded in 2017 were confirmed to be deliberate in origin. Including suspected deliberate acts, the proportion remains 57%.

2018

Date	Location	Building	Nature	Origin / investigation
Mar. 3, 2018	Nemours (77)	Saint-Jean-Baptiste Church	Statue of the Virgin set on fire, church filled with smoke	Accidental, candle placed too close
Mar. 4, 2018	Auray (56)	Saint-Gildas Church	Ten separate fires, significant damage	Confirmed deliberate act
Mar. 2018	Saint-Omer (62)	Notre-Dame Cathedral	Gasoline poured and clothing set on fire on scaffolding	Suspected deliberate act, investigation open
Apr. 8, 2018	Saint-Brieuc-de-Mauron (56)	Saint-Brieuc Church	Major roof fire	Probably accidental, heating system involved
Apr. 2018	Langon (33)	Saint-Gervais-Saint-Protas Church	Fire inside the church	Deliberate / criminal act

Date	Location	Building	Nature	Origin / investigation
May 13, 2018	Igé (61)	Igé Church	Fire broke out inside the church	Accidental, electrical origin
May 16, 2018	Lyon (69)	Saint-Pothin Church	Fire in a chapel	Undetermined origin
Jun. 7, 2018	Revel (31)	Notre-Dame-des-Grâces Church	Fire broke out inside	Deliberate act, perpetrator convicted
Jun. 2018	Béthune (62)	Saint-Vaast Church	Fire quickly brought under control	Suspected deliberate act
Jun. 21, 2018	Plappeville (57)	Sainte-Brigide Church	Several items set on fire inside the church	Deliberate act, perpetrators arrested
Jul. 25, 2018	Orléans (45)	Saint-Pierre-du-Martroi Church	Sheet music set on fire, furniture damaged	Confirmed deliberate act
Jul. 31, 2018	Rennes (35)	Sainte-Thérèse Church	Bell tower destroyed and partially collapsed	Undetermined origin
Aug. 5, 2018	Villeneuve-d'Amont (25)	Saint-Antoine Church	Roof and bell tower destroyed	Accidental, spotlight fell onto roof structure
Sep. 3, 2018	Saint-Sever (40)	Saint-Jean du Péré Chapel	Chapel damaged by fire	Confirmed deliberate / criminal act
Sep. 2018	La Tour-du-Pin (38)	Notre-Dame-de-l'Assomption Church	Attempted arson inside	Suspected deliberate act
Sep. 2018	Grenoble (38)	Notre-Dame-de-l'Accueil Chapel	Fire broke out inside the chapel	Deliberate / criminal act
Oct. 28, 2018	Saint-Jean-du-Bruel (12)	Saint-Jean-Baptiste Church	Wooden panels set on fire in a chapel	Confirmed deliberate act
Nov. 18, 2018	Nancy (54)	Saint-Epvre Basilica	Sacristy set on fire, woodwork destroyed	Undetermined origin
Nov. 24, 2018	Pontoise (95)	Saint-Maclou Cathedral	Fire broke out in the bell tower	Undetermined origin
Dec. 30, 2018	Toulouse (31)	Sainte-Madeleine Church	Papers set on fire inside	Suspected deliberate act

2018 Summary

- 20 events recorded
- 20 distinct Catholic buildings
- 16 departments affected
- 8 confirmed deliberate / criminal acts
- 4 suspected deliberate / criminal acts
- 4 accidental / natural events
- 4 events of undetermined origin

40% of the events recorded in 2018 were confirmed to be deliberate in origin. Including suspected deliberate acts, this proportion rises to 60%.

2019

Date	Location	Building	Nature	Origin / investigation
Jan. 13, 2019	Angoulême (16)	Sacré-Cœur Church	Storage room set on fire, smoke inside the church	Suspected deliberate act
Jan. 14, 2019	Sélestat (67)	Sainte-Foy Church	Table set on fire inside the church	Deliberate act
Jan. 16-17, 2019	Grenoble (38)	Saint-Jacques Church	Church almost entirely destroyed	Deliberate act subsequently confirmed
Jan. 28, 2019	Lyon (69)	Sainte-Foy Church	Attempted arson	Deliberate act
Feb. 5, 2019	Lavaur (81)	Saint-Alain Cathedral	Altar and Nativity scene set on fire, heavy smoke	Deliberate act, perpetrators identified
Feb. 10, 2019	Versailles (78)	Saint-Jean-Hulst Chapel	Books and papers set on fire during Mass	Accidental, candle fell
Mar. 17, 2019	Paris (75)	Saint-Sulpice Church	Monumental door and stained-glass window set on fire	Confirmed deliberate act
Apr. 15, 2019	Paris (75)	Notre-Dame Cathedral	Roof structure, roof and spire destroyed	Accidental cause favored, exact origin undetermined
Apr. 21, 2019	Eyguières (13)	Notre-Dame-de-Grâce Church	Confessional and side chapel set on fire	Deliberate act, minor perpetrator arrested
May 5, 2019	Équihehen-Plage (62)	Saint-Pierre Church	Sacristy set on fire, significant damage	Deliberate act, perpetrator arrested and confessed
Jun. 26, 2019	Bourg-Achard (27)	Saint-Lô Church	Altar cloth / altar set on fire	Confirmed deliberate act

Date	Location	Building	Nature	Origin / investigation
Jun. 30, 2019	Bourg-Achard (27)	Saint-Lô Church	Second fire, choir organ destroyed	Confirmed deliberate act
Jul. 2, 2019	Neuvéglise-sur-Truyère (15)	Saint-Baudel Church	Bell tower struck by lightning, roof set on fire	Accidental / natural, lightning
Jul. 5, 2019	Scrignac (29)	Coat-Quéau Chapel	Major fire, roof structure and roof destroyed	Accidental, welding work identified as cause
Jul. 17, 2019	Sées (61)	Notre-Dame Cathedral	Arrested with gasoline cans before a fire could be set	Deliberate attempt, perpetrator arrested
Jul. 22, 2019	Autun (71)	Notre-Dame Church	Two fires started near the altar and chairs	Suspected deliberate act / investigation open
Nov. 12, 2019	Eauze (32)	Saint-Luperc Cathedral	Statue and furniture set on fire, significant smoke damage	Deliberate act, two minors identified
Dec. 6, 2019	Lyon (69)	Saint-Georges Church	Trash bins set on fire at the church door, smoke inside	Deliberate act, perpetrator arrested

2019 Summary

- 18 events recorded
- 17 distinct Catholic buildings
- 15 departments affected
- 12 confirmed deliberate / criminal acts
- 2 suspected deliberate / criminal acts
- 4 accidental / natural events
- 0 events of undetermined origin

67% of the events recorded in 2019 were confirmed to be deliberate in origin. Including suspected deliberate acts, this proportion rises to 78%.

2020

Date	Location	Building	Nature	Origin / investigation
Jan. 8, 2020	Montauban (82)	Saint-Jacques Chapel	Several fires set, harmonium destroyed	Deliberate act, perpetrator fled
Jan. 11, 2020	Bayonne (64)	Saint-Esprit Church	Fire inside the church	Deliberate act

Date	Location	Building	Nature	Origin / investigation
Jan. 15-16, 2020	Saint-Laurent-de-la-Salanque (66)	Saint-Laurent Church	Nativity scene fire, ceiling and pews damaged	Deliberate act
Mar. 1, 2020	Saint-Trivier-de-Courtes (01)	Saint-Trivier Church	Bell tower and roof damaged by fire	Accidental / natural, likely lightning
Mar. 13-15, 2020	Sète (34)	Notre-Dame-Souveraine-du-Monde Church	Fire set against the church entrance	Deliberate act, perpetrators fled
May 3, 2020	Mairais (14)	Mairais-la-Chapelle Church	Door set on fire, smoke inside	Suspected deliberate act
May 31, 2020	Schweyen (57)	Chapel of the Saints	Fire broke out inside the chapel	Probably accidental, candle involved
Jun. 12, 2020	Rennes (35)	Saint-Pierre Cathedral	Door set on fire	Confirmed deliberate act
Jun. 12, 2020	Beauchamp (95)	Notre-Dame Church	Bell tower and façade affected	Undetermined origin
Jun. 16, 2020	Coti-Chiavari (2A)	Madonnuccia Chapel	Beam set on fire inside	Probably accidental, candle involved
Jun. 29, 2020	La Dominelais (35)	Saint-Nicolas Church	Choir and furniture damaged by fire	Accidental, electrical incident
Jun. 29, 2020	Réaumont (38)	Saint-Blaise Church	Sacristy damaged by fire	Undetermined origin
Jul. 18, 2020	Nantes (44)	Saint-Pierre-et-Saint-Paul Cathedral	Three fires set, grand organ and artworks destroyed	Deliberate act, perpetrator arrested
Oct. 3, 2020	Rillieux-la-Pape (69)	Saint-Pierre-Chanel Church	Car set on fire against the façade	Confirmed deliberate act
Dec. 29, 2020	Paris (75)	Notre-Dame-du-Rosaire Church	Nativity scene set on fire, fire spread to roof	Undetermined origin

2020 Summary

- 15 events recorded
- 15 distinct Catholic buildings
- 13 departments/territories affected
- 7 confirmed deliberate / criminal acts
- 1 suspected deliberate / criminal act
- 4 accidental / natural events

- 3 events of undetermined origin

47% of the events recorded in 2020 were confirmed to be deliberate in origin. Including suspected deliberate acts, this proportion rises to 53%.

2021

Date	Location	Building	Nature	Origin / investigation
Jan. 7, 2021	Dieulefit (26)	Saint-Roch Church	Confessional and furniture set on fire	Deliberate act, perpetrator arrested
Jan. 19-20, 2021	Voutezac (19)	Saint-Christophe Church	Roof and interior severely damaged by fire	Accidental, electrical origin
Jan. 25, 2021	Montpellier (34)	Saint-Paul de La Mosson Church	Table, altar cloth and missal set on fire	Confirmed deliberate act
Jan. 29, 2021	Saint-Malo (35)	Notre-Dame-des-Grèves Church	Four fires set inside the church	Deliberate act, perpetrator arrested
Feb. 24, 2021	Bastia (2B)	Sainte-Croix Oratory	Candle room set on fire, approx. 20 m ² destroyed	Suspected deliberate act
Apr. 5, 2021	Avesnes-sur-Helpe (59)	Saint-Nicolas Collegiate Church	Side chapel and artworks set on fire	Deliberate act, perpetrator arrested then convicted
Apr. 6, 2021	Grenoble (38)	Saint-Louis Church	Fire broke out inside	Origin to be determined
Apr. 17, 2021	Romilly-la-Puthenaye (27)	Saint-Pierre Church	Church almost entirely destroyed by fire	Accidental cause favored
May 3, 2021	Lille (59)	Saint-Pierre-Saint-Paul Church	Sacristy fire spread to the roof	Accidental cause favored, investigation open
Jun. 18, 2021	Malestroit (56)	Saint-Gilles Church	Scaffolding set on fire, fire brought under control	Suspected deliberate act, investigation open
Jul. 11, 2021	Déols (36)	Saint-Étienne Church	Eight fires set inside the church	Deliberate act, perpetrator(s) unidentified
Jul. 25, 2021	Loctudy (29)	Saint-Tudy Church	Prayer binder set on fire	Deliberate act, investigation open

Date	Location	Building	Nature	Origin / investigation
Aug. 8, 2021	Déols (36)	Saint-Étienne Church	Four to five fires set	Deliberate act, perpetrator(s) unidentified
Sep. 14, 2021	Guingamp (22)	Notre-Dame-de-Bon-Secours Basilica	Virgin Mary statue's cloak set on fire	Confirmed deliberate act, perpetrator unidentified
Sep. 19, 2021	Saint-Loup-Hors (14)	Saint-Loup Church	Processional banner set on fire	Suspected deliberate act
Sep. 23, 2021	Saint-Loup-Hors (14)	Saint-Loup Church	Confessional and woodwork set on fire	Suspected deliberate act
Sep. 23, 2021	Valence (26)	Saint-Apollinaire Cathedral	Choir stalls set on fire	Accidental, pest-control device involved
Nov. 2-3, 2021	La Garenne-Colombes (92)	Saint-Urbain Church	Fire broke out near candles	Undetermined origin
Nov. 26, 2021	Fronton (31)	Saint-Jean-Baptiste Church	Chapel altar set on fire	Deliberate act, perpetrator arrested
Nov. 26-27, 2021	Le Portel (62)	Saint-Pierre-Saint-Paul Church	Sacristy set on fire	Deliberate act, perpetrator arrested
Dec. 7, 2021	La Roque-d'Anthéron (13)	Notre-Dame-de-l'Annonciation Church	Book of intentions set on fire	Deliberate act
Dec. 11, 2021	La Roque-d'Anthéron (13)	Notre-Dame-de-l'Annonciation Church	New attempted arson	Deliberate act

2021 Summary

- 22 events recorded
- 19 distinct Catholic buildings
- 17 departments/territories affected
- 12 confirmed deliberate / criminal acts
- 4 suspected deliberate / criminal acts
- 4 accidental / natural events
- 2 events of undetermined origin

55% of the events recorded in 2021 were confirmed to be deliberate in origin. Including suspected deliberate acts, this proportion rises to 73%.

2022

Date	Location	Building	Nature	Origin / investigation
Feb. 14-15, 2022	Mantes-la-Jolie (78)	Saint-Jean-Baptiste Church	Newspaper and trash set on fire against a door	Deliberate act, perpetrator arrested
May 16, 2022	Senlis (60)	Notre-Dame Cathedral	Wooden statue of Saint Joseph set on fire	Probably accidental, candle involved
May 18-19, 2022	St-Gilles-Croix-de-Vie (85)	Sainte-Croix Church	Fire in the transept, floor burned	Criminal cause favored, suspect arrested
Jun. 11, 2022	Aubigné (79)	Saint-Cybard Church	Bell tower damaged by fire	Lightning
Jun. 14, 2022	Gugnécourt (88)	Gugnécourt Church	Bell tower ravaged by fire	Origin undetermined at this stage
Jun. 22, 2022	Mortemart (87)	Saint-Hilaire Church	Bell tower fire, upper section destroyed	Lightning
Jul. 7, 2022	Montchanin (71)	Montchanin Church	Attempted arson of the church	Suspected deliberate act, investigation open
Jul. 10, 2022	Lourdes (65)	Lourdes Chapels of Light	Major fire, three chapels destroyed	Accidental cause favored
Sep. 15, 2022	Saint-Malo (35)	Chapel in Saint-Malo	Attempted arson	Deliberate act
Sep. 18, 2022	Fleury-d'Aude (11)	Notre-Dame-de-Liesse Chapel	Several fires set and vandalism	Confirmed arson
~Nov. 1, 2022	Ambert (63)	Saint-Jean Church	Dead leaves set on fire inside the church	Deliberate act
Dec. 5, 2022	Ambert (63)	Saint-Jean Church	New attempted arson	Deliberate act
Dec. 21, 2022	Talmon-sur-Gironde (17)	Sainte-Radegonde Church	Nativity scene set on fire inside	Accidental cause favored
Dec. 29, 2022	Aurillac (15)	Saint-Eugène Chapel	Roof destroyed by fire	Undetermined origin

2022 Summary

- 14 events recorded
- 13 distinct Catholic buildings
- 13 departments affected
- 5 confirmed deliberate / criminal acts

- 2 suspected deliberate / criminal acts
- 5 accidental / natural events
- 2 events of undetermined origin

36% of the events recorded in 2022 were confirmed to be deliberate in origin. Including suspected deliberate acts, this proportion rises to 50%.

2023

Date	Location	Building	Nature	Origin / investigation
Jan. 17, 2023	Paris 19th (75)	Notre-Dame-de-Fatima Church	Door doused with flammable liquid and set on fire	Deliberate act
Jan. 18, 2023	Paris 10th (75)	Saint-Martin-des-Champs Church	Door set on fire, flames spread inside	Deliberate act
Jan. 22, 2023	Paris 19th (75)	Notre-Dame-de-Fatima Church	Second deliberate fire set to the door	Deliberate act
Jan. 25, 2023	Paris 10th (75)	Saint-Laurent Church	Door set on fire and damaged	Deliberate act, suspect arrested
Feb. 4, 2023	Ligueil (37)	Saint-Martin Church	Altar cloth set on fire	Suspected deliberate act
Feb. 11, 2023	Chanteloup-les-Vignes (78)	Saint-Roch Church	Four fires set inside	Deliberate act
Mar. 9, 2023	Eguisheim (68)	Saints-Pierre-et-Paul Church	Several fires set inside	Deliberate act
Mar. 13, 2023	Bordeaux (33)	Sacré-Cœur Church	Fire set outside the church	Deliberate act
Mar. 24, 2023	Lapte (43)	Saint-Jean Church	Roof fire	Probably accidental, work involved
Apr. 20, 2023	Ax-les-Thermes (09)	Saint-Vincent Church	Sacristy destroyed by fire	Accidental, electrical malfunction
May 28, 2023	Cugnaux (31)	Saint-Laurent Church	Hymn books and objects set on fire	Suspected deliberate act

Date	Location	Building	Nature	Origin / investigation
Jun. 14, 2023	Saint-Chaffrey (05)	Saint-Joseph Chapel	Roof caught fire from a nearby blaze	Undetermined origin
Jul. 3, 2023	Limoges (87)	Sainte-Valérie Church	Altar cloth and carpet set on fire	Suspicious origin, investigation ongoing
Jul. 7, 2023	Drosnay (51)	Notre-Dame-de-l'Assomption Church	Church almost entirely destroyed	Undetermined origin
Jul. 9, 2023	Descartes (37)	Saint-Georges Church	Roof and bell tower destroyed	Lightning
Aug. 22, 2023	Ste-Geneviève-des-Bois (91)	Sainte-Geneviève Church	Furniture and objects set on fire inside	Undetermined origin
Oct. 24, 2023	Arras (62)	Saint-Nicolas-en-Cité Church	Fire set on a church door	Suspected deliberate act
Oct. 24, 2023	Loué (72)	Saint-Symphorien Church	Altar cloth set on fire	Suspected deliberate act
Oct. 24, 2023	Mers-les-Bains (80)	Saint-Martin Church	Fire in a chapel	Suspected accidental, short circuit
Nov. 10, 2023	Reichshoffen (67)	Wohlfahrtshoffen Chapel	Roof, ceiling and bell turret destroyed	Accidental, heating system failure
Dec. 13, 2023	Rennes (35)	Saint-Yves Church	Fire inside, approximately 2 m ² affected	Undetermined origin
Dec. 17, 2023	Senlis (60)	Notre-Dame Cathedral	Fire in a technical room	Accidental, electrical problem
Dec. 19, 2023	Estrées-Saint-Denis (60)	Saint-Denis Church	Sacristy ravaged by fire	Undetermined, criminal cause ruled out

2023 Summary

- 23 events recorded
- 22 distinct Catholic buildings
- 17 departments affected
- 7 confirmed deliberate / criminal acts

- 5 suspected deliberate / criminal acts
- 6 accidental / natural events
- 5 events of undetermined origin

30% of the events recorded in 2023 were confirmed to be deliberate in origin. Including suspected deliberate acts, this proportion rises to 52%.

2024

Date	Location	Building	Nature	Origin / investigation
Jan. 12, 2024	Le Lamentin, Martinique (972)	Saint-Laurent Church	Sacristy fire, room partially destroyed	Origin to be determined
Jan. 18, 2024	Marseille (13)	Saint-Patrice Church	Christmas tree set on fire, Nativity scene destroyed	Undetermined
Jan. 26, 2024	Viarmes (95)	Saint-Pierre-et-Saint-Paul Church	Major fire in the upper part of the bell tower	Accidental, welding work involved
Jan. 27, 2024	Bordeaux-Caudéran (33)	Saint-Amand Church	Fires set around and inside the church	Deliberate act
Feb. 8, 2024	Toulouse (31)	Saint-Joseph Church	Fire in the sacristy	Accidental, electrical fault
Mar. 14, 2024	Neufchâtel-sur-Aisne (02)	Saint-Paul Church	Roof structure and roof damaged by fire	Undetermined, investigation open
Mar. 21, 2024	Saint-Julia (31)	Sainte-Agathe-et-Saint-Julien Church	Hearse set on fire inside	Deliberate cause favored
Apr. 2, 2024	Angers (49)	Saint-Serge Church	Fire set on the altar of the Virgin's chapel	Deliberate act
Apr. 3, 2024	Angers (49)	Saint-Serge Church	Second fire set in front of a statue	Deliberate act, perpetrator arrested
Apr. 4, 2024	Agneaux (50)	Saint-Jean-Baptiste Church	Entrance fire, door and chairs burned	Suspected deliberate act
Apr. 8, 2024	Bringolo (22)	Notre-Dame Church	Major fire, roof and interior severely damaged	Accidental, electrical malfunction
Apr. 9, 2024	Veyreau (12)	Veyreau Church	Bell tower destroyed by fire	Lightning

Date	Location	Building	Nature	Origin / investigation
Apr. 12, 2024	Revel (31)	Notre-Dame-des-Grâces Church	Fire in a wooden chapel / pew	Accidental cause favored
Apr. 14, 2024	Bioussac (16)	Saint-Pierre Church	Major fire, church almost entirely destroyed	Undetermined origin
May 4, 2024	Raucoules (43)	Raucoules Church	Fire in the boiler room	Accidental, electrical panel
May 14, 2024	Poitiers (86)	Sainte-Thérèse Church	Pews and chairs set on fire inside	Deliberate act
May 15, 2024	Briançon (05)	Notre-Dame-Saint-Nicolas Collegiate Church	Fire set on the door	Deliberate act, perpetrator arrested
May 19, 2024	Dannevoux (55)	Saint-Hippolyte Church	Fire set on the altar	Deliberate act
Jun. 13, 2024	Quintin (22)	Notre-Dame-de-Délivrance Basilica	Fire set inside	Deliberate cause favored
Jul. 11, 2024	Rouen (76)	Notre-Dame Cathedral	Fire on the spire	Undetermined origin
Jul. 15, 2024	Rustiques (11)	Saint-Martin Church	Fire set beneath an exterior arch	Deliberate act
Jul. 16, 2024	St-Louis, Le Mont-Dore (988)	Saint-Louis Mission Church	Church destroyed by fire	Deliberate act
Jul. 19, 2024	Vao, Île des Pins (988)	Vao Church	Church partially damaged by fire	Deliberate act
Jul. 25, 2024	Touho (988)	Sainte-Anne Chapel	Altar and furniture set on fire	Deliberate act
Jul. 26, 2024	Martigné-Briand (49)	Saint-Simplicien Church	Confessional destroyed by fire	Suspicious origin, investigation open
Jul. 2024	Nouméa, Portes-de-Fer (988)	Espérance Church	Attempted arson prevented	Deliberate act
Aug. 4, 2024	Lège-Cap-Ferret (33)	Saint-Pierre Church	Tabernacle broken into and set on fire	Deliberate act

Date	Location	Building	Nature	Origin / investigation
Aug. 14, 2024	Tyé, Poindimie (988)	Sacré-Cœur Church	Multiple fires set, interior damaged	Deliberate act
Sep. 2, 2024	Saint-Omer (62)	Immaculée-Conception Church	Major fire, roof and bell tower destroyed	Confirmed arson
Sep. 21, 2024	Brest (29)	Saint-Luc Church	Tabernacle set on fire in a chapel	Deliberate act
Sep. 30, 2024	Beauvais (60)	Saint-Pierre Cathedral	Fire in the attic	Origin to be determined
Oct. 3, 2024	Poitiers (86)	Saint-Hilaire-le-Grand Church	Fire in the nave, artworks damaged	Suspected deliberate act
Dec. 11, 2024	Montpellier (34)	Saints-François Church	Major roof fire	Accidental, work involved
Dec. 29, 2024	Le Moule, Guadeloupe (971)	Saint-Jean-Baptiste Church	Nativity scene and parish hall set on fire	Undetermined origin

2024 Summary

- 34 events recorded
- 33 distinct Catholic buildings
- 24 departments/territories affected
- 15 confirmed deliberate / criminal acts
- 5 suspected deliberate / criminal acts
- 7 accidental / natural events
- 7 events of undetermined origin

44% of the events recorded in 2024 were confirmed to be deliberate in origin. Including suspected deliberate acts, this proportion rises to 59%.

2025

Date	Location	Building	Nature	Origin / investigation
Jan. 3, 2025	La Garnache (85)	Notre-Dame-de-l'Assomption Church	Fire in the sacristy	Human error favored
Jan. 27, 2025	Langé (36)	Saint-Jacques Church	Roof structure fire, bell tower destroyed	Lightning

Date	Location	Building	Nature	Origin / investigation
Feb. 8, 2025	Saint-Louis, La Réunion (974)	Saint-Jean-Baptiste Chapel	Major fire, interior severely damaged	Undetermined
Feb. 26, 2025	Saumur (49)	Notre-Dame-des-Ardilliers Church	Main door set on fire	Deliberate act strongly suspected
Mar. 16, 2025	Herrlisheim (67)	Saint-Arbogast Church	Pallet set on fire in the basement	Undetermined, investigation open
May 8, 2025	Ambleteuse (62)	Saint-Michel Church	Fire in the sacristy	Electrical cause favored
May 10, 2025	Louhans (71)	Saint-Pierre Church	Fire broke out on a beam	Accidental, spotlight involved
May 17, 2025	Thuilley-aux-Groseilles (54)	Thuilley-aux-Groseilles Church	Fire in the heating duct	Accidental, bird nest involved
Jun. 11, 2025	Laval (53)	Sainte-Trinité Cathedral	Fire on scaffolding	Criminal cause favored
Jun. 22, 2025	Verrières / Montlaur (12)	Verrières Church	Bell tower fire, spire destroyed	Lightning
Jul. 6, 2025	Sierck-les-Bains (57)	Marienfloss Chapel	Fire inside the chapel	Deliberate act, two alleged perpetrators
Jul. 23, 2025	Paris (75)	Notre-Dame-des-Champs Church	First fire inside*	Arson
Jul. 24, 2025	Paris (75)	Notre-Dame-des-Champs Church	Second fire inside	Arson
Aug. 10, 2025	Saint-Nicolas-la-Chapelle (73)	Saint-Nicolas Church	Fire broke out on an altar	Undetermined, investigation open
Aug. 15, 2025	Saint-Baldoph (73)	Saint-Anthelme Chapel	Fire in an adjoining structure	Accidental, incense ashes
Aug. 20, 2025	Saint-Dizier (52)	Notre-Dame-de-l'Assomption Church	Several attempts to start a fire	Perpetrator identified, fire did not spread
Aug. 23, 2025	Panilleuse (27)	Notre-Dame Church	Altar set on fire / attempted arson	Deliberate act
Sep. 8, 2025	Guingamp (22)	Notre-Dame-de-Bon-Secours Basilica	Virgin Mary statue set on fire	Arson

Date	Location	Building	Nature	Origin / investigation
Sep. 16, 2025	Le Perrier (85)	Le Perrier Church	Church door set on fire	Undetermined
Sep. 29, 2025	La Châtre (36)	Saint-Germain Church	Several fires set inside	Deliberately set
Oct. 2025	Carla-Bayle (09)	Saint-Jean-Baptiste Church	Attempted arson in the choir	Undetermined, complaint filed
Nov. 8, 2025	Saint-Étienne (42)	Sainte-Marie Church	Fire in a church annex	Undetermined
Dec. 20, 2025	Montluçon (03)	Sainte-Thérèse Church	Roof fire, 30 m ² burned	Origin to be determined
Dec. 26, 2025	Lourdes (65)	Sacré-Cœur Church	Fire in the crypt	Criminal cause favored

2025 Summary

- 24 events recorded
- 23 distinct Catholic buildings
- 20 departments/territories affected
- 7 confirmed deliberate / criminal acts
- 3 suspected deliberate / criminal acts
- 7 accidental / natural events
- 7 events of undetermined origin

29% of the events recorded in 2025 were confirmed to be deliberate in origin. Including suspected deliberate acts, this proportion rises to 42%.

2026

Date	Location	Building	Nature	Origin / investigation
Jan. 2, 2026	Le Puy-en-Velay (43)	Saint-Laurent Church	Fire in a candle room	Undetermined, fire brought under control
Jan. 29, 2026	Clères (76)	Clères Church	Attempted arson	Attempt recorded
Feb. 4, 2026	Saint-Nicolas-de-Port (54)	Saint-Nicolas Basilica	Chairs and papers set on fire	Investigation open
Feb. 15, 2026	Chécy (45)	Saint-Pierre Church	Fire near the altar	Suspicious origin, investigation open
Feb. 25, 2026	Montauban (82)	Villeneuve Church	Cloth and leaflets set on fire	Two children involved

Date	Location	Building	Nature	Origin / investigation
Mar. 15, 2026	Saint-Hostien (43)	Saint-Hostien Church	Fire above the sacristy	Accidental cause favored
Apr. 30, 2026	Montenach (57)	Saint-Cyriaque Church	Major fire, roof and bell tower ravaged	Spreading vegetation fire
May 3, 2026	Lentigny (42)	Lentigny Church	Leaflets set on fire in the nave	Criminal cause favored
May 6, 2026	Tergnier (02)	Parish hall adjoining the church	Attempted arson	Two men in police custody
May 20, 2026	Cernay (68)	Saint-Étienne Church	Major fire inside	Undetermined, extensive damage
Jun. 5, 2026	Roques-sur-Garonne (31)	Saint-Martin Church	Fire in front of the altar	Deliberate act
Jun. 12, 2026	Trégastel (22)	Sainte-Anne-des-Rochers Chapel	Major fire, roof ravaged	Accidental origin
Jun. 12, 2026	Condom (32)	Saint-Pierre Cathedral cloister	Major fire in the cloister	Origin to be determined
Jun. 29, 2026	Castelsarrasin (82)	Saint-Jean Church	Attempted arson	Deliberate damage suspected
Jun. 29, 2026	Montmorot (39)	Notre-Dame Church	Bell tower damaged by fire	Lightning
Jul. 7, 2026	Perriers-sur-Andelle (27)	Saint-Étienne Church	Fire in a chapel	Electrical origin
Aug. 7, 2026	Lullin (74)	Saint-Jean-Baptiste Church	Two fires set inside	Criminal origin confirmed
Aug. 15, 2026	Saint-Salvadou (12)	Saint-Salvadou Church	Bell tower ravaged	Lightning
Sep. 21, 2026	Saint-Père-Marc-en-Poulet (35)	Sainte-Marie School Chapel	Major fire, chapel ravaged	Undetermined, investigation open
Oct. 19, 2026	Ploubalay (22)	Saint-Pierre-et-Saint-Paul Church	Two fires set	Deliberate fire
Oct. 20, 2026	Fenouillet (31)	Saint-Médard Church	Fire nearby, building affected	Undetermined, investigation open

2026 Summary

- 21 events recorded
- 21 distinct Catholic buildings
- 17 departments affected

- 5 confirmed deliberate / criminal acts
- 3 suspected deliberate / criminal acts
- 7 accidental / natural events
- 6 events of undetermined origin

24% of the events recorded in 2026 were confirmed to be deliberate in origin. Including suspected deliberate acts, this proportion rises to 38%.

2026 census as of October 26, 2026.

Summary 2017–2026

- Confirmed deliberate / criminal acts: 82 events
- Suspected deliberate / criminal acts: 29 events
- Accidental / natural: 50 events
- Undetermined origin: 37 events

Total: 198 events

Approximately 41% of the recorded events were confirmed deliberate acts, 15% were suspected deliberate acts, 25% were accidental or natural in origin, and 19% remain of undetermined origin.

Year	Confirmed deliberate	Suspected	Accidental / natural	Undetermined	Total
2017	4	0	2	1	7
2018	8	4	4	4	20
2019	12	2	4	0	18
2020	7	1	4	3	15
2021	12	4	4	2	22
2022	5	2	5	2	14
2023	7	5	6	5	23
2024	15	5	7	7	34
2025	7	3	7	7	24
2026*	5	3	7	6	21
Total	82	29	50	37	198

Of the 198 events recorded, 82 (41%) were confirmed to be deliberate or criminal in origin, while 29 (15%) were suspected to be so. Combined, 111 events, or approximately 56% of the total, therefore involved a confirmed or suspected deliberate origin.

Accidental or natural causes accounted for 50 events (25%), while 37 (19%) remain of undetermined origin or cannot yet be definitively classified.

2026: census as of October 26, 2026. Non-exhaustive list based on publicly documented events.

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