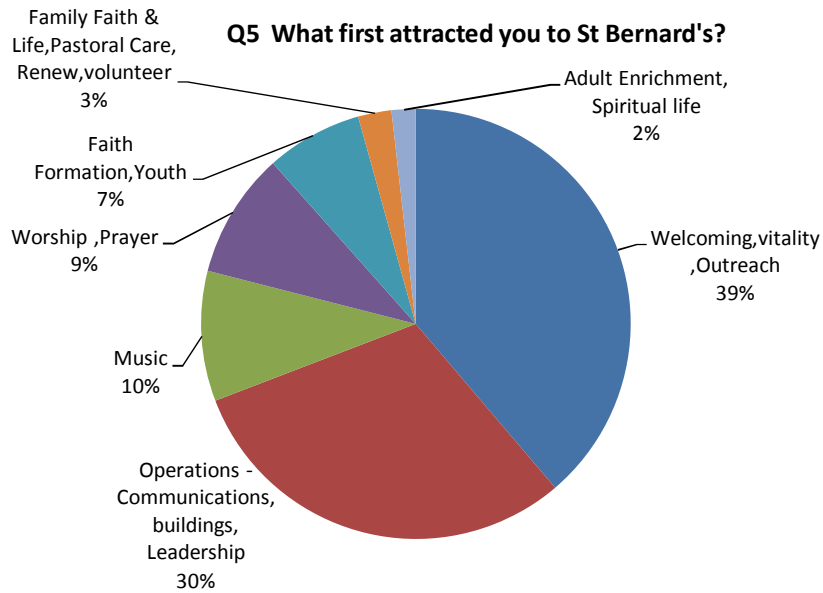
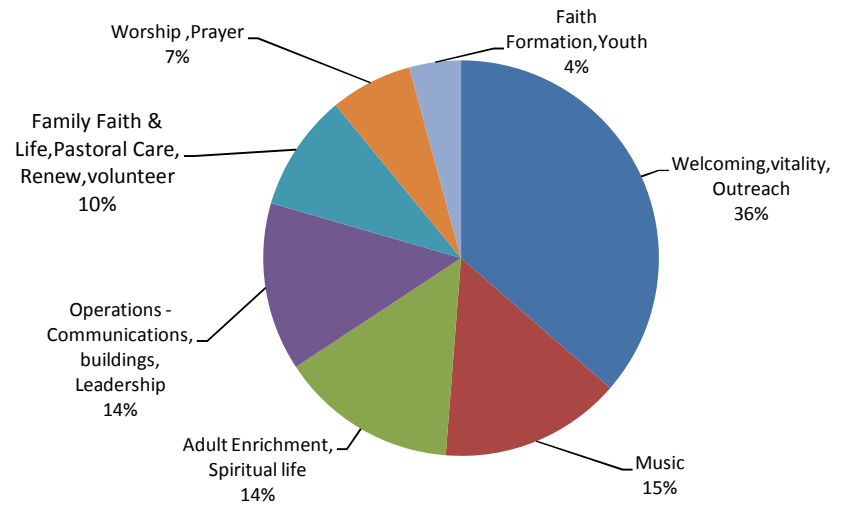


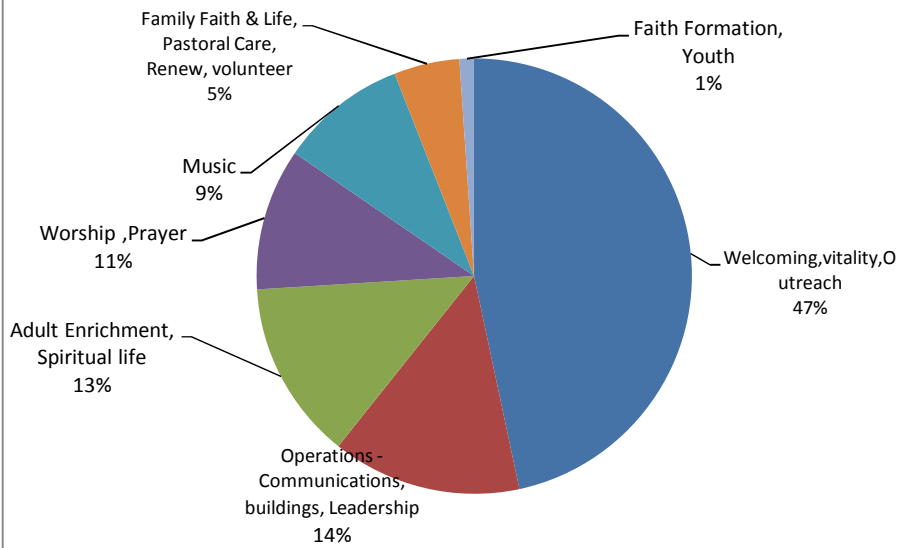
Q5 What first attracted you to St Bernard's?



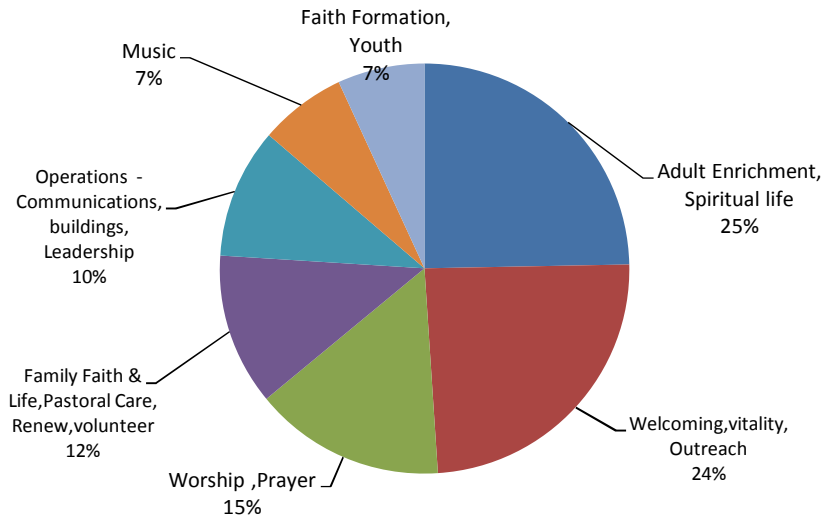
Q6 If the context of the last 2-3 years, what made you most proud and/or most enthused about our Parish?



Q7 What keeps you coming back to St Bernard's?



Q8 What do you value most about our Parish and how has it contributed to your spiritual growth?



CATEGORIES:	CATEGORY ITEMS:
Adult Enrichment	small groups, RCIA, Retreats, Seminars EVENTS: Annulment support, bible/sriptural programs, Christian family movement, Christ renews his parish, library, RCIA, marriage enrichment, marriage prep, smallgroups, speaker series, sacramental renewal, etc
Buildings	Parish Center, Janssen Center, location, grounds
Communications	Marketing, Audio & Visual, Internet EVENTS: Audio & Visual, bulletin, Hoilies on tape, Internet min, marketing, newsletter, etc
Faith Formation	Religious Education, Confirmation, Bible school EVENTS: Confirmation, Generations of Faith, bible school,café, etc
Family Faith & Life	Elizabeth, Sac, Martha, Young Fam, Men, Ladies EVENTS: Charismatic renewal, children's lit of the word, EM family foudations, martha min, mens's ministry, respect life, sac prep, singles, womwn's min, young family min, ladies of StB, etc
Leadership	Father, Deacons, Presiders, Office, Leadership
Misc	N/A Comments
Music	choirs, instrumentals, complement EVENTS: masses, funerals, events, youth music, etc

Outreach	Social Justice, Sharing, Partnership EVENTS: Assist a family, clothing drive, human concerns, partnership Prish, shelters, SVDP, stewardship of service, etc
Pastoral Care	Visitation, Support, Nursing EVENTS: Addictions, Beveavement, Homebound, Couseling Center, Health & wellness, Support Grps, Prision Min, Self Help Resources, Visitation Min, etc
Prayer	groups, individual EVENTS: prayer after mass, prayer groups, individual prayers
Renew	evangelize, investigate PVI, participation, stewardship, Innovation
Spiritual life	Relationship with Jesus, Catholic, Faith
vitality	Joy, parishioners, friends, coffee & rolls, parish involvement EVENTS: feel good,
Volunteer	participation, parishoner involvement, commitment
Welcoming	Hospitality, new members, events EVENTS: welcome week ends, etc
Worship	Liturgy EVENTS: Homilies, Art & environment, Euch Min, Liturgy, Lectors & servers, Mass cord, Hmong, etc
Youth	outreach, parish EVENTS: teen mass, volunteers, mission trips, ministries, music, etc

Q5 -What first attracted you to St. Bernards

The mass music and homily. Friendliness of all
We were attached by the sermons of Father Janssen & the tremendous outreach done by the parish & it many ministries
Excellent informative diverse sermons given about essential biblical teachings.
Fr. Jansen s sermons. We tried other churches in the area when we moved to Appleton but chose St. Bernards because the preaching was challenging.
Fr. Orv Janssen s sermons and the social justice commitment of the parish as well as the extensive religious education program for the kids and the emphasis on adult education. The fact that there was no school to support was a plus in my mind.
The modern feel of the facilities and the mass that made us feel like a participant instead of just an observer. The vitality of the mass and the people surrounding it.
In the neighborhood. Liked Fr Jansen s preaching
Fr. Janssen his hospitality liturgy and homilies. Also the music.
Fr. Janssens preaching his social ministry and the architecture of the church.
I attended mass at all parishes and St. Bernards seemed to fit me the best. At that time it seemed friendly and Father Orv was a great speaker. The choir was also a deciding factor.
Fr. Orv - dynamic - sermons were long but informative. Upbeat music
Guitar Mass in activity room. There was a pastor willing to stick out his neck for the needy (outside the church walls)
Fr. Janssen s strong weekly message always Bible based and the way he used each Sunday as an opportunity to really teach us the Catholic faith.
Liturgies Music Homilies
Faith filled vibrant masses
First Fr. Janssen and his homilies. In the 70 s we had just started thinking for ourselves after Vatican II. I wanted my children to think for themselves and make intelligent decisions of their own along the way. St. Bernards led the way for that.
The Hmong community transferred sessions.
Cause of mass and God. With Hmong class.
Sponsor. Hmong church.
Parish offered a place for Hmong catholics to congregate and share our faith. Father Mike was very inspirational and supportive in helping us grow our faith in the Lord which led us to leave St. Mary s to be a part of St. Bernard so that we can give back to the church.
Energy Music Variety of mass times Not asking for money every week
Vitality Life Stimulating Homilies Stimulating Members Enthusiasm
The organ music and Fr. Janssen s sermons
We belonged to antoehr local parish for 14 years. We began attending St. Bernard s with our neighbors who had been members for a number of years. We really liked the family community and the Sunday mass celbrations with exceptional music great liturgy. It was the commuity and mass celbration that attracted us but it was the then pastor Fr. John Bergstadt that really made us feel part of the community. Even before we joined Fr John got to know our entire family and went out of his way to make us feel welcome. He was a good homilist and a very good and loving shepard to ALL the people of the parish.
The music and we heard Fr. John gave great sermons.
The music and the mass that was relevant to our young family.
the Spirit Singer s music was upbeat and inviting
The choir and the feeling of being welcomed
The music and the mass that was relevant to our young family.
Music program friendly people priest (Father Kurt)
the fabulous music department in 1986
Beautiful organ music - outreach by many parish groups
The music and we heard Fr. John gave great sermons.
The music at the Activity Center and the preaching by Fr. Janssen
The music and singing. Greater participation than my previous parishes. Also the friendliness and welcoming atmosphere. Would like to hear more organ use and less percussion instruments. We have an excellant organ recently reconditioned.
It was a very alive and active community with good music.
People singing way back in the 70 s (the congregation) Friendliness adn upbeat modern
the music
The music is the best in the area. Church is more than just attending each week. St. Bernard Parish also always seemed have the most volunteer opportunities and what really helped build that was the fact that you were strictly required to help with something or find another church.

Music Environment Fr. Jansen
MUSIC AND FRIENDLY WARM FATHER IN 2003
The organ music and Fr. Janssen s sermons
The music at Mass The friendliness of the people The opportunities for service
Energy Music Variety of mass times Not asking for money every week
Liturgies Music Homilies
Fr. Orv - dynamic - sermons were long but informative. Upbeat music
I attended mass at all parishes and St. Bernards seemed to fit me the best. At that time it seemed friendly and Father Orv was a great speaker. The choir was also a deciding factor.
Fr. Janssen his hospitality liturgy and homilies. Also the music.
1. social outreach to the local community 2. high quality of homilies 3. singable music 4. lay parishioners were valued and respected 5. A wide variety of adult enrichment offerings
Location Music atmosphere design of the church.
Nice open frendly people. Beautiful music.
People pastor and music at mass
The mass music and homily. Friendliness of all
Part of our family belonged there. After attending mass there I felt that it was time to make a move.
I was recently divorced and had just moved to the area. After attending several local parished St Bernard s seemed the most welcoming of my marital status.
The first time I walked thru the doors (26 yrs) ago someone was there to greet me. This is vital to make all feel welcome.
We received a post card in the mail when our daughter was born inviting us to visit the parish. There were a lot of young families.
The friendliness of the members. The youthfulness of the parish. Close to where we live.
the welcoming openest and Father Janssens homily
It is warm and welcoming. The choir rocks! It felt like a comfortable place to worship the first time we came to mass.
I have attended St. Bernard my whole life. I ve always found it a very welcoming and comforting place. It feels like home to me. When I was a child I loved the hoedowns and the sense of community.
Moved near the church to Touchmark assisted living. Friends took me to the parish. Once there I loved the welcoming atmosphere.
Singing in the Chorale; putting the kids in Faith Formation (St. Mary s in Menasha put our kids on a WAITING LIST!)
I/we liked the feel of the parish. It seemed very welcoming.
The Religious Education program Friendliness and high energy of clergy and people
The welcoming Sunday for new members impressed me along with the non-judgmental attitude and acceptance of both Father Bergstadt and Father Ryan.
The warm welcome I received from Father Dennis and people of the parish.
the friendly atmospher eby everyone I met. This continue to this day and is always so friendly and helpful at all times.
Welcoming nature of everyone Fr. Janssen s sermons
Its sad you no longer us it on the front of the bulletin. On the first day I went to church here I read this & decided you would be my church home All are welcome Here all are welcome - no matter what your race language or creed; no matter what your orientation or marriage situation; no matter where your journey has led you. You are invited welcomed accepted loved and respected at St. Bernard Catholic Parish.
When we first moved to Appleton some 35 years ago the following things attracted me to St. Bernard s: 1.) The relegious education program. 2.) There was no school to support. 3.) The welcome that we received to first time we attended mass
Our first visit was about 2-1/2 years ago and the bulletin front cover had a wonderful welcoming message. No matter what a person s situation in life- all are welcome. We immediately felt we were welcome.
Mass was lively with great music and Fr Dennis is a very relatable.
They were welcoming of the Hmong community vs. other parishes we have attended in the past.
The music at Mass The friendliness of the people The opportunities for service
People singing way back in the 70 s (the congregation) Friendliness adn upbeat modern
The music and singing. Greater participation than my previous parishes. Also the friendliness and welcoming atmosphere. Would like to hear more organ use and less percussion instruments. We have an excellant organ recently reconditioned.
We had family attending St Bernard s. It was near our home. I enjoyed the music at masses. Wanted to join the choir.
Education program when our children were young. Openness of the community
The choir and the feeling of being welcomed
No school vatican II atmosphere outstanding religious ed program welcoming no Bingo relaxed masses in activity center
Fr. Janssen and the social justice focus of the parish.
Outreach focus on justice
It was a parish that reached out to those in need. It was the first parish where my abilities were desired and where I was valued for more than the money& could contribute. People were expected to be involved in the work of the Parish. There was a great deal of personal contact to encourage people to share their talents.(not just the written form) People were constantly thanked personally for their efforts. Adult education was viewed as crucial as education of the youth. Monetary resources were not prematurely for Catholic day school. Emphasis was on Faith Formation Public school children and fees were paid for adult education courses Adults were challenged to grow in their faith
Outreach ministries.
We came to St B s for the Religious Ed program when our son was in 2nd grade as we heardthe preperation for First Holy communion was very good. We were really not pleased with the program at our other parish and we were not involved in that parish just went there for Sunday mass as it was the closest Catholic church to our home. That was in mid 80 s
1. social outreach to the local community 2. high quality of homilies 3. singable music 4. lay parishioners were valued and respected 5. A wide variety of adult enrichment offerings

The active outreach done by Father Janssen and many parish groups. The homilies by Father Janssen that challenged us to understand our faith and bring ourselves closer to God. Very accepting and gracious staff and parishioners. High quality religious education program. Well functioning staff. Welcoming staff. Welcoming atmosphere. Wonderful choirs.

We were invited by neighbors when we moved to Appleton 31 years ago. Fr. Janssen's sermons and the parish & social justice outreach set St. Bernard's apart from other area congregations.

The music at Mass The friendliness of the people The opportunities for service

Fr. Janssen's preaching his social ministry and the architecture of the church.

Beautiful organ music - outreach by many parish groups

We were attached by the sermons of Father Janssen & the tremendous outreach done by the parish & its many ministries

charter member

The closeness to our home and our it is part of the ACES system.

I moved to Appleton from Oshkosh. I had attended Mass at St. Bernard's occasionally when in Appleton. I liked the look of the church the comradery of the members and the look of the facility. I also liked Father John who was the priest then.

The liturgy the liturgist the physical confines of the church.

People pastor and music at mass

No school vatican II atmosphere outstanding religious ed program welcoming no Bingo relaxed masses in activity center

Location. That all are welcome

We lived on Pine St at the time we joined. We keep coming because we like the community of St. Bernard's.

sermons of Father Janssen layout of church itself

The congregation and their participation in the parish. At Mass little ones behave and don't need to be entertained. They are a part of the service not a distraction. Friendliness of everyone. St. Bernard's is a family.

In my opinion the liturgies--homilies music and over-all approach to our church in modern times --fit with my concept!! We went home with something relative to our place in the world. Parishioners seemed to have great respect for the church as an institution and the membership for each other.

Been a member since day one. We also had to belong when the church was built

We joined when we moved to our present -- home 24 years ago -- and have been members ever since.

Charter Member

Lively parish and small group options

Friends attend and Father Ryan.

Nice open friendly people. Beautiful music.

Happy vibrant church with lots of young families and spirited music.

We moved down here from up north 10 years ago and my sister in law and her parents belong here. So I chose this church and am happy with it.

Husband's parents were charter members of the parish so my husband attended there and we've stayed on.

We had family attending St. Bernard's. It was near our home. I enjoyed the music at masses. Wanted to join the choir.

I had friends who belonged to St. Bernard's.

We originally joined based on location and quickly grew to love the energizing nature of the community Fr. Janssen's sermons the organist high quality liturgies in terms of homily music and overall presentation and great school of religion. Father created an atmosphere where virtually anyone could come together and help the needy and poor. Whatever your passion for bettering the community he not only allowed it but encouraged it. Everyone was welcomed - staff was friendly and accommodating - and liturgies were outstanding.

I join many years ago At the time I had just moved up here. I visited a few parishes in the area. None seem to have the feeling a coming home after a time away from home. At St. Bernard's it was that feeling of coming home. Then there was a need that you all needed to fill. It was the right fit at the time.

I was baptised here and I love the look of the church. It is very unique and spiritual to me. Very symbolic.

Parents were members I remained a member.

THE ABILITY OF THE PARISH TO CHANGE WITH THE MOMENT AND THE SUPPORT OF THE COMMUNITY. ALSO I WANTED A RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR MY CHILDREN THAT WAS NOT AN AFTERTHOUGHT.

Parent Membership

Close to where I am living now. Pastor & his sermons and caring attitude. Church is air conditioned in hot summer days. I am still a new member and finding activities to be active in as a member. Congregation is very friendly. I love the choir projection of songs and mass parts on the 2 screens overhead. I feel at home here so far money is getting to be more of an issue I hear about this past year. I am retired and can contribute only so much & do not feel pressured to give more.

Moved to parish in 1976

The mix of people and It seemed compatible for us.

The mix of people and It seemed compatible for us.

The people - Fr. Janssen

I joined St. Bernard's about 10 years ago. I was drawn to the parish because I felt a strong sense of community as well as a vibrant church experience.

We belonged to another local parish for 14 years. We began attending St. Bernard's with our neighbors who had been members for a number of years. We really liked the family community and the Sunday mass celebrations with exceptional music great liturgy. It was the community and mass celebration that attracted us but it was the then pastor Fr. John Bergstadt that really made us feel part of the community. Even before we joined Fr. John got to know our entire family and went out of his way to make us feel welcome. He was a good homilist and a very good and loving shepherd to ALL the people of the parish.

A Catholic Community centered around helping others.

When my parents and then my brother passed I was angry and turned away from God and the Catholic Church. Then about 6 months after my brother s passing driving home from work I had a seizure doing 65 mph on the freeway and when I came out of it. They told me at AMC that I was very lucky that when my truck was driving by it self and that the truck did not hit anybody but just coasted off into the ditch like somebody else was driving it. I was diagnose with a brain tumor and after 7 hours of brain surgery my doctor told me I was lucky and he feels that they were able to remove all or most of the tumor but I did not feel like it was luck but more of a divine intervention. During and after my recovery I returned back to worshiping God and back to my Catholic Religion. I went to St Pius where my parents worshiped but I did not feel the calling of God for me there and the same with St Mary in Menasha. Then I came to St Bernard Parish and on that first sunday mass it was like a light clicked on inside of me and I finally found God again.
Michael Stenberg

My wife was a member since childhood. My parents had moved to a new community and thus my childhood parish was no longer where they attended regularly. When my wife and I were married we chose to remain at St. Bernard.

A need to return to my Church

I belonged to St. B s before when our children were young and received great religious classes and we were married at St. B s. I feel that I am at home when at St. B s.

Her name was Barbar Derringer. Family were members

Came in 1984 and visited several parishes. Loved the comitment to Vatican II and of course the homilies and personal committment of Fr. Jansen.

It was alive and enthusiastic. teh summer picnic had a purpose - support for the Esperonsa ship in the Amazon. It believed in Vatican II. The pastor spoke out about justice from the pulpit and in the public arena. The design of the church was welcoming. St. Bernard s was a beacon in the community.

The Welcome on the front of the old Bulletins. The long one Welcoming all-note: no matter who..... The Welcome and Inspire All sounds like Star Trek. the longer one had warmth and assurance to all who are not perfect.

I went to High School at Xavier: was married here in 1975

The mix of people and It seemed compatible for us.

A friend recommended when I was first searching-many many years ago

Relocating church in my new neighborhood. New friends came here

Been a member since I was 2 years old in 1966

Vitality Life Stimulating Homilies Stimulating Members Enthusiasm

Location vitality caring members

Forty plus yers ago we could NOT go to any parish we would like to go to.If we fell in the bouderies of the new parish of St bernards THAT IS WHERE YOU WERE TOLD TO GO and YOU DID...(Amen) (God forbid that you would balk...!!)

This was the church I attended growing up. I went to Religion classes here.

We are Charter Members

I have been a member for about 29 years. At the time I joined with my family there were a lot of other families with similar interests

When we moved to Wisconsin 1992 our neighbors attended St. Bernard. We liked seeing them at home and church- More in common with each other.

20 years ago before I married my wife- she was a member of St. Bernard s. We were married at St. Bernard on 12/28/1990 and I joined after that. I am also still a member of St. Thomas Moore.

We transferred from a different parish. The priest at the time was very welcoming and we felt comfortable here.

The congregation was very friendly and welcoming.

Nice place nice people

Friendly members

The screen that just put-up not long ago the friendly of the priest deacon and parishoners.

Parish offered a place for Hmong catholics to congregate and share our faith. Father Mike was very inspirational and supportive in helping us grow our faith in the Lord which led us to leave St. Mary s to be a part of St. Bernard so that we can give back to the church.

The active outreach done by Father Janssen and many parish groups. The homilies by Father Janssen that challenged us to understand our faith and bring ourselves closer to God. Very accepting and gracious staff and parishioners. High quality religious education program. Well functioning staff. Welcoming staff. Welcoming atmosphere. Wonderful choirs.

The modern feel of the facilities and the mass that made us feel like a participant instead of just an observer. The vitality of the mass and the people surrounding it.

Music program friendly people priest (Father Kurt)

It is warm and welcoming. The choir rocks! It felt like a comfortable place to worship the first time we came to mass.

Religious education

Education program when our children were young. Openness of the community

volenteered at religious ed on wednesday nights for 2 years

We came 20 years ago because of St B s then great Religious Ed Program

Charter members - location. Involvement of teaching students. Joyful attractions.

Religious ed. program

The Religious Education program that was independent of any day school.

My Wife thought that the Religious Education was a much better than our children were receiving in the other parish we belong to as members. The Bible study that Fr. Janssen provided on Friday mornings and during his homily was also an attraction.

That they did not have a Catholic day school. Our children attended public school and attended religion classes at our previous parish but felt they were treated like 2nd class citizens. Stayed because of Father Jansen.

Religious educationfor our son who was 15 or 16 at the time. 25 or so years ago.

When we first moved to Appleton some 35 years ago the following things attracted me to St. Bernard s: 1.) The relegious education program. 2.) There was no school to support. 3.) The welcome that we received to first time we attended mass

The Religious Education program Friendliness and high energy of clergy and people

Singing in the Chorale; putting the kids in Faith Formation (St. Mary s in Menasha put our kids on a WAITING LIST!)

When we first moved to Appleton we chose St. Bernard partly because it was close to our house. At that time we also enjoyed Fr. Jansen and was very impressed with the Religious Ed. program.

No school vatican II atmosphere outstanding religious ed program welcoming no Bingo relaxed masses in activity center
The closeness to our home and our it is part of the ACES system.
We have been parish member for many years. I was attracted to St. Bernard because of their attention that young children received. The Sunday Pre-K and K classes. I knew the founder of these. She was a non-Catholic and wanted to bring Sunday School to the little ones. I truly feel that was a tremendous loss when it was discontinued. The Children s Liturgy is not enough time to reach the children and the combination of ages really makes it difficult. I think Young parents would attend more regularly. Having your child in pre-k and K Sunday School is something the youngsters looked forward to. This is the kind of think that the non-denominational churches with the large congregations offer to families
I was interested in the Youth Group when I first joined. My children were teenagers. St Bernards was a very active parish and there were many ways to be involved.
Joined Parish 25 years ago. The vibrancy youth and activities attracted me.
Proximity to Xavier and the very active youth group
Actually an ad in the Post-Crescent inviting people who had left the church to come to small group sessions to voice the problems and I took them up on it. Ended up talking to Fr. John face to face for about an hour or more and was told I could have gotten an annulment. (Twenty years ago that was not the case). Even though I had stayed single for 9 years and then re-married to another fallen away Catholic and lived just two blocks from St. Bernard Church we did not attend except on Christmas. That marriage ended in divorce 9 years later and THAT was when my girlfriend told me about the ad...the rest is history. Been a member for about 9 years now.
was baptized and grew up in this parish
I was married ar St. Bernard while I was still of Protestant faith.
My wife has been a life long Catholic and I would go to Mass with her but would really miss taking the Eucharist. So in 1998 I attended the RCIA classes administered by Sr. Clarice and decided that Catholicism was right for me. I have ever since then been a proud Catholic and will forever thank our Lord for guiding me there!
I was baptized and confirmed here. Except for the 15 years I lived out of state this has always been where I ve gone to church.
The music is the best in the area. Church is more than just attending each week. St. Bernard Parish also always seemed have the most volunteer opportunities and what really helped build that was the fact that you were strictly required to help with something or find another church.
It was a parish that reached out to those in need. It was the first parish where my abilities were desired and where I was valued for more than the money& could contribute. People were expected to be involved in the work of the Parish. There was a great deal of personal contact to encourage people to share their talents.(not just the written form) People were constantly thanked personally for their efforts. Adult education was viewed as crucial as education of the youth. Monetary resources were not prematurely for Catholic day school. Emphasis was on Faith Formation Public school children and fees were paid for adult education courses Adults were challenged to grow in their faith
Everyone around me urged me to come. I strongly believe in Jesus.
I believe in Jesus and wanted to learn more.
I believe in Jesus and wanted to learn more.
1. social outreach to the local community 2. high quality of homilies 3. singable music 4. lay parishioners were valued and respected 5. A wide variety of adult enrichment offerings
Lively parish and small group options
convenience of Mass schedule preaching of Fr. Orville & his ministry ownership of parish by parishioners under Fr. Orv s leadership
The priest and the mass. And the being close to my home.
Fr Janssen s sermons - global and ecumenical experience and perspective. Location - we lived 2 blocks away.
oRVILLE JANSEN
Father Janssen
Fr Janssen I was recently divorced & unsure if the Chatholic church would let me belong. I hadn t been to church in at least 10 yrs.
Father Jansen
Over 25 years ago the pastor
Father Dennis and Justin. And the diverse parish.
Fr. Kurt
father jensen and the good people who run the church!!
Father John Bergstad
Father Jansen
Father Orville Janssen. Excellent location. Reputation.
People FATHER John
Father Jansen
Fr. Jansen - the staff- many things going on and had nuns on staff. It was a pleasure to do things there.
The charisma of a special dedicated Pastor- Fr. Jansen
MUSIC AND FRIENDLY WARM FATHER IN 2003
Music Environment Fr. Jansen
The people - Fr. Janssen
The music at the Activity Center and the preaching by Fr. Janssen
When we first moved to Appleton we chose St. Bernard partly because it was close to our house. At that time we also enjoyed Fr. Jansen and was very impressed with the Religious Ed. program.
Friends attend and Father Ryan.
sermons of Father JAnssen layout of church itself
Location close to home. The alter in the middle.
Closest Catholic church. Was the church my then fiance was attending. We continue to be members.
Closest to where we live. Creature of habit in that when growing up we went to the church that we lived the closest to.
I am a charter member.
Proximity to Xavier and the very active youth group
location

I live near & really like to church when I attended It was the closest Catholic church to our home
When we first moved to Appleton we chose St. Bernard partly because it was close to our house. At that time we also enjoyed Fr. Jansen and was very impressed with the Religious Ed. program. I didn't shop parishes. St Bernards was close to where I lived but I grew to know and love the parish family.
Location
We were assigned to parish (new one to be built). We'd been members of St. Josephs Close to home - when we went to the church the first time everyone was very nice. Located close to home.
Location and we knew one family there @ the time and they suggested it. Convenience location and being acquainted with some parishioners Being on level ground
Location
Location...we've moved around the country and have always joined the nearest parish. Christ is the same in all parishes and we believe the parish is what you make of it. All priests and staff have their strengths and weaknesses and we've found it best to try and work within that environment and to be as positive an influence as possible. (probably more than you wanted to know) I relocated to the area and St Bernards was close by. It was also recommended to us by an acquaintance.
Location
location
We attend mass regularly but at various locations where our kids live & in our travels. St. Bernard's is the closest proximity to our home. My wife and I have been members for approximately 35 years. We built our first home on W. 8th St. just off of Prospect in 1975 so we were looking for a church in this area. Before joining St. Bernards we from time to time attended masses at both St. Joseph's and St. Mary's. We decided on St. Bernard's primarily because of the location and the fact that it was a relatively new parish with Fr. Orville Janssen as the founding pastor. We liked Fr.'s homilies and the layout of the worship area.
Location Music atmosphere design of the church.
This was about 20 years ago. I liked the physical building layout but more importantly I saw a lot of Adult Education classes available. Over the years I have taken advantage of several different sessions / classes. It was the closest church to my house when I moved to the area. It's close proximity to my apartment The location convenient to my place of residence.
Location: Catholic church close to home.
When I moved onto Kasper Drive 5/85 I knew St. Bernard's was the closest parish to my location so I joined. Closest parish to my current residence neighborhood member
location
closest parish to our home Actually we are charter members assigned to the new parish Proximity to home Father Jansen and Father Kurt Tim Fole as music leader and organist. Physical beauty of the church.
Location and beautiful facilities first the location. Later the many programs and spiritual events they offered.
Newer church design Sister Diane Sister Jane Mary friendly participation at Guitar mass It was a modern young and progressive parish. I liked the round style versus vertical rows of pews as it felt more like a community instead of just seeing people's backs. It was the closest parish when we moved to Appleton in the early 1990s. It was a modern young and progressive parish. I liked the round style versus vertical rows of pews as it felt more like a community instead of just seeing people's backs. The low mortgage it had. Location location location New parish being built. Close location to our home. It was close to where I lived when I first moved back to the area. Fr. Orv. and the layout of the church it was close to my home and portrayed a feeling of Family and community (not just a plethora of tiny groups) We belonged to St. Mary's & when St. Bernards was built we had to switch. But we have been happy ever since. Frankly it was the Catholic parish closest to our home but we immediately liked what we found. Also it did not have a day school and after my experience in a Catholic grade school in the fifties I did not want that for our children. Close location to our home. Proximity to our home.
Location
Close to home and good parish. Father Orville Janssen. Excellent location. Reputation. In the neighborhood. Liked Fr Janssen's preaching The priest and the mass. And the being close to my home. Fr Janssen's sermons - global and ecumenical experience and perspective. Location - we lived 2 blocks away. Are you concerned about the past or the future? Father John The vibrancy of the parish- when Fr. John was here (not currently)

Q6- In the context of the last 2-3 years, what made you most proud and/or most enthused about our Parish? Tell the story of your experience.

I like the friendly atmosphere the inspiring music and usually meaningful homilies. The Bible studies I have taken part in were inspirational and a good way to meet new friends and discuss the Bible. I also enjoy the Women s dinners. Always have a good time there. Opportunitites to meet more of the parish members are many and varied.

I love the liturgy. I am particularly attracted to the reverence that both Frs Dennis and Justin portray at their masses. The quality of the music (cantor) was lacking at the 8:30 mass...but that seems to have improved lately...at least those 8:30 masses I ve attended. Regarding use of the projection screens at mass: at first I was concerned as to whether they would be a distraction. However that has not been our experience. I think they enhance the liturgical experience particularly having the hymn words displayed thereby negating the need for song books.

Being a server has brought me closer to the church and has enhabced my spirituality.

Father Dennis. His emotion and personality makes the mass very personal. We especially enoy his homilies (both the content and his presentation). We think the changes in the homily presentation made a few years were excellent!

The MASSES: I think Fr Dennis and Fr. Justin do a good job saying Mass. I also like the singing and the bell ringers.

Routine worship

Fr. Denis great weekly message and challenge. Meeting and getting to know many other wonderful people in our parish that I had never really had a conversation with. I ve gotten more involved by taking advantage of the many opportunities this parish has to serve.

Masses that are conducted in a unique way during special holidays and events. Freindly people and positive environment are contagious and has helped uplift our spirituality when we are at church.

I have felt more frustration than pride. Some very good people have left this parish. Numbers of families have left. If I were a quitter I would be gone too. The Sunday experience is not feeding me. The lack of enthusiasm from the pulpit is deflating. The engaement of the people is lacking and we are slowly besoming just another parish vs an exciting parish.

I have found that in the last couple of years it is apparent that the parish is trying very hard to revitalize and reconnect with the parishoners. Some of these programs as well as my maturity as a Catholic has probably helped me to be engaged more fully. I am very appreciative of the welcoming efforts. Everyone is so kind and it s great to see smiling and familiar faces when I come to parish activities and mass. I have really enjoyed the focus at Mass of helping all become familiar with the parts of the Mass including the screens to assist in following along for our children. One note however is that misspelling or misplaced words on the screen can be a huge turn off and detrimental to that program s legitimacy. Lastly I have long enjoyed the music of my church experiences. I love to sing along and I can feel a real presence of God when I can hear the entire congregation and the choir singing and praying together. This was my experience when I first became a member of St. Bernard. I have to say that this has not been as powerful in the last 2-3 years. I often feel that the song leaders are doing their absolute best but struggling with the song choices. I also think that unfamiliar songs or songs difficult to sign which have been more regular of late do not encourage me or the congregation to be as active of participants.

Have been disappointed by the decline in the parish

Being a member of this parish has been a wonderful experience. I have seen this parish grow in many ways. Participating in parish activities and taking part in mass I have built relationships with other members.

St. Bernard s is sincerely working to have members feel welcome and blessed in this parish. There are a multitude of activities offered to attend or volunteer so people really can t say there is nothing to do here - unless they didn t want to do them in the first place. I am proud of the music used at all the Masses - and the priests espouse music at the Masses even when there isn t a cantor or choir. Father Dennis coming forward and speaking spontaneously for the homilies makes him be a part of the congregation and speaks directly to us making us know we are important to him. Father Justin gives us his historical perspective on the Church and knows when we need humor too - as does Fr. Dennis. I have participated in a variety of volunteer experiences continuing to try to make friends in the parish - but I do see it as a parish where people have attended here for a long time and they don t often let outsiders in readily. So I pick and choose the experiences that will be the most positive for me but will also assist the parish in their volunteer needs.

I have enjoyed working with the St. Vincent de Paul group and other social justice activities. The small groups I attend share similar interests. I also like the option of going to mass lead by Fr. Dennis or Fr. Justin.

The enthusiasm for prayer by parishoners.

Prayer Circle Help to those in Need Small Groups

I have come to know the holy spirit - I lacking part of the Trinity. People have prayed with me for me and over me. A very touching & humbling part.

1. Participation as a team memberin life in the spirit seminar X 2. 2. Leader for Gather in the Spirit prayer group.

The Life in the Spirit has been a wonderful way for people to grow in the Spirit and enhance their spiritual life. The many small group offerings The healing ministry especially the helaoing presence of Jerry and Delores Schafer and the nnew ministry led by John and Barb Bell. The praying with people in the Marion Chapel after Mass.

I believe our choir is very active and they bring a lot to the 10:15 Mass. There are also some groups in our parish that are working to help the needy. And I think the monthly focus on a charity is good. It helps to make everyone aware of what we can do locally.

The choir is dynamic beautiful and great care is taken to lan beautiful music that uplifts the congregation and moves us spiritually. also I was made to feel immediately welcomed both formally and informally by the parish! I received a welcome card parishioners were kind and caring and called me by name the name cards helped to get to know people and I really liked the fact that we greet one another before mass begins.

Actually the parish has slowly been losing the characteristics that drew us to it in the first place. I AM A REBEL!--You asked me!!! Too many members seem to have little respect in their attire as to the fact that they are being invited to a Eucharistic Banquet. --ie short flip-flops unclean attire etc. Today there is no excuse for this. Appleton has many opportunities to purchase clothes at a reasonable price and present day clothing is very easily cared for. Those screens are so distracting--and I find it insulting that whoever runs it feels that we don t even know the Our Father . As far as the music on the screen--I have not figured out how anyone can learn a new song without the notes. Where are they? Where in our song booksis that new Mass that has been showing up lately? The last few Sundays I spent quite a bit of time trying to find it in our Green Song books. Can t participate if I have no idea of the music. I appreciate the work spent by the choir. They do a great job. But get rid of the bongo drums and all similar instruments--my opinion)--actually I just don t think they belong in an American church --Africa???? The Social Justice section seems to be doing a great job.--Their enthusiam overwhelms me. Why does the bulletin have to be read before the last blessing? Redundant unless there is something missing .

The wonderful chorus we have makes us feel closer to God and moves us to be better people in our every day lives.

Silent Auction baskets I created a different theme several years in a row. I am proud of our choirs.

I have been a choir member for many years. When the 2 choirs blended into one a couple of years ago we really pulled together into one group. This was quite an accomplishment!

We have made it through some tough transitions with a new priest change in the music/staff and people leaving and still are doing a pretty good job welcoming and being focused on God.

MUSIC CONFIRMATION PROGRAM big SCREEN
Have visited other local churches and believe we have the strongest music program. A strong choir (or cantor) adds so much to the liturgy.
How the music during mass has touched and attracted people to attend mass at St. Bernard s. The promotion of Small Groups. It has met many needs of our parishioners. Creating more of a family feel. Helping people in their faith journey.
I really enjoy the music at the 10:15 Mass. I also think the screens are working out well. It makes for a very nice liturgical experience I think. I also like the fact that so many people are interested in studying the Bible and that so many people are willing to give of their time to lead groups. I think the Jeff Cavins studies are a very good addition.
The parish has really seemed to decline in so many ways. I do appreciate the little white/blue/black books the organ playing our Renew group the organ concerts and various speakers/sessions on the Bible or understanding your faith.
I am most proud of the choirs we had their is some changes over the few years we still have a great choir. I am so proud how we do reach out to the beyond our doors. We have so much to do in our parish will Cots ELizabeth Ministries Babysitting To Cooking to helping at Salvation Army Children s Liturgy. To Youth Faith Formation You name it we will form a group. We Just had the Miscarriage Memorial on November 1st. I am a Mom who Lost a child to Miscarriage. I don t have the memories that other have of their child. It hurts sometimes when I see families and women who are able to carry a child to term. The thing I think that carries me though I think is that all the children in the world can be my child. I can pray for them I can protect them by keeping eye on them no matter where I am in hopes of keeping them safe if by chance they may need some help. I am one who thinks it take one and all to raise kids today.
I like the screens and the music. We enjoy the coffee and donuts after mass. The pagentry at Easter & Christmas as always very special
the music especially the organ
The music is inspiring and uplifting and one of the most enjoyable aspects of my Sunday mornings. I also like the welcoming nature of the church and parish members. It is good to see familiar faces each weekend and to be able to feel comfortable and encouraged to talk to and get to know others in the church.
Quality of the choir.....small discussion groups
DEDICATION AND VOLUNTEERS TOWARDS THE MUSIC MINISTRY. WITHOUT THE MUSIC CHURCH WOULD BE BORING AND NOT BE THE STIRRING OF FEELINGS AND LOVE OF YOUR FELLOW MAN.
As a choir member I enjoy the music that is selected. Especially during the Easter and Christmas seasons. Music really enhances the worship experience and St. Bernard is blessed with many good voices excellent musicians and directors. Our members are a very dedicated group as the choir sings at mass from September through May and is on call for special occasions that come up from time to time. Some of our members also assist with the funeral choir that sings when called upon. I think St. Bernard does a great job in answering the call to help the least of our brothers in our local community. We have active members in St. Vincent de Paul Leaven St. Joseph Food Program Emergency Shelter Harbor House Community Clothes Closet Fox Valley Literacy Coalition Cots. My wife and I have answered this call to be of service by volunteering not only at church when calls go out for special projects but we are very active volunteers at the St. Joseph Food Program. I also must say that I had a very positive experience when I participated in Life in The Spirit .
Seeing the parish sing during mass when the choir isn t there !!! :-)
The music remains great.
I love the choirs - music programs. Both choirs are excellent.
I don t really have a story. I love our choir they so enhance my worship time.
Music choir Father Dennis
This is the 2nd year that I have been with the choir and I just think this is a fantastic group and I am proud to be a part of it. There are many extremely talented individuals and I am continually amazed by them.
Organ concedrt handbells ladies efforts
Continuation of a strong music program involvement oppurtunities for my children in Faith Formation program
Probably that many members of my family belong/attend the same mass that I do. The spirit singers are wonderful. The marian chapel/crying room is a great space for small children. The warming shelter & other such activiites are really something to be proud of.
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Opening the opportunity for our son to play with the choir.In a selfish period of his life It teaches him that people count on him to show up be responsible and our family goes to church every Sunday which has always been a goal of mine.
St. Bernard s is sincerely working to have members feel welcome and blessed in this parish. There are a multitude of activities offered to attend or volunteer so people really can t say there is nothing to do here - unless they didn t want to do them in the first place. I am proud of the music used at all the Masses - and the priests espouse music at the Masses even when there isn t a cantor or choir. Father Dennis coming forward and speaking spontaneously for the homilies makes him be a part of the congregation and speaks directly to us making us know we are important to him. Father Justin gives us his historical perspective on the Church and knows when we need humor too - as does Fr. Dennis. I have participated in a variety of volunteer experiences continuing to try to make friends in the parish - but I do see it as a parish where people have attended here for a long time and they don t often let outsiders in readily. So I pick and choose the experiences that will be the most positive for me but will also assist the parish in their volunteer needs.
I like the friendly atmosphere the inspiring music and usually meaningful homilies. The Bible studies I have taken part in were inspirational and a good way to meet new friends and discuss the Bible. I also enjoy the Women s dinners. Always have a good time there. Opportunites to meet more of the parish members are many and varied.
The past 2-3 years probably has been more of a downer. We call ourselves a welcoming parish and yet our mass attendance seems to have really dropped. Find it very sad to have had so many fellow parishioners go to another church. I know that change is good but seems like we had a lot of changes in church. Don t have an answer to get people to stay. Don t know what they are searching for. Believe satan is very distracting right now in our parish. From the music changing the flow of Eucharistic ministers cantors screens etc. Frustrating and yet believe we can and will weather this season. On a positive note the ladies dinner did attract women. Not sure how well they liked the program but did hear many more positive than negative comments. It was a night of not justing talking but actually doing. Would love to have some men gather at church and the ladies clean up after them.
St. Bernard does an excellent job of being involved in so many different programs not only at our church but also in the community. From the Volunteer opportunities to the adult programs and bible study groups St Bernard has so much to offer. I especially enjoy the music. The choir is very uplifting and helps bring the mass to life.

I love the liturgy. I am particularly attracted to the reverence that both Frs Dennis and Justin portray at their masses. The quality of the music (cantor) was lacking at the 8:30 mass...but that seems to have improved lately...at least those 8:30 masses I've attended. Regarding use of the projection screens at mass: at first I was concerned as to whether they would be a distraction. However that has not been our experience. I think they enhance the liturgical experience particularly having the hymn words displayed thereby negating the need for song books.

The MASSES: I think Fr Dennis and Fr. Justin do a good job saying Mass. I also like the singing and the bell ringers.

Social Ministry Outreach Our choir

Social outreach to the community and beyond. Our great music program The great ministries and ministers at St. Bernard

I have had relatives to our parish and they have not seen another parish as vibrant as ours. The choir has always attracted me to the parish.

Social Justice Committee activities. JustFaith experience. Outreach to the divorced community organizations to help the needy. The number of St Bernard parishioners serious enough about the structural problems in the Catholic hierarchical system and the priest shortage problem to go to Call to Action in Milwaukee and hear some of the wisdom of church leadership and theologians who are working on solutions. The ladies dinners have a new spiritual depth and are very welcoming to all. The welcoming them and activities. Sometimes the music is very energizing beautiful and prayerfully done.

I have found that in the last couple of years it is apparent that the parish is trying very hard to revitalize and reconnect with the parishioners. Some of these programs as well as my maturity as a Catholic has probably helped me to be engaged more fully. I am very appreciative of the welcoming efforts. Everyone is so kind and it's great to see smiling and familiar faces when I come to parish activities and mass. I have really enjoyed the focus more Mass of helping all become familiar with the parts of the Mass including the screens to assist in following along for our children. One note however is that misspelling or misplaced words on the screen can be a huge turn off and detrimental to that program's legitimacy. Lastly I have long enjoyed the music of my church experiences. I love to sing along and I can feel a real presence of God when I can hear the entire congregation and the choir singing and praying together. This was my experience when I first became a member of St. Bernard. I have to say that this has not been as powerful in the last 2-3 years. I often feel that the song leaders are doing their absolute best but struggling with the song choices. I also think that unfamiliar songs or songs difficult to sign which have been more regular of late do not encourage me or the congregation to be as active of participants.

Continous growth of the Parish leading members into our Spiritual growth. Introduction of welcoming and music shows a parish trying to reach out to all types of people

1. The warm acceptance as a new member provided: The little care package the picture on the board and being listed in the bulletin. The variety of service options and the feeling of being welcomed. (I feel if you can't find something to serve in you haven't really looked at the options available.) Accommodating a family's specific needs at the time of their need.

St. Bernard is sincerely working to have members feel welcome and blessed in this parish. There are a multitude of activities offered to attend or volunteer so people really can't say there is nothing to do here - unless they didn't want to do them in the first place. I am proud of the music used at all the Masses - and the priests espouse music at the Masses even when there isn't a cantor or choir. Father Dennis coming forward and speaking spontaneously for the homilies makes him be a part of the congregation and speaks directly to us making us know we are important to him. Father Justin gives us his historical perspective on the Church and knows when we need humor too - as does Fr. Dennis. I have participated in a variety of volunteer experiences continuing to try to make friends in the parish - but I do see it as a parish where people have attended here for a long time and they don't often let outsiders in readily. So I pick and choose the experiences that will be the most positive for me but will also assist the parish in their volunteer needs.

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How very welcoming the parish is to newcomers

The attempts to make everyone feel welcome; the positive feedback re: St. Bernard at Home (since I help with it). The people who work on SBaH work very hard at making it error-free informative and interesting. The feedback indicates it is very well received. It's too bad that financial concerns will keep it from continuing four times a year.

Warmth with welcoming

It continues to grow as a warm and welcoming community.

I find that it is a warm friendly and caring parish.

I do like the welcoming attitude that I feel when coming to church. I can't hardly walk past a person in the hallway and be greeted (Good Morning Good Evening How are you etc) even from people I don't know. Granted that is part of my personality as well but sometimes when I greet other people they grunt at me or say nothing at all. I will again say the variety of small groups available is also something appealing. I did the 24 week Jeff Cavins Study of the Bible last year and I am doing the Crown Financial this fall.

After working at a Lutheran church doing the bulletins etc. The bulletins included all of the songs resonding and readings. I suggested that St. Bernard do something similar for visitors and for members to follow the Mass better. Now there are two screens displaying much of the Mass. This is great and can be inviting to non-members. I am amazed at the the number of Bible Studies and of the groups that work to help the unfortunate. St.B is a one of a kind.

When we started Welcoming Weekends 2-3 years ago there was a lot of energy and enthusiasm on those weekends. From the congregation choir and staff with special songs uplifting homilies banners etc. I really looked forward to those weekends and they recharged my spirit on a quarterly basis and kept me going for weeks on end.

Some very nice friendly people go here.

The return of the Ross's to the choir program and the addition of Sara Bork's leadership also.

I have never attended a church that was so completely welcoming of its members making everyone feel like they belonged.

Very welcoming atmosphere welcoming parish members.

The choir is dynamic beautiful and great care is taken to lan beautiful music that uplifts the congregation and moves us spiritually. also I was made to feel immediately welcomed both formally and informally by the parish! I received a welcome card parishioners were kind and caring and called me by name the name cards helped to get to know people and I really liked the fact that we greet one another before mass begins.

We have made it through some tough transitions with a new priest change in the music/staff and people leaving and still are doing a pretty good job welcoming and being focused on God.

I Enjoy the priest. I think he does an excellent job of making the mass meaningful. I also like the personal welcome that I seem to get every Sunday.

The music is inspiring and uplifting and one of the most enjoyable aspects of my Sunday mornings. I also like the welcoming nature of the church and parish members. It is good to see familiar faces each weekend and to be able to feel comfortable and encouraged to talk to and get to know others in the church.

The sense of community within the church. We are here for faith and to help others but at the same time the people from father on down always make you feel welcome.

Made me feel very special in meeting people after Sunday Mass by hugs and hand shakes and offering help to my daughter in caring for me by helping to get into my daughter s car.

Continous growth of the Parish leading members into our Spiritual growth. Introduction of welcoming and music shows a parish trying to reach out to all types of people

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Not much has made us enthused. We have not encouraged anyone to join St. Bernard and are thinking of leaving ourselves.

I am most proud of St. Bernard Parish because of all the social outreach it has. There are so many groups within the parish and so many areas in which the parish reaches out to those in need.

social justice committee that is alive and well tho small soc. justice members willing to go the extra mile - commitment to fair trade coffee; teams walking to fight hunger to bring awareness to mental health issues; willingness to partner with other parishes; teams to help rebuild in Mississippi - 2 trips folks willing to walk the talk - nothing lazy about living as Christ would have us live willingness to undertake outreach efforts - parish newsletter; warming shelter monthly commitment to area charitiestable needing our help

Our outreach to the homeless providing temporary shelter here and raising up some strong voices for the poor.

Social Justice Committee activities. JustFaith experience. Outreach to the divorced community organizations to help the needy. The number of St Bernard parishioners serious enough about the structural problems in the Catholic hierarchical system and the priest shortage problem to go to Call to Action in Milwaukee and hear some of the wisdom of church leadership and theologians who are working on solutions. The ladies dinners have a new spiritual depth and are very welcoming to all. The welcoming them and activities. Sometimes the music is very energizing beautiful and prayerfully done.

Giving to so many people and places. The church is very invovled in the community.

doing the warming shelter walking the Walk

The many monthly opportunities to give to various charities

People of the parish persist in social justice issues even when there has been little support both from personnel & monetary backing

The parish s involvement with the warming shelter and the response when it was in the Janssen Center. It puts the issues of the valley in front of people and the response was wonderful.

I like how enthused everyone gets about helping others. Right when we joined there was a family who just had twins. The church started a supper list and we were able to make them dinner and it made us feel great.

There really isn t anything that I am personally enthused about with the parish. I am proud of the community support that the parish provides but am not personally involved in any of those efforts.

Our continued commitment to social justice and adult education.

1. serving food at Salvation Army 2. Monthly collection for other organizations 3. Giving tree

How the church reaches out to the community. The homeless had nowhere to go and St Bernards reached out with the other local churches to be used for warming shelters.

I am most proud of the Social Justice initiatives by the S.J. Committee St Vincent de Paul and the visitation program.

Social Ministry Outreach Our choir

Social outreach to the community and beyond. Our great music program The great ministries and ministers at St. Bernard

The way members of our church reach out into the community to help others.

The outreach policy to others in the community. (St. Vincent de Paul homeless shelter Harbor House etc.)

The Parish s multiple committees and broad support of numerous social and religious initiatives.

I have enjoyed working with the St. Vincent de Paul group and other social justice activities. The small groups I attend share similar interests. I also like the option of going to mass lead by Fr. Dennis or Fr. Justin.

I liked how we teamed up with a parish in Mississippi to help. The poor of Poland project makes me proud it gets our kids involved in taking care of the needy.

I have enjoyed working with the St. Vincent de Paul group and other social justice activities. The small groups I attend share similar interests. I also like the option of going to mass lead by Fr. Dennis or Fr. Justin.

Most proud when I see people of the parish want to help people - not only in our parish but the communitiy at large. When the groups went to Mississippi to help was most inspiring!

Growth of community.

Community support

I believe our choir is very active and they bring a lot to the 10:15 Mass. There are also some groups in our parish that are working to help the needy. And I think the monthly focus on a charity is good. It helps to make everyone aware of what we can do locally.

I am most proud of the choirs we had their is some changes over the few years we still have a great choir. I am so proud how we do reach out to the beyond our doors. We have so much to do in our parish will Cots ELizabeth Ministries Babysitting To Cooking to helping at Salvation Army Children s Liturgy. To Youth Faith Formation You name it we will form a group. We Just had the Miscarriage Memorial on November 1st. I am a Mom who Lost a child to Miscarriage. I don t have the memories that other have of their child. It hurts sometimes when I see families and women who are able to carry a child to term. The thing I think that carries me though I think is that all the children in the world can be my child. I can pray for them I can protect them by keeping eye on them no matter where I am in hopes of keeping them safe if by chance they may need some help. I am one who thinks it take one and all to raise kids today.

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St. Bernard's venture into the Parish Vitality Initiative was a challenge that I was proud of the parish for. The parish took a leap of faith to try to improve on the areas that we were not doing well as well as some others. What the results of that were at this point I'm not sure but I was proud of the parish for being a pioneer in trying to revive the parish. St. Bernard's many programs of outreach to the community is something that I have also often been proud of as well.
St. B's is very alive Social Justice-youth- of learning opportunities. Has lots of generous parishoners.
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Jeff Cavin's bible study offered; Relevence of homily to everyday life; confirmation process
I am proud to be a member of St Bernards. Father Dennis is great & he is trying so hard to make this church more enjoyable to all people
I have only been with the church 1 1/2yrs but have enjoyed the changes & the choir
I have no story to tell - it's been our parish since we started worshipping. Enjoy all the opportunities
I think that as a parish we are not afraid to make changes.
Our parishioners. Being able to meet people easily through Mass attendance small groups and the many volunteer opportunities.
People stepping forward to revive our Catholic faith community. Trying for more appeal to youth and families better music better homilies and a more welcoming spirit.
Participating in Life In The Spirit on both sides of the table. Getting to know Jesus personally. Enthused by others witness to the Spirit in their lives.
The parish is trying to be all things to all people. It keeps getting bigger. Good luck. So many need help today - I'm proud that you are trying.
People helping each other
Everyone seems to be Interested and dedicated
Everyone seems to be Interested and dedicated
I enjoy the day to day at church -- not just Sundays. The Wednesday evening family meals during religious education are a high point.
The passion of the parish and the commitment and leadership of Father Dennis.
I met Father Dennis and I was able for the first time to contribute more things and become more involved in my church life.
The openness of the Parish. I do think it is a very welcoming place especially around the Faith Formation and Youth Ministry areas. My kids are active in the Youth Ministry area going on service trips attending the overnights and youth groups. They like coming to church and this is a huge positive for us parents raising teenagers in today's world. I like the fact that my kids feel comfortable coming to church and hanging out in Jane & Lisa's office. As a result of my kids feeling at home at St. Bernards we have not had to deal with them not wanting to go to Mass. They are happy to go. Another thing I like about our parish is the intellectual side of it. I like the fact that we offer chances for hearing speakers or book discussions (I'd like to see more opportunities along these lines). Fr. Dennis once said in a homily that the Catholic Faith is an adult faith that it grows in the head as well as the heart. I truly believe this and I think adult faith formation can be nurtured through learning more about it through study groups speakers etc. Lastly I am proud of the dedication to service that our parish has. I feel that we as Catholics truly live the Gospel when we serve others and our parish gives us plenty of opportunities to do so.
It's involvement in the community and it's efforts to get parishoners involved
I love the community aspect of our Parish. We have a wonderful core of people that guide our Parish and am very proud to belong!
I have found that in the last couple of years it is apparent that the parish is trying very hard to revitalize and reconnect with the parishoners. Some of these programs as well as my maturity as a Catholic has probably helped me to be engaged more fully. I am very appreciative of the welcoming efforts. Everyone is so kind and it's great to see smiling and familiar faces when I come to parish activities and mass. I have really enjoyed the focus at Mass of helping all become familiar with the parts of the Mass including the screens to assist in following along for our children. One note however is that misspelling or misplaced words on the screen can be a huge turn off and detrimental to that program's legitimacy. Lastly I have long enjoyed the music of my church experiences. I love to sing along and I can feel a real presence of God when I can hear the entire congregation and the choir singing and praying together. This was my experience when I first became a member of St. Bernard. I have to say that this has not been as powerful in the last 2-3 years. I often feel that the song leaders are doing their absolute best but struggling with the song choices. I also think that unfamiliar songs or songs difficult to sign which have been more regular of late do not encourage me or the congregation to be as active of participants.
My feeling of belonging belonging refreshes me.
The sense of community within the church. We are here for faith and to help others but at the same time the people from father on down always make you feel welcome.
I have had relatives to our parish and they have not seen another parish as vibrant as ours. The choir has always attracted me to the parish.
I'm energized by people and things that challenge and excite me so Sue Molden Jane Angha Mike Simonini's music and fellow parishioners in the pews. Sadly I feel disconnected from Fr. Ryan some of our newer deacons and some of the newer staff. I just don't feel a connection or that I'm welcomed.
We enjoy the people and the clergy but we are no longer able to participate the way we once did.
Signing up for the PVI and work done to move the parish forward
Many years ago I was asked to do a reading the first day I came in the back door. That was truly welcoming! The Masses in the activity center were alive and inclusive.
St. Bernard's venture into the Parish Vitality Initiative was a challenge that I was proud of the parish for. The parish took a leap of faith to try to improve on the areas that we were not doing well as well as some others. What the results of that were at this point I'm not sure but I was proud of the parish for being a pioneer in trying to revive the parish. St. Bernard's many programs of outreach to the community is something that I have also often been proud of as well.
Made me feel very special in meeting people after Sunday Mass by hugs and hand shakes and offering help to my daughter in caring for me by helping to get into my daughter's car.
Parish has air conditioning. Comraderrie of dinners and picnic.
We have adjusted to the life of St Bernards parish --- were NOT particularly fond of Fr Jansen but his successors have been delightful. We have also enjoyed some of the decans and realize the time they spend preparing their sermons. people seem to go out of their way to be friendly.
St. B's is very alive Social Justice-youth- of learning opportunities. Has lots of generous parishoners.
We are now living in Appleton 12 months each year. For 32 years we were here only 5 months of each year. Because my husband has been dealing with dementia it is difficult for me to participate in the programs offered. I rarely leave him alone.
People are more friendly & father Ryan (when) he can will greet people at the door. You do not see that in other churches. We do coffee and rolls and love meeting so many families.
The people of the parish. There is a life in the parish that continues to grow and provide a feeling of wellbeing.
Every Sunday I feel the warmth and love from everyone I come in contact with.
We have only been members for 1 year and enjoy the energy.

Being a member of the congregation and staff at St. Bernards.
Support and love of the congregation and staff at St. Bernards.
The parish community has continued to welcome us members openly great us.
I love the small group that I have joined. Our ladies group has been together for about 3 years. We have studied many religious books and help each other on our paths with spirituality as well as our everyday family lives. We are there for each other through thick and thin.
How the music during mass has touched and attracted people to attend mass at St. Bernard s. The promotion of Small Groups. It has met many needs of our parishioners. Creating more of a family feel. Helping people in their faith journey.
I find that it is a warm fiendly and caring parish.
Fr. Denis great weekly message and challenge. Meeting and getting to know many other wonderful people in our parish that I had never really had a conversation with. I ve gotten more involved by taking advantage of the many opportunities this parish has to serve.
The parish has really seemed to decline in so many ways. I do appreciate the little white/blue/black books the organ playing our Renew group the organ concerts and various speakers/sessions on the Bible or understanding your faith.
Social outreach to the community and beyond. Our great music program The great ministries and ministers at St. Bernard
continuing religious education experience for my children
My daughter recently started in the Faith Formation program and she is really enjoying it. The family dinners after are a godsend (literally).
school of religion Wed meals
My wife and I have been involved with the youth education for some time at the parish and it has been great to see the involvement of some of these students.
Quite frankly I m not all that enthused. We typically attend St. Joe s Sunday masses 2-3 x per month. However I have been very impressed with the parish confirmation program. It s speakers and formats are great.
The openness of the Parish. I do think it is a very welcoming place especially around the Faith Formation and Youth Ministry areas. My kids are active in the Youth Ministry area going on service trips attending the overnights and youth groups. They like coming to church and this is a huge positive for us parents raising teenagers in today s world. I like the fact that my kids feel comfortable coming to church and hanging out in Jane & Lisa s office. As a result of my kids feeling at home at St. Bernards we have not had to deal with them not wanting to go to Mass. They are happy to go. Another thing I like about our parish is the intellectual side of it. I like the fact that we offer chances for hearing speakers or book discussions (I d like to see more opportunities along these lines). Fr. Dennis once said in a homily that the Catholic Faith is an adult faith that it grows in the head as well as the heart. I truly believe this and I think adult faith formation can be nurtured through learning more about it through study groups speakers etc. Lastly I am proud of the dedication to service that our parish has. I feel that we as Catholics truly live the Gospel when we serve others and our parish gives us plenty of opportunities to do so.
Continuation of a strong music program involvement oppurtunities for my children in Faith Formation program
MUSIC CONFIRMATION PROGRAM bIG SCREEN
I am most proud of the choirs we had their is some changes over the few years we still have a great choir. I am so proud how we do reach out to the beyond our doors. We have so much to do in our parish will Cots ELizabeth Ministries Babysitting To Cooking to helping at Salvation Army Children s Liturgy. To Youth Faith Formation You name it we will form a group. We Just had the Miscarriage Memorial on November 1st. I am a Mom who Lost a child to Miscarriage. I don t have the memories that other have of their child. It hurts sometimes when I see families and women who are able to carry a child to term. The thing I think that carries me though I think is that all the children in the world can be my child. I can pray for them I can protect them by keeping eye on them no matter where I am in hopes of keeping them safe if by chance they may need some help. I am one who thinks it take one and all to raise kids today.
The active youth group. I wish there would have been one when my children were young. All the different groups that are active in the parish.
youth activities Elizabeth ministry efforts choir.
People stepping forward to revive our Catholic faith community. Trying for more appeal to youth and families better music better homilies and a more welcoming spirit.
The sacraments
When Father Dennis agreed to have the church bury our baby that was miscarried. Mom s group
I m proud and excited when I see good caring people reaching out to others. One person who jumps to mind is Pam Mullins. She always has gone out of her way to reach out to me and my family and I ve seen her do the same for many others.
Tuesday morning Ladies Group
1. The warm acceptance as a new member provided: The little care package the picture on the board and being listed in the bulletin. The variety of service options and the feeling of being welcomed. (I feel if you can t find something to serve in you haven t really looked at the options available.) Accommodating a family s specific needs at the time of their need.
Social Justice Committee activities. JustFaith experience. Outreach to the divorced community organizations to help the needy. The number of St Bernard parishioners serious enough about the structural problems in the Catholic hierarchical system and the priest shortage problem to go to Call to Action in Milwaukee and hear some of the wisdom of church leadership and theologians who are working on solutions. The ladies dinners have a new spiritual depth and are very welcoming to all. The welcoming them and activities. Sometimes the music is very energizing beautiful and prayerfully done.
Quality of the choir.....small discussion groups
I am most proud of the Social Justice initiatives by the S.J. Committee St Vincent de Paul and the visitation program.
Concern for elderly and those homebound/nursing home
I ve always felt part of our parish family. In the last five years I have had some health problems that kept me from getting to Church. I felt that I was missed. People asked my husband how I was doing Sr. Julianna and Fr. Dennis came to the hospital. I really felt that someone besides my family really cared how I was doing. When I was again able to attend Mass I was welcomed and felt I had been missed. And I had really missed being there.
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We are now living in Appleton 12 months each year. For 32 years we were here only 5 months of each year. Because my husband has been dealing with with dementia it is difficult for me to participate in the programs offered. I rarely leave him alone.
my husbands involvement and life in the spirit

I am most proud that our parish offers everyone a chance to become part of the church community through volunteer opportunities and especially all the small groups St. Bernard s has to offer.

I have become a Eucharistic minister and a Sacristan. I also have been part of a Life in the Spirit group and of a catholic study group. Our rosary group has been meeting for well over 30 years.

St. Bernard does an excellent job of being involved in so many different programs not only at our church but also in the community. From the Volunteer opportunities to the adult programs and bible study groups St Bernard has so much to offer. I especially enjoy the music. The choir is very uplifting and helps bring the mass to life.

For about 5 years I have been helping with funeral dinners and am proud of the effort (and results) these women and men put forth knowing they are representing the parish in serving grieving families.

St. Bernard s Parish has a core of dedicated hard-working enthusiastic parishioners who are very involved in all aspects of parish ministry. Parishioners are much more aware of the importance of their connection to God and his son Jesus Christ. They are more willing to embrace and support the Catholic Church s teachings and guidelines.

Ladies dinner/sharing experiences with caring people

The Parish s multiple committees and broad support of numerous social and religious initiatives.

The last 2-3 years we have not enjoyed our experience at St. B s

Sorry to say I ve become disillusioned & disappointed with the coldness of the church & sloppy masses

We are slowly losing interest

Sadly I am unable to find some thing that stands out. If you had asked 5-10 years ago I would have said it was a warmer parish community. It felt like home when we would be on vac. or something and came back. Missed it when we were gone. It felt like family. It was a multi-generational family parish. Now it s just a place to go to worship.

Mine is only a year here as a new member. I don t have a most proud moment yet.

The past 2-3 years probably has been more of a downer. We call ourselves a welcoming parish and yet our mass attendance seems to have really dropped. Find it very sad to have had so many fellow parishioners go to another church. I know that change is good but seems like we had a lot of changes in church. Don t have an answer to get people to stay. Don t know what they are searching for. Believe satan is very distracting right now in our parish. From the music changing the flow of Eucharistic ministers cantors screens etc. Frustrating and yet believe we can and will weather this season. On a positive note the ladies dinner did attract women. Not sure how well they liked the program but did hear many more positive than negative comments. It was a night of not justing talking but actually doing. Would love to have some men gather at church and the ladies clean up after them.

very little

The small groups we have to offer. After attending a class or session I feel so alive with Christ and feel a true relationship with him. The small groups help me focus and put God first in my life. I feel better about myself and want to help other grow closer to God.

New member...I like the variety of groups that are available to join.

Bible study (Monday morning group) Life in the Spirit

I love the small group that I have joined. Our ladies group has been together for about 3 years. We have studied many religious books and help each other on our paths with spirituality as well as our everyday family lives. We are there for each other through thick and thin.

The growth of small groups. The knowledge and enthusiasm of the leaders and the participants is contagious and it just makes me want to know more and more especially about my faith. And this just leads me closer to my Lord.

Joining a small group bible study and paying more attention to the sunday scriptures and homilies.

My wife and I attended a Jeff Cavin s Bible Study series last year that was very insightful and very rewarding. We were pleased to get to know a number of other parishoners better and learn the story of salvation history. We also did the Mathew study as well. Other than that there has not been too much spcific enthusiasm in the past 2-3 years. As a matter of fact we have recently been going to other catholic churches in the area. We are a devout catholic family that feels a little bewildered by the loss of that past feeling of community at St. Bernard s and the leadership of the parish.

The small group Jeff Cavins Bible Study. Not only is he a good teacher and the DVD and workbooks are well done but our group has really formed a community and we feel a togetherness. This is more than 2-3 years ago but back in 1997-98 the small groups formed for Renew 2000 and that really helped me grow in my faith. That same group is meeting yet today and that is another community that has bonded.

I ve have loved how our Renew Group has continue to meet and grow. Our Renew group continues to challenge each of us to grow in our faith. I wish the parish would offer more material for the various Renew groups to use. The parish continues to do those things which are wonderful outreaches to others

1. Participation as a team member in life in the spirit seminar X 2. 2. Leader for Gather in the Spirit prayer group.

Its efforts and committment to small groups bible study and envolvment of its parishioners. Its efforts to improve. The screens for displaying songs was super in involving more people in singing. Should be used more if possible.

Able to attend several small group bible studies.

small groups. Getting more involved with parish and feeling liek we are part of the parish

Our bible studies and the spiritual opportunities they offer. Also their generous programs we can paticipate in.

I joined 2 years ago and was encouraged to join a small group. I did and met the most wonderful women. this has tremendously increased my feeling of truly being part of the parish family. I ve never had that in my previous parishes.

I like the small groups and the friendliness of people greeting when you walk in.

The Life in the Spirit has been a wonderful way for people to grow in the Spirit and enhance their spiritual life. The many small group offerings The healing ministry especially the helaoing presence of Jerry and Delores Schafer and the nnew ministry led by John and Barb Bell. The praying with people in the Marion Chapel after Mass.

Continous growth of the Parish leading members into our Spiritual growth. Introduction of welcoming and music shows a parish trying to reach out to all types of people

I enjoy the parish picnics need to find a way of reviving them. i also enjoy the small group activities.

Small groups - our studies the gospels and we ve really gotten to know our fellow group participants well and enjoy their company.

The participation of our parisheners in small groups and ministries

Our parish library. It is a great source of research and readings to touch the lives of everyone in our parish. But it needs to be promoted more by all the staff.

Participating in The Life in the Holy Spirit Seminars. It was very uplifting to hear all the witness talks and to get to know everyone better via the small groups and then see the positive changes in each life.

I am most proud that our parish offers everyone a chance to become part of the church community through volunteer opportunities and especially all the small groups St. Bernard s has to offer.

The parish has really seemed to decline in so many ways. I do appreciate the little white/blue/black books the organ playing our Renew group the organ concerts and various speakers/sessions on the Bible or understanding your faith.
Our continued commitment to social justice and adult education.
I do like the welcoming attitude that I feel when coming to church. I can't hardly walk past a person in the hallway and be greeted (Good Morning Good Evening How are you etc) even from people I don't know. Granted that is part of my personality as well but sometimes when I greet other people they grunt at me or say nothing at all. I will again say the variety of small groups available is also something appealing. I did the 24 week Jeff Cavins Study of the Bible last year and I am doing the Crown Financial this fall.
Unfortunately the parish appears to be a period of its own recession as the original activists grow older or move away. However I believe we still have an excellent religious education program that I try to assist.
I have enjoyed working with the St. Vincent de Paul group and other social justice activities. The small groups I attend share similar interests. I also like the option of going to mass lead by Fr. Dennis or Fr. Justin.
I have enjoyed working with the St. Vincent de Paul group and other social justice activities. The small groups I attend share similar interests. I also like the option of going to mass lead by Fr. Dennis or Fr. Justin.
I really enjoy the music at the 10:15 Mass. I also think the screens are working out well. It makes for a very nice liturgical experience I think. I also like the fact that so many people are interested in studying the Bible and that so many people are willing to give of their time to lead groups. I think the Jeff Cavins studies are a very good addition.
The openness of the Parish. I do think it is a very welcoming place especially around the Faith Formation and Youth Ministry areas. My kids are active in the Youth Ministry area going on service trips attending the overnights and youth groups. They like coming to church and this is a huge positive for us parents raising teenagers in today's world. I like the fact that my kids feel comfortable coming to church and hanging out in Jane & Lisa's office. As a result of my kids feeling at home at St. Bernard's we have not had to deal with them not wanting to go to Mass. They are happy to go. Another thing I like about our parish is the intellectual side of it. I like the fact that we offer chances for hearing speakers or book discussions (I'd like to see more opportunities along these lines). Fr. Dennis once said in a homily that the Catholic Faith is an adult faith that it grows in the head as well as the heart. I truly believe this and I think adult faith formation can be nurtured through learning more about it through study groups speakers etc. Lastly I am proud of the dedication to service that our parish has. I feel that we as Catholics truly live the Gospel when we serve others and our parish gives us plenty of opportunities to do so.
After working at a Lutheran church doing the bulletins etc. The bulletins included all of the songs resonating and readings. I suggested that St. Bernard's do something similar for visitors and for members to follow the Mass better. Now there are two screens displaying much of the Mass. This is great and can be inviting to non-members. I am amazed at the the number of Bible Studies and of the groups that work to help the unfortunate. St.B's is a one of a kind.
I have come to know the holy spirit - I lacking part of the Trinity. People have prayed with me for me and over me. A very touching & humbling part.
A lot of opportunities to build our faith.
I am most proud of all the nice people who taught me and my family about God.
I am most proud of getting to know more about Jesus and that he really loves me.
I am most proud of getting to know more about Jesus and that he really loves me.
The small groups we have to offer. After attending a class or session I feel so alive with Christ and feel a true relationship with him. The small groups help me focus and put God first in my life. I feel better about myself and want to help other grow closer to God.
St. Bernard's Parish has a core of dedicated hard-working enthusiastic parishioners who are very involved in all aspects of parish ministry. Parishioners are much more aware of the importance of their connection to God and his son Jesus Christ. They are more willing to embrace and support the Catholic Church's teachings and guidelines.
Participating in Life In The Spirit on both sides of the table. Getting to know Jesus personally. Enthused by others witness to the Spirit in their lives.
No more double talk from Fr. John B.
We have transitioned through several pastors successfully. I love the way the lay people of the parish have taken leadership roles. I think it is important for the health of the church for all members to be involved.
I'm not enthused or proud about much in the the parish lately. I would be more proud if the church had faced their problems head on and not brushed everything under the carpet for so long. The church expects us to be the perfect christian yet they do not practice what they preach and make exceptions when it is the clergy who are guilty. This has hurt the catholic church more than anyone is willing to admit. The church never gave us honest answers about where our money is actually being used and if any of it is used to pay for this scandal. Young people are not drawn to the church because of this.
I Enjoy the priest. I think he does an excellent job of making the mass meaningful. I also like the personal welcome that I seem to get every Sunday.
I have felt more frustration than pride. Some very good people have left this parish. Numbers of families have left. If I were a quitter I would be gone too. The Sunday experience is not feeding me. The lack of enthusiasm from the pulpit is deflating. The engagement of the people is lacking and we are slowly becoming just another parish vs an exciting parish.
Clergy and staff are some of the best. Can't really think of anything specific that makes me proud or enthused about parish. I would probably be more proud and enthused if the overall Catholic Church addressed their problems during the past 30-40 years instead of hiding them.
I don't know that I can come up with too much. It has been mostly disappointment in the last few years. Too much technology during the Sacred Mass. Too much trying to be some kind of hybrid between a Catholic parish and a mega church.
Unfortunately the parish appears to be a period of its own recession as the original activists grow older or move away. However I believe we still have an excellent religious education program that I try to assist.
Father Bergstadt
The best thing about St. Bernard's within the past two or three years is that Pastor Ryan and the administration of our parish have done a GREAT job of retaining explaining and practicing the doctrines and dogma of our Catholic faith.
I lost enthusiasm 4-5 years ago. There is nothing to get excited about. Just don't bring up touchy topics. Some office people were treated unfairly. We were forced to be part of ACES
Getting to know Fr. Justin. He is an inspiration to Catholics.
What makes me most enthusiastic about our parish is God's blessing in providing such wonderful priests.
Father Justin and his humanity he's speaking from his heart. Not speaking drama or down to anyone.
Father John is gone
Have been disappointed by the decline in the parish
We have a good priest- the screens put up in church is nice. I am proud of the Christmas bazaar.
Be bold. The turtle doesn't go far until it sticks its Neck Out

Not much made us encouraged anyone to join St. Bernard and are thinking of leaving ourselves.
My wife and I attended a Jeff Cavin s Bible Study series last year that was very insightful and very rewarding. We were pleased to get to know a number of other parishoners better and learn the story of salvation history. We also did the Mathew study as well. Other than that there has not been too much spcific enthusiasm in the past 2-3 years. As a matter of fact we have recently been going to other catholic churches in the area. We are a devout catholic family that feels a little bewildered by the loss of that past feeling of community at St. Bernard s and the leadership of the parish.
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I m energized by people and things that challenge and excite me so Sue Molden Jane Angha Mike Simonini s music and fellow parishioners in the pews. Sadly I feel disconnected from Fr. Ryan some of our newer deacons and some of the newer staff. I just don t feel a connection or that I m welcomed.
We enjoy the people and the clergy but we are no longer able to participate the way we once did.
Music choir Father Dennis
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Parish has air conditioning. Comraderrie of dinners and picnic.
We continually make small steps toward modernizing the church and finding ways to engage a more tech savvy generation.
I love the screen. I have seen my own family participate more since the songs are on the screen. Maybe the Creed could also be on them. Also the readings would be very nice
I have enjoyed the new screens that were installed. They add light to dark corners as well as lift the voice.
Bring the screens in and utilizing them to encourage all to participate.
I guess I really like the two screens in the church.
MUSIC CONFIRMATION PROGRAM biG SCREEN
I really enjoy the music at the 10:15 Mass. I also think the screens are working out well. It makes for a very nice liturgical experience I think. I also like the fact that so many people are interested in studying the Bible and that so many people are willing to give of their time to lead groups. I think the Jeff Cavins studies are a very good addition.
I like the screens and the music. We enjoy the coffee and donuts after mass. The pagentry at Easter & Christmas as always very special
After working at a Lutheran church doing the bulletins stc. The bulletins included all of the songs resonding and readings. I suggested that St. Bernard s do something similar for visitors and for members to follow the Mass better. Now there are two screens displaying much of the Mass. This is great and can be inviting to non-members. I am amazed at the the number of Bible Studies and of the groups that work to help the unfortunate. St.B s is a one of a kind.
Its efforts and committment to small groups bible study and envolvement of its parishioners. Its efforts to improve. The screens for displaying songs was super in involving more people in singing. Should be used more if possible.
We have a good priest- the screens put up in church is nice. I am proud of the Christmas bazaar.
I love the liturgy. I am particularly attracted to the reverence that both Frs Dennis and Justin portray at their masses. The quality of the music (cantor) was lacking at the 8:30 mass...but that seems to have improved lately...at least those 8:30 masses I ve attended. Regarding use of the projection screens at mass: at first I was concerned as to whether they would be a distraction. However that has not been our experience. I think they enhance the liturgical experience particularly having the hymn words displayed thereby negating the need for song books.
No comment
same as #5
Father Bergstadt
Nothing!!
Nothing specific stands out
Same as 1 above.

Q7- What keeps you coming back to St. Bernard's?
The liturgy the liturgist.
A desire to participate in a Catholic mass that is engaging. While I am not finding complete satisfaction St. Bernard s is more fulfilling than other local Catholic churches.
the choir the community the excellence in liturgy and the homilies.
I feel a part of the community. When I go to other places as I travel I may enjoy great homilies and liturgy but I miss the people of St Bernard.
The people and the quality of worship.
Mass times
the 4:30 mass
The parishioners the enthusiasm the choirs knowing that God is really present in it all.
The relationships I have built the liturgy and music.
There is always something at Mass that makes me feel better than when I arrived. (Nov. 8 it was Pam Keane s song for Judy VanHandel.) I care about the people at St. B s that I have known for almost 20 years. This will tell you who I am but I ll say it anyway: I still love the picture in the Activity Center foyer that the FF staff gave us when our son died. It makes me feel a special connection even after so many years.
I have roots at St. Bernards. I know and care about a lot of people at St. Bernards. I also really have gotten excited about the 10:15 Mass lately.
Comfortable with the activities and services
Fr. Dennis homilies and adult bible study offerings (although I could find some of them at other parishes. I guess a determination ((that is dwindling) to not see it fail.
We only go to mass at St. Bernard s when the convenience of the mass schedule fits us.
The community mentioned above is the main reason. Our worship is enhanced by the music/choir and homolies.
The great Sunday Masses!!! :-) Choir Masses !!! :-)

Alternate question: Why are we unable to grow our parish and attract more of the membership to weekly mass? The world is changing at a rapid pace. Some is good some is not. Americans are hungry for change. The majority of voters showed us that during the last election. They are not steeped in tradition and ceremony. If we want to keep their interest the church needs to make changes in the Sunday mass. It needs to be current lively and over in 50 minutes. Sermons should be contemporary and to the point. We are an educated congregation. Speak to us that way. We are also aging. Kneeling is a physical problem for many people. I've been in Catholic churches that have no kneelers. It did not detract from the liturgy. I suggest we remove the kneelers from one or two sections to try it. Mass and praying are private to me. I will talk to my neighbors and shake their hand before and after the mass. During mass please leave me alone. My wife and I and many other parishoners hope you take these ideas constructively and seriously.

Our parishonership by and large is engaged with the Mass when I attend the parish outreach initiatives are faith-filled and effective and the parish sacred and lay administration is very good.

Quality of the celebration of the Eucharist by all involved.

I really enjoy the mixture of the celebration of the mass and the music provided by our wonderful choir.

The strength of the message from our preiests and deacons Other parish programs (like small groups) Parish members and friends The choir

Enjoy the sermons music staff and parishners

The joy at Mass.

Our personal involvement in parish activities. The liturgies and personal character of Fr. Ryan & Fr. Justen. Their wonderful homilies.

The choir is definitely part of it. Father Ryan has very good sermons

The obvious Spirituality of the priests and decans and their homilies.

The faith I share with friends I have met thru church. I especially like mass with Fr. Justin.

I am a member of the choir and very much enjoy being a part of providing Spirt Lifting Music. I also enjoy Fr. Dennis and Fr. Justin s homilies and especially like the baptisms of children being a part of the mass.

The nice people and the amazing masses.

1) It s close to my home 2) I feel at home here 3) the liturgies are beautiful and uplifting

The music and the warm welcome I receive at every mass.

the choir the community the excellence in liturgy and the homilies.

It feels like family and all of the music during mass

I enjoy the music and the choir.

The parishioners the enthusiasm the choirs knowing that God is really present in it all.

You guessed it the music.

The relationships I have built the liturgy and music.

The friends I've made there and the music on Sunday

The music at 10:15 am

The choir is a big one for me as I explained above. I also feel strongly that despite the financial challenges of our parish It is doing a good job of providing many opportunities for all of our members to get involved in the life of our parish. I also have had a positive experience by joining our Social Justice ministry which I have been involved with for about 3 years.

The choir and friends.

The choir is definitely part of it. Father Ryan has very good sermons

Beautiful organ playing

I am a member of the choir and very much enjoy being a part of providing Spirt Lifting Music. I also enjoy Fr. Dennis and Fr. Justin s homilies and especially like the baptisms of children being a part of the mass.

MUSIC AND FRIENDS

The community mentioned above is the main reason. Our worship is enhanced by the music/choir and homilies.

The continued vitality of the congregation including the music ministry.

The people. The choir. The attitude. Plus I don't change things in my life much. I am not a church jumper like some other people I know. Unless I move to another community or something goes terribly wrong at St B s I plan to be a member the rest of my life.

The great Sunday Masses!!! :-) Choir Masses !!! :-)

It is clearly the people at the parish and secondarily the Spirit Singers

The community of faithful individuals celebrating together and taking the message of the gospel out to others though actions. The music at the liturgies is excellent and Spirit filled. Also our renew group has been I

I suppose we are all creatures of habit but many of our friends are moving on to other parishes. So even though we hate the thought of moving our friends are moving elsewhere and quite frankly I don't feel as though we would even be missed. I do enjoy the pipe organ - that s a plus for St. Bernard. I am looking forward to this week s organ concert.

I really enjoy the mixture of the celebration of the mass and the music provided by our wonderful choir.

Our friends in the pews and the organist

The people who are inspirations to me at being faith-filled prayerful people willing to be of service Music at litergies Opportunities to enrich my faith life and to be of service

Enjoy the sermons music staff and parishners

Father Dennis and the wonderful Choir!

This is easy. It has one of the most welcoming atmospheres around. The sermons and the music are wonderful and uplifting. I'm amazed at the people who take their time to set the stage for the mass and for special occasions. Neat!! I go home feeling uplifted and ready to hit the week ahead.

Relavence of homily to everyday life; friendliness of all

The feeling of community. It took effort to get involved but once I took that step people were very welcoming.

The positive feeling I get and the welcoming spirit of the parish. I previously attended St. Paul s in Combined Locks for many years and we never had this type of welcoming spirit during my time there. Keep it up!!

Habit - friends go here - music

The welcoming atmosphere friendly parishioners and the chance to get involved in parish life and social justice issues.

Father Dennis is a great spiritual leader. The people are welcoming and involved in the weekly services.

My faith and the fact the St. Bernard's won't judge me. All are welcome!

1- I live in this area 2-St. Bernard is and always was a welcoming parish

continued efforts to walk the talk monthly focus on area charities needing our help openness to doing things in new ways

Our parish member and the many activities offered that reach out to the broader community helping people with many different needs. We have a most generous parish.

The welcoming atmosphere friendly parishioners and the chance to get involved in parish life and social justice issues.

The choir is a big one for me as I explained above. I also feel strongly that despite the financial challenges of our parish It is doing a good job of providing many opportunities for all of our members to get involved in the life of our parish. I also have had a positive experience by joining our Social Justice ministry which I have been involved with for about 3 years.

The friendliness of the community and the pastor outreaching support

Our parishionership by and large is engaged with the Mass when I attend the parish outreach initiatives are faith-filled and effective and the parish sacred and lay administration is very good.

The parish community-joy in prayer in worship and reaching out to the community through faith.

good feeling when I walk out

The friendships I've developed over the years. I can look around the pews and see people that I've shared struggles and joys with. And I have done that with them.

This is easy. It has one of the most welcoming atmospheres around. The sermons and the music are wonderful and uplifting. I'm amazed at the people who take their time to set the stage for the mass and for special occasions. Neat!! I go home feeling uplifted and ready to hit the week ahead.

I have been here 9 years. I have thought about going to a church that is closer to my home but I am involved in activities at St. Bernard and I don't want to let those groups down by moving. I wouldn't say there is any one thing that makes me come to St. Bernard except for habit. I would also be comfortable at St. Therese.

the people

I'm not sure. Coffee and rolls

feeling of solace

The camaraderie. The faith-filled people that come here.

I can't explain it.. but the inner faith and peace I feel when I'm in church and around the congregation.

Love the church but would like to volunteer more

Location coffee and rolls with a few friends we have met here.

I have been here for many years and will probably stay to the end.

The parish community

I feel a part of the community. When I go to other places as I travel I may enjoy great homilies and liturgy but I miss the people of St Bernard.

Tradition. My family and parent belong.

It is my home parish. The friendly people and staff.

The parishioners the enthusiasm the choirs knowing that God is really present in it all.

I've gone here most of my life. It's where I was baptized made my confirmation and was married. My children have been baptized here.

THE PEOPLE

My faith and my friends.

Again it feels like home to me. When I come I feel happy and at peace.

The sense of community. My friends family the homilies.

The friends here the community feeling

friends who still come here

The people & the programs

The community has become like a second family

There is always something at Mass that makes me feel better than when I arrived. (Nov. 8 it was Pam Keane's song for Judy VanHandel.) I care about the people at St. B's that I have known for almost 20 years. This will tell you who I am but I'll say it anyway: I still love the picture in the Activity Center foyer that the FF staff gave us when our son died. It makes me feel a special connection even after so many years.

The faith and enthusiasm of all the parishioners I come to know.

Familiar Smiles and activities

I have roots at St. Bernard's. I know and care about a lot of people at St. Bernard's. I also really have gotten excited about the 10:15 Mass lately.

It still home their has been changes but even at home we have change and their is an adjustment period of time. Not all family members in your immediate family agree all the time. It the same with the church family were all not on the same page at times. When that happens we need to work thing our by keeping are hearts and minds open. We have a few great things going on here. To me it still home. Their just things arranged out place at the moment.

The people. Wonderful God loving people.

We Belong.

Habit - friends go here - music

Comfortable with the activities and services

The friends I've made there and the music on Sunday

The same feeling we had when we walked through the door over 20 years ago.

The people

The friends we have made over the years. We feel that Fr. Dennis does a great job with his homilies

This is my parish.

People here are important to me. I feel a part of this place and am proud to tell others about it. This is MY community.

All the good people I know here!

Knowing people. Feeling closer to God/Jesus

St. B s is my church
Faith and friends
Friendly atmosphere Opportunities offered for growing in our faith
Most everything one expects from a church
Most everything one expects from a church
The people!!!
The long term involvement we have had with other members of the parish in this Church and how it has grown to feel like home.
The warmth of the parish and my commitment to my faith.
Hope...
It is close by my kids like the parish and I like many people who are here (staff and members). It feels like home to me.
Consider to be our home parish even though we are on the road a lot and attend mass at various locations.
MUSIC AND FRIENDS
I am a member and volunteer.
The wonderful feeling of community and the great people that contribute to that environment.
The community mentioned above is the main reason. Our worship is enhanced by the music/choir and homilies.
I feel a strong commitment to the Catholic Church and want to raise my boys in the presence of God. I enjoy seeing and spending time with families similar to mine (a community so to speak). St. Bernard s members have also been very welcoming and understanding of trying to teach sometimes noisy boys how to participate at Mass.
The continued vitality of the congregation including the music ministry.
1. The people I know in the congregation 2. Have not found another church yet that meets my needs.
The friendliness of the community and the pastor outreaching support
That feeling of belonging Father Dennis and the Parishoners
The people. The choir. The attitude. Plus I don t change things in my life much. I am not a church jumper like some other people I know. Unless I move to another community or something goes terribly wrong at St B s I plan to be a member the rest of my life.
It is home. I feel a warmth here which means alot to me.
great parishoner friends
We belong.
It is clearly the people at the parish and secondarily the Spirit Singers
The people and organization.
The people of St. B
It is home!
The people
Feeling like we belong - making friends
I feel confortable here. Seeing familiar faces - watching families grow
It has been our parish for the past 31 years. We loved Fr. Janssen and that feeling carries on.
Relationships forged with fellow parishioners over the years
Im a devoted Catholic. I love attending mass and I enjoy being apart of St. Bernard. I always feel energized after coming to church. Its a very good feeling.
The friendliness of the parishoners & Father Ryan s homilies.
Community & Familairty
It is a loving generous parish.
Interaction. the warmth of the congregation. The circular arrangement of the seats. I can see from anywhere.
Is Home after 40+years - no other churches of any denomination offer me what the Catholic Church especially St. B has to offer.
Habit
The connections with the many people who I have developed close friendships and relationships with are one of the most valuable treasures in my life. The most obvious is the spiritual fulfillment and worship style that we enjoy at St. Bernards.
The connections with the many people who I have developed close friendships and relationships with are one of the most valuable treasures in my life. The most obvious is the spiritual fulfillment and worship style that we enjoy at St. Bernards.
I feel good when I go there
Our friends in the pews and the organist
The people who are inspirations to me at being faith-filled prayerful people willing to be of service Music at litergies Opportunities to enrich my faith life and to be of service
The coffee and donuts
The people
This is our parish ---Good times & bad times. This is our faith community
It s a beautiful parish friendly members
A sense of Family and the length I have been a member.
The parish community-joy in prayer in worship and reaching out to the community through faith.
Tradition I don t like a lot of change
The faith I share with friends I have met thru church. I especially like mass with Fr. Justin.
It s home
It is our home and we know so many couples that attend mass there.
Tradition & family
My Wife! Actually I keep coming back because I feel at home here.
I feel that s where I belong. I ve met many wonderful people and am proud to know them.
Tradition & family

Patrick's involvement familiarity people we know that attend music!
Some Friends we have made.
The people the priests. Each Sunday gives me something to think about and put into practice.
The people.
A feeling of home belonging to a family
The nice people and the amazing masses.
Because we love the Parish
My parish.
I'm used to this church and I like the way this church runs.
A place where we can worship God independently or as a community.
I sometimes wonder. Originally it was because there was no day school to drain the parish finances. That has changed and we no longer can offer the programs we once had because of the Xavier/ACES assessments. However St. Bernard's still offers a familiarity and comfort level that I don't think you would find at too many other churches.
The choir and friends.
Personal Renewal People and Family Deacons and Priests Faith Formation
1) It's close to my home 2) I feel at home here 3) the liturgies are beautiful and uplifting
The faith forgiveness of the Lord and the people here.
My children are engaged at St. Bernard's and this is important to me.
I sometimes wonder. Originally it was because there was no day school to drain the parish finances. That has changed and we no longer can offer the programs we once had because of the Xavier/ACES assessments. However St. Bernard's still offers a familiarity and comfort level that I don't think you would find at too many other churches.
Give me a reason. Will you hire a dynamic progressive staff person who will do something other than study the new catechism?
THE SUPPORT
The mass the sacraments opportunity for reconciliation ...it is just our parish and it would take a serious deficiency to cause a change.
It is a parish with all kinds of activities available for all ages.
Memorials for Miscarriages. NOT!!
Love the church but would like to volunteer more
Knowing people at Mass involved in groups.
people participate
Commitment
Our personal involvement in parish activities. The liturgies and personal character of Fr. Ryan & Fr. Justen. Their wonderful homilies.
I suppose we are all creatures of habit but many of our friends are moving on to other parishes. So even though we hate the thought of moving our friends are moving elsewhere and quite frankly I don't feel as though we would even be missed. I do enjoy the pipe organ - that's a plus for St. Bernard. I am looking forward to this week's organ concert.
I am a member and volunteer.
The community of faithful individuals celebrating together and taking the message of the gospel out to others through actions. The music at the liturgies is excellent and Spirit filled. Also our renew group has been!
The people and the hope that the parish somehow can be revitalized
The parishes constant efforts to help others and our trying to bring people to find Jesus
The people & the programs
Fr. Dennis homilies and adult bible study offerings (although I could find some of them at other parishes. I guess a determination ((that is dwindling) to not see it fail.
A feeling of being connected which came from involvement in a small group.
Personal Renewal People and Family Deacons and Priests Faith Formation
My ties to St. B's and friends. But there is not enough for the elderly.
the parish library and the many members I can help through the materials in our parish library.
The teaching
The strength of the message from our priests and deacons Other parish programs (like small groups) Parish members and friends The choir
I need God in my life and He is certainly present at St. Bernard's.
God
Have been here a long time. Faith and Hope in our Lord! Actually I like that we have kneelers.
My need for Christ in my life
Nothing other than my faith.
My faith and my friends.
The positive feeling I get and the welcoming spirit of the parish. I previously attended St. Paul's in Combined Locks for many years and we never had this type of welcoming spirit during my time there. Keep it up!!
The faith and enthusiasm of all the parishioners I come to know.
Knowing people. Feeling closer to God/Jesus
Faith and friends
My faith.
Faith
My god Father Dennis Deacon Bob and all the kind and folks at St. Bernard's. Is There A Better Church??
I strongly feel this is where God wants me to worship and Fr. Ryan.
The community of faithful individuals celebrating together and taking the message of the gospel out to others through actions. The music at the liturgies is excellent and Spirit filled. Also our renew group has been!
Jesus

Hope
The people who are inspirations to me at being faith-filled prayerful people willing to be of service Music at liturgies Opportunities to enrich my faith life and to be of service
The obvious Spirituality of the priests and deacons and their homilies.
My spirit is being fed here. I believe that there are many devout and Holy church members that willingly give of themselves to God and his people.
My spirit is being fed here. I believe that there are many devout and Holy church members that willingly give of themselves to God and his people.
My faith and its entire parish community.
Because Jesus is what we believe.
The faith forgiveness of the Lord and the people here.
Belief and faith.
My faith along with the support of the congregation.
God and community
The connections with the many people who I have developed close friendships and relationships with are one of the most valuable treasures in my life. The most obvious is the spiritual fulfillment and worship style that we enjoy at St. Bernards.
The connections with the many people who I have developed close friendships and relationships with are one of the most valuable treasures in my life. The most obvious is the spiritual fulfillment and worship style that we enjoy at St. Bernards.
A place where we can worship God independently or as a community.
It is close to our home and we have a familiarity with the church.
It is the closest Catholic church to our home.
Location coffee and rolls with a few friends we have met here.
convenience
Location and habit. some of our friends are still here but many are moving on. We are now starting to visit our parishes to try to capture 1 high quality liturgies (this includes prepared cantors friendly priest and deacon 2 welcoming feel from pastor and deacons 3 staff that works together and is focused on helping parishioners.
Located close to home. We have friends at the parish however it seems every time I turn around one of my friends has left the parish.
Location
1) It is close to my home 2) I feel at home here 3) the liturgies are beautiful and uplifting
Still close to our home. Starting to know some of the parish members a little better
1- I live in this area 2- St. Bernard is and always was a welcoming parish
Location
Alternate question: Why are we unable to grow our parish and attract more of the membership to weekly mass? The world is changing at a rapid pace. Some is good some is not. Americans are hungry for change. The majority of voters showed us that during the last election. They are not steeped in tradition and ceremony. If we want to keep their interest the church needs to make changes in the Sunday mass. It needs to be current lively and over in 50 minutes. Sermons should be contemporary and to the point. We are an educated congregation. Speak to us that way. We are also aging. Kneeling is a physical problem for many people. I've been in Catholic churches that have no kneelers. It did not detract from the liturgy. I suggest we remove the kneelers from one or two sections to try it. Mass and praying are private to me. I will talk to my neighbors and shake their hand before and after the mass. During mass please leave me alone. My wife and I and many other parishioners hope you take these ideas constructively and seriously.
Fr Ryan
The priests
Fr Dennis and Fr Justin are two of the most important reasons. They live their Christian lives in front of us as examples of Christ-like behavior. We feel welcome and a part of the community there. I like the youth programs we have even though we do not have a parish school.
We are thinking of switching to another church
I like Father Ryan and the people
Location and habit. some of our friends are still here but many are moving on. We are now starting to visit our parishes to try to capture 1 high quality liturgies (this includes prepared cantors friendly priest and deacon 2 welcoming feel from pastor and deacons 3 staff that works together and is focused on helping parishioners.
It still home their has been changes but even at home we have change and their is an adjustment period of time. Not all family members in your immediate family agree all the time. It the same with the church family were all not on the same page at times. When that happens we need to work thing our by keeping our hearts and minds open. We have a few great things going on here. To me it still home. Their just things arranged out place at the moment.
The friends we have made over the years. We feel that Fr. Dennis does a great job with his homilies
Located close to home. We have friends at the parish however it seems every time I turn around one of my friends has left the parish.
I like the mass priests deacons & message they convey.
Father Dennis is a great spiritual leader. The people are welcoming and involved in the weekly services.
Our personal involvement in parish activities. The liturgies and personal character of Fr. Ryan & Fr. Justin. Their wonderful homilies.
Memorials for Miscarriages. NOT!!
Being a Cradle Catholic one did not miss mass or confessions on the weekends!!! Also we did NOT make our First Holy Communion W/O our first Confession BEFORE we were able to make our First Communion. (This may be very Old School but we definitely feel we have been BETTER Catholics our entire lives with the indoctrination!!! We can't help but feel our children & grandchildren have missed a LOT!
Enjoy the sermons music staff and parishners
My religious education.. Way back when.. Where else would we go? What originally contributed to our family joining St. B is gradually eroding away!
Do you plan to improve?
We have a fondness about St. Bernards the pastors Father Jansen Father John and Father Dennis. It is our spiritual home.
Father Dennis and the wonderful Choir!
My god Father Dennis Deacon Bob and all the kind and folks at St. Bernards. Is There A Better Church??
It is close by my kids like the parish and I like many people who are here (staff and members). It feels like home to me.
I strongly feel this is where God wants me to worship and Fr. Ryan.

That feeling of belonging Father Dennis and the Parishoners.
The people and organization.
It has been our parish for the past 31 years. We loved Fr. Janssen and that feeling carries on.
The friendliness of the parishoners & Father Ryan s homilies.
The people the priests. Each Sunday gives me something to think about and put into practice.
Personal Renewal People and Family Deacons and Priests Faith Formation
My early religious education--home thru college. Where should we go? I don t want to be a Protestant.
habit
Habit
For the reasons mentioned in Nos 5 and 6
See #2

Q8- What do you value most about our Parish and how has it contributed to your spiritual life?

I feel I can ask anyone questions that I can work in a project and feel supported and if I call the parish office....I will get a warm and caring approach. Spiritual life is greatly enhanced with the good sermons music and the Mass. There are many options available to enhance your knowledge and spirituality such as bible studies.
I like the Mass and the music.
The participation at mass. It always appears that everyone is taking part.
Going to daily mass and feeling the holy spirit strengthen me every day.
Daily Mass and thought provoking sermons
I value the homilies taking the message and applying them to everyday life. Many people even from other parishes miss the Good Friday Tenebrae. cutting out long standing traditions make people look to other parishes. I was told that the reason for discontinuing this service was that the pastor didn t have time to devote to it. For over all the years we attended the Pastor had no active roll in the service - so I don t understand
The reverant Masses - weekly and daily. Our various prayer groups - rosary charismatic and healing prayer. Sacrament of Anointing offered regularly. Especially appreciate this Fall s Session to prepare us for the sacrament with the novena. All have given me a deeper trust in Jesus and Our Blessed Mother.
availability of daily mass & receiving the Eucharist
The liturgy.
Eucharist
The liturgies and the worship are meaningful and historically the music has been great though lately there seems to be some slippage in that area. Fr. Dennis sermons have improved tremendously and I can see that he is putting in a lot of effort to make that happen.
mass
The homilies fit into today s life lessons.
Sunday Mass helps me to rebuild my spirital life.
Almost impossible to directly relate the two. I think St. Bernard s offers an openness to worship that was instilled originally by Father Janssen that allows you to develop your own path to a relationship with God.
That the Masses delivered every Sunday explain our faith and beliefs. And Father s remarks during it enhance the Spiritual expereince !!! :-)
Being able to attend Mass. I am 83 years old and have difficulty walking so am grateful to be able tp attend Mass.
Being a part of the celebration of the Eucharist thru our involemnt as alter servers.
Being elderly and handicapped we have not been able to be as involved as we d like. Whether the sermons are by Fr Ryan Fr Justin or the decans we do look forward to them at each mass we attend.
I enjoy the format of the masses the Homilies and the Parish s Stance on Social Concerns.
The sermons are so good and the pastor does not always preach about money. but Im sure father should & would like too. The two deacons are friendly and there sermons are also very interesting.
I really appreciate how Father Dennis and Father Justin can relate the readings to our everyday life experiences.
Weekly mass faith formation class for my child.
The stories from the mass.
Mass and eucarist.
What I value most about St. Bernard Parish is the liturgy Father Dennis and the sacraments. These have helped me grow tremendously in my spiritual life. I was church shopping before I came to St. Bernard s. I had gone to other Catholic Churches to see which one met my needs and appealed to me. It also had a lot to do with the priests homilies and the music. St. Bernard s was on top as far as I was concerned. I am being fed at St. Bernard s. Homilies are spiritual not about financial concerns. The Sacrament of the Sick is offered twice a year. I had not encountered that at any other parish. Father Dennis is easily available whenever I have a spiritual question. Opportunities for growth abound within the parish. Personally I have chosen not to partake of these opportunities because I am seeking spiritual growth not social. My spiritual growth has far surpassed anything I have had before. However I will go back to Father Dennis and all his contributions to the spiritual life of this parish. I have no idea how former priests were in this regard at St. Bernard s but Father Dennis fills our needs. If he were to leave I do not know if I would remain in this parish or would have to find another.
There seems to be a lot of active and enthusiastic members. I have not particiated in the educational opportunities which seem scheduled to meet almost anyones schedule; since I m in my own old routine that at this point takes care of me. The homilies most always give me something to take home and apply. Also like the short history of the saint of the day that has been part of the liturgy lately.
I like the new upbeat music. You can come to church feeling in the dumps and once you hear the songs and Father talk you always feel better.
I value the sense of community and the chance to worship with others. I would love to see more young families active in the church.
I value the opportunities available to help me grow in my spiritual journey. Small group studies classes speakers and volunteer opportunities. I enjoy fathers homilies he does a wonderful job bringing the word to our every day lives. He always has a meaningful message.
Our renew group has sustained us through this decline in our parish vitality. We have lots of memoriees here and the parish s religion program helped educate our children. Thank you Father Justin for you warm reaching out to us. The organ music and organist are truly a gift from God and help me interact with the Lord on a profound basis. Thank you Sue Molden and Jane Angha - you exemplify working with parishioners in a cheerful and giving manner. You make us feel welcome.

Music at Mass

As I addressed above I value how our Parish is involved in helping those in our local community that need help economically and spiritually. This has impacted me greatly as now I firmly believe that as Christians we are all responsible and need to care for each other and some day we will be judged as individuals as to how we cared for all of our community members. I also as mentioned above that the music ministry keeps me spiritually enthused not only with the great music selected for mass worship but all the wonderful people I come in contact with and also have come in contact with but are no longer with us.

Bible Study Mass Viewing Screens

The healing prayer services or healing opportunities during the Sunday Liturgy have enriched my spiritual life. The participation of the membership in the liturgy is a witness to me of the spiritual nature of our members.

I love the friendly people. I've helped out with many projects throughout the many years. We have always had lots of very interesting and helpful gatherings. I enjoy Fr's homilies especially true to life stories and how he incorporates everyday life and the bible history together. I enjoy listening and learning from both Father Dennis and Justin

The parish library and my initial involvement with Fr. Janssen. He was a very intelligent and spiritual priest. I follow his example and help as many people as I can grow closer to God in their lives through material in our library.

Most enjoy the Spirit filled Music and Worship. Lots and lots of excellent people belong to the parish and are eager to use and share their gifts. Also enjoy the homilies- all of these help encourage and support me in my walk with the Lord.

The parish has prayed with us through some very difficult times. We came through happier and stronger than before.

Whenever you mention a concern to someone they invariably say I'll pray for you. Choir members still make a point of coming to me and telling me they miss me and asking me if I think I'll ever come back. It's so nice to know you haven't been forgotten.

1. Prayerful 2. Home parish 3. Father Dennis and Justin are very helpful 4. Enjoyable

The healing prayer services or healing opportunities during the Sunday Liturgy have enriched my spiritual life. The participation of the membership in the liturgy is a witness to me of the spiritual nature of our members.

The reverent Masses - weekly and daily. Our various prayer groups - rosary charismatic and healing prayer. Sacrament of Anointing offered regularly. Especially appreciate this Fall's Session to prepare us for the sacrament with the novena. All have given me a deeper trust in Jesus and Our Blessed Mother.

Dedicated staff who facilitate programs and members participation in the wide variety of groups offered. Offering of traditional church practices - adoration rosary groups prayer intentions the praying with/over members seeking healing.

Being a member of the choir has greatly contributed to my spiritual life. The directors lead us in meaningful prayer each time we meet and help us to enter into the spirit of the liturgical season and the particular songs we are singing. I love being able to share my gift in the service to God the church this way. It keeps me wanting to keep going to mass and stay connected.

I like the new upbeat music. You can come to church feeling in the dumps and once you hear the songs and Father talk you always feel better.

MUSIC

The music has helped me remember the scriptures more easily & stepped up my ability to praise God

Music at Mass

MUSIC FEELS CLOSER TO GOD. GUEST SPEAKERS. ALL THE SCRIPTURES CAN'T BE REWARDING EVERYDAY OF THE YEAR BUT TOUCHING LIFE STORIES AND MUSIC CAN IMPACT ONES THOUGHTS ON A DAILY BASIS. WHEN I FEEL LOST OR AT THE END OF MY ROPES LISTENING TO OTHERS WHO COPE WITH LIFE AND LISTENING TO MUSIC THAT HONORS THE LORD HARD NOT TO FEEL REJUVINATED AND READY FOR THE WORLD.

Music at Mass.

I used to really like the music... Lately it is almost painful to listen to. Maybe at times it would be better not to have a song leader and let the congregation take over on its own. At least with the 8:30 mass.

Most enjoy the Spirit filled Music and Worship. Lots and lots of excellent people belong to the parish and are eager to use and share their gifts. Also enjoy the homilies- all of these help encourage and support me in my walk with the Lord.

There are many opportunities to get involved. I feel as though I can give to those both within our church and outside of it by participating in small groups the musical life of the parish and service opportunities.

I like the Mass and the music.

The Small Group I belong to. Being a part of our choir. The welcoming feel encourages me to keep coming back.

Our renew group has sustained us through this decline in our parish vitality. We have lots of memories here and the parish's religion program helped educate our children. Thank you Father Justin for your warm reaching out to us. The organ music and organist are truly a gift from God and help me interact with the Lord on a profound basis. Thank you Sue Molden and Jane Angha - you exemplify working with parishioners in a cheerful and giving manner. You make us feel welcome.

1. Childrens religious program 2. The music programs 3. Ladies groups

Bible and scripture study. The music and choir

As I addressed above I value how our Parish is involved in helping those in our local community that need help economically and spiritually. This has impacted me greatly as now I firmly believe that as Christians we are all responsible and need to care for each other and some day we will be judged as individuals as to how we cared for all of our community members. I also as mentioned above that the music ministry keeps me spiritually enthused not only with the great music selected for mass worship but all the wonderful people I come in contact with and also have come in contact with but are no longer with us.

Father Dennis and the choir. Both really accentuate and maximize the learning and growth of our faith.

I think I said it above...classes choir and attitude.

The priests the beautiful facilities and the music provided by the various choirs singers and musicians.

Welcoming Friendliness Comfortable Social Justice Outreach abundance of programs of interest history of Good priests great Music at 10:15

Friendliness of everyone.....make you feel welcome!

Again the feeling of being welcomed and being part of the family. I am not a perfect person but instead of feeling ashamed I feel support. I am trying to be a better person and that's all that matters to God or St. Bernard's.

Welcoming Friendliness Comfortable Social Justice Outreach abundance of programs of interest history of Good priests great Music at 10:15

It's not the name tags.

I see more and more aggressiveness to interact. I especially like All Are Welcome That's pretty gutsy!

The way they take the time to welcome new members and also how friendly everyone is.

The Small Group I belong to. Being a part of our choir. The welcoming feel encourages me to keep coming back.
The people- welcoming but not noisy.
I enjoy the fact that everyone wants to be there. The simple things like name tags and greetings send a powerful message and a sense of belonging.
Collections from local needy
I have tried to help people who can not help themselves & also to do more for all children & grand kids to make life easier for them. The ladies dinner is also a great get together.
Fr. Janson's strong commitment to social justice and his focus on church and not CHURCH.
Focus on others' needs
Our Social Justice / outreach
As I addressed above I value how our Parish is involved in helping those in our local community that need help economically and spiritually. This has impacted me greatly as now I firmly believe that as Christians we are all responsible and need to care for each other and some day we will be judged as individuals as to how we cared for all of our community members. I also as mentioned above that the music ministry keeps me spiritually enthused not only with the great music selected for mass worship but all the wonderful people I come in contact with and also have come in contact with but are no longer with us.
St. Bernard's commitment to helping others. I think the consistent message of helping our brothers and sisters is a powerful and important one.
Social Issues
Monthly opportunities to give back to the community - COTS Harbor House Ryan House etc.
Adult ED classes and social justice work
Welcoming Friendliness Comfortable Social Justice Outreach abundance of programs of interest history of Good priests great Music at 10:15
I enjoy the format of the masses the Homilies and the Parish's Stance on Social Concerns.
It is not what a person gets from the church but what you give.
leaves me feeling saved and loved
I value the history of the parish and especially feel gratitude to those early members for their generosity toward the hungry imprisoned & naked. I still see some wonderful role models sitting in the pews and they are an inspiration to me. I joined a Renew group in 1999 and this group has been together ever since. They are my spiritual family and have challenged me and encouraged me on my journey. In 97/98 I journeyed through RCIA with the man that became my husband. That experience brought me closer to God. I developed a deeper love for my faith and was encouraged to live it more fully.
The faith filled people the interaction during mass and at coffee hours. Faith sharing by friends and support of the people during parish life events.
People are kind and welcoming but not overly nosy
one-to-one contact with people of faith people who do their faith not just give it Sunday lip service
I value the new friends I've met at St. Bernard Church who share the faith and take an interest in each other.
I value the friendships I have made in groups over the years. I am not sure the spiritual resources consistently meet my personal needs but occasionally the homily is meaningful and I am inspired by the efforts of the staff to respond to parishioner as well as community needs.
There is something for everyone at St. Bernard's. Through my involvement in choir and other committees bible study and Life in the Spirit my faith has grown.
There is a strong sense of community and support. Everyone I've encountered at St. Bernard's reminds me why I'm a member and continue to make it my place of worship.
Over the years have developed many relationships with others. The kindness they have shown our children was very moving. Those that ask about them today give me hope for the future.
Friends we have met. Spiritual teachings our children received. Special services offered.
I value the sense of community and the chance to worship with others. I would love to see more young families active in the church.
What I value most are the people. Many have a very strong faith and have helped me on my walk.
God is working in us and for us. I have more spiritual life because I feel at home in Church sometimes than at home. I feel more in touch with him at Church at times than at home or in my car driving about. Even though I know He is all over the place. Including the future.
Its our active special interests friendly etc. Many chances to be involved
See answer two for set up to this answer. The comfort level with the people was so much better that the journey in faith was much more enriched. The people were much more genuine. I feel like everyone (many staff-sorry) have personal agendas and don't really see hear care what the peoplelong standing active whether verbal or prayerful or does feel or think. It's as if someone read a pencil pushers report and said ok now this is what we're supposed to do because it looks good on paper.
It's members who support each other our pastor and staff who are there for us when we need them.
The people
The people!!!
Being involved in many things over the past 25 years has helped us feel more apart of the Church.
Friends that I meet here on Sunday who have supported me at particular life moments .
The people I have come to know at the parish (staff and members) are genuinely concerned for me and my family. I think that sense of community has had the most impact on my spiritual life.
I value my friends and loved ones who belong to St. Bernard's. I am a better person because of my relationships and faith.
I value that people are involved in the parish and in the community.
The closeness of the congregation.
I value the people that participate willingly. I value the great depth of the members spiritually. I value the homilies that can relate to our lives what is said in the Bible. I value the care and love the members have for each other. From the Life in the Spirit program and the urging of my cousin I have made four retreats. From that I have become very close to the Holy Spirit. Previous to the program I never gave the Holy Spirit a thought. I have grown enormously.
I have a number of friends at St. Bernard's that I can talk to about religion and spirituality. I don't belong to a small group but I consider the conversations I have with my friends at St. Bernard's is my small group.
Again it's the people
Same as 6 above and the marvelous people
Knowing the parish is there for us
I love the friendly people. I've helped out with many projects throughout the many years. We have always had lots of very interesting and helpful gatherings. I enjoy Fr's homilies especially true to life stories and how he incorporates everyday life and the bible history together. I enjoy listening and learning from both Father Dennis and Justin

Acceptance and non-judgmental attitude.
The people- welcoming but not noisy.
Connection with the community Community service Youth group
Experience and support for fellow parishioners
People in the pews
Parish members
members
I regret not being able to participate in the programs at this time. We appreciate the acoustics (it is difficult to hear in the old-long churches (St. Marys - St. Josephs). The parish is also in our neighborhood - Convient.
I enjoy the fact that everyone wants to be there. The simple things like name tags and greetings send a powerful message and a sense of belonging.
How everyone makes us feel comfortable.
The members have always been friendly and open to our culture which makes us feel comfortable.
The people
The people who are there and those who makes things interesting to learn about God from greeters to the choir.
Whenever you mention a concern to someone they invariably say I ll pray for you. Choir members still make a point of coming to me and telling me they miss me and asking me if I think I ll ever come back. It s so nice to know you haven t been forgotten.
1. Prayerful 2. Home parish 3. Father Dennis and Justin are very helpful 4. Enjoyable
Again the feeling of being welcomed and being part of the family. I am not a perfect person but instead of feeling ashamed I feel support. I am trying to be a better person and that s all that matters to God or St. Bernard s.
Acceptance and non-judgmental attitude.
The way our members come together for support.
The children s programs and prep for sacraments
1. Childrens religious program 2. The music programs 3. Ladies groups
Friends we have met. Spiritual teachings our children received. Special services offered.
My involvement in two small group discussions and the presense of Life in the Spirit. Also the efforts of the people who do our young peoples education.
Weekly mass faith formation class for my child.
I value the music at the Masses the people that say Hello sincerely and the variety of offerings to further my spiritual life. I need to continue to expore the different offerings to find a niche of comfort and knowledge within my faith to continue my spiritual path daily. St. Bernard is a well-rounded parish; I like that they have a spirited teen program because my children enjoyed that when they were that age.
I value the sense of community and the chance to worship with others. I would love to see more young families active in the church.
Connection with the community Community service Youth group
The parish family
Mom s group making cursillo cannot put into words how both have changed my life and helped me grow in my faith!
Sacraments mass priests. staff endless variety of activities and opportunities for participation location...plus previous answers.
The many services that are available not only to parishioners but to many who come seeking help.
My opinions: Most parishes are very similar in their approaches to Spiritual Life Opportunities. Some Veteran Active Members are very set in their ways.
Father Dennis spent many hours with me preparing me for confirmation and becoming a Catholic. My life has changed- I have finally found what I ve been searching for all my life!
I am thrilled to see all the programs that are offered here. Something for everyone. They are flexible - so as to meet your schedule. They will find a group for you so that you can grow in your faith. I have tried to help people who can not help themself & also to do more for all children & grand kids to make life easier for them. The ladies dinner is also a great get together.
The children s programs and prep for sacraments
It continues to offer many programs that reach out to everyone in the parish community no matter where they are at. There is something for everyone who chooses to participate in either spiritual growth opportunities or just have a social connection with others in their church community.
1. Childrens religious program 2. The music programs 3. Ladies groups
The feeling that I know someone is always there to listen or to help whenever it is needed.
I value the fact that people have reached out to me. I am in assisted living at Touchmark and I already had someone from the parish come and visit me. This is very important as you get older and it means a lot to me. It helps to lift the spirit.
The time people take to LISTEN to you when things are bad. These folks always have a smile huge hand shake prayer and most important they really do care.
The anointing of the Sick is a moved plan. the quality of the homilies is being revitalized after a long hiatus
The support that I have received in time of trouble.
The support that I have received in time of trouble.
The way our members come together for support.
The people I have come to know at the parish (staff and members) are genuinely concerned for me and my family. I think that sense of community has had the most impact on my spiritual life.
There seems to be a lot of active and enthusiastic members. I have not particiated in the educational opportunities which seem scheduled to meet almost anyones schedule; since I m in my own old routine that at this point takes care of me. The homilies most always give me something to take home and apply. Also like the short history of the saint of the day that has been part of the liturgy lately.
The parish does a good job of drawing people into persoanl involvement in church life. There is always an open invitation to get involved.
The vast array of things to participate in and the participation in so many events and collections to reduce economic hardship in our community and other communities.
The many opportunities to keep learning and growing in faith. The opportunities to get involved in service projects.
There are many opportunities to get involved. I feel as though I can give to those both within our church and outside of it by participating in small groups the musical life of the parish and service opportunities.

I value the opportunities available to help me grow in my spiritual journey. Small group studies classes speakers and volunteer opportunities. I enjoy fathers homilies he does a wonderful job bringing the word to our every day lives. He always has a meaningful message.
The people the priests we have and have had the volunteers that step up to lead events and small groups. My hunger for more knowledge has increased and continues to do so because of these groups.
the innovations and every changing process of our church. The ability to be flexible
St. Bernard is a faith community with a core group of parishioners who believe in the necessity and importance of a devout spiritual life that will help everyone to grow and develop in their faith life. St. Bernard s adherence to the teachings of the Church reinforces my early learning about the Catholic faith.
Positive attitude of people who are trying to be better at the things they do. I also am very proud of St. Bernard s commitment to helping those in need within our church and community. There are many ways to participate.
Do we really believe what we say? We have consecration and say this is Jesus (Jesus is here) Then we say Christ has died Christ is risen Christ will come again (He s not here but will come sometime in the future) WHAT!!! What does it mean to say Jesus is King? Are we the servants or is He our brother? We keep repeating jargon with no meaning. It doesn t contribute to spirituality. Attachment: Tailgatin for Jesus by Don Rollins
I have to say EWTN and Relevant Radio has done so much for me. I learned so much! The masses at St. B s and the homilies are quite good but not enough like on the EWTN and Radio. It s not the same as before. The people don t seem as friendly as in the past.
There is something for everyone at St. Bernards. Through my involvement in choir and other committes bible study and Life in the Spirit my faith has grown.
Parishioners and staff really care about each other and helping each other to grow.
I value the parish s strong family values. We learn our spirituality as families just as much as individuals.
I value the openness and the welcoming of each of us to hear God s voice and to apply it to our own lives and to share this with others.
I value the music at the Masses the people that say Hello sincerely and the variety of offerings to further my spiritual life. I need to continue to expore the different offerings to find a niche of comfort and knowledge within my faith to continue my spiritual path daily. St. Bernard is a well-rounded parish; I like that they have a spirited teen program because my children enjoyed that when they were that age.
There are many opportunities to get involved. I feel as though I can give to those both within our church and outside of it by participating in small groups the musical life of the parish and service opportunities.
I am thrilled to see all the programs that are offered here. Something for everyone. They are flexible - so as to meet your schedule. They will find a group for you so that you can grow in your faith. Life in the Spirit has helped me become stonger in my values and how I handle the stormy situations in my life. I have also done several other small groups. Offerings like Life in the Spirit and other adult formation to help us grow in faith.
My small group.
The Small Group I belong to. Being a part of our choir. The welcoming feel encourages me to keep coming back.
small group experience
Small groups where the members support and challenge each person in their faith journey
I value the opportunities available to help me grow in my spiritual journey. Small group studies classes speakers and volunteer opportunities. I enjoy fathers homilies he does a wonderful job bringing the word to our every day lives. He always has a meaningful message.
The people the priests we have and have had the volunteers that step up to lead events and small groups. My hunger for more knowledge has increased and continues to do so because of these groups.
Our renew group has sustained us through this decline in our parish vitality. We have lots of memoriees here and the parish s religion program helped educate our children. Thank you Father Justin for you warm reaching out to us. The organ music and organist are truly a gift from God and help me interact with the Lord on a profound basis. Thank you Sue Molden and Jane Angha - you exemplify working with parishioners in a cheerful and giving manner. You make us feel welcome.
Renew groups - greater spiritual growth
It continues to offer many programs that reach out to everyone in the parish community no matter where they are at. There is something for everyone who chooses to participate in either spiritual growth opportunities or just have a social connection with others in their church community.
There are many things to contribute to and it does feel good when I help in areas I can afford. I am trying to get more involved - haven t tried the small groups yet but plan to this coming year.
Bible and scripture study. The music and choir
Small Group opportunites. We offer a variety of ways to enhance your spiritual life through Life in the Spirit Bible Studies and outside speakers through social justice or Pam Mullin s.
1. Renew group provides a nonjudgemental forum 2. Father Justin leads by example
I think I said it above...classes choir and attitude.
Bible Study Mass Viewing Screens
I like the small groups to which I belong.
Small Groups Life in the Spirit Witness of others
Availability of a wide selection of small groups. Participation in choir.
My involvement in two small group discussions and the presense of Life in the Spirit. Also the efforts of the people who do our young peoples education.
I have made a carsillo and since then I have prayed more and participate in a small group of men who have made carsillo
I value the way my Renew small group helps me encourages me teaches me and shares with me. That journey is helping me grow in my faither and in my relationship to Christ.
small groups have been very good over the years. They bring a variety of people together whom we would not have otherwise known. Sharing stories and witnessing how others live out their faith is very supportive and reinforcing.
Adult ED classes and social justice work
The spiritual seminars and programs through out the year. First Friday Adoration Life in the Spirit prayer group confession opportunities etc.
I have been very impressed by the individuals who lead the group activities that I have been involved with including religious education (I was a teacher for 10 years) the choir and Life in the Spirit seminar. The group leaders have always been enthusiastic talented and a joy to work with and observe.

My small group involvement is what has lead me to grow immensely in my faith life. Through that I have experienced life changing spiritual events such as Cursillo and Life in the Spirit and have formed many spiritual bonds and friendships with many people that I otherwise would not have. They have also encouraged and guided me in growing my knowledge involvement and practice of my Catholic faith.
The small group
The Bible studies
The small group gatherings. They have given me a better insight on God and what he expects fro us.
My involvement with small groups. I feel St. Bernards is losing its viberant feel compared to other Appleton parishes.
The parish library and my initial involvement with Fr. Janssen. He was a very intelligent and spiritual priest. I follow his example and help as many people as I can grow closer to God in their lives thru material in our library.
The small group
The small group gatherings. They have given me a better insight on God and what he expects fro us.
The small bible study group we are in.
Offering me main support classes/meeting which allows me to be close with other members at St. Bernards.
I value the history of the parish and especially feel gratitude to those early members for their generosity toward the hungry imprisoned & naked. I still see some wonderful role models sitting in the pews and they are an inspiration to me. I joined a Renew group in 1999 and this group has been together ever since. They are my spiritual family and have challenged me and encouraged me on my journey. In 97/98 I journeyed through RCIA with the man that became my husband. That experience brought me closer to God. I developed a deeper love for my faith and was encouraged to live it more fully.
There are many things to contribute to and it does feel good when I help in areas I can afford. I am trying to get more involved - haven t tried the small groups yet but plan to this coming year.
It has brough us closer to God through a number of good catholic family friendships. Good Adult faith formation programs.
MUSIC FEELS CLOSER TO GOD. GUEST SPEAKERS. ALL THE SCRIPTURES CAN T BE REWARDING EVERYDAY OF THE YEAR BUT TOUCHING LIFE STORIES AND MUSIC CAN IMPACT ONES THOUGHTS ON A DAILY BASIS. WHEN I FEEL LOST OR AT THE END OF MY ROPES LISTENING TO OTHERS WHO COPE WITH LIFE AND LISTENING TO MUSIC THAT HONORS THE LORD HARD NOT TO FEEL REJUVINATED AND READY FOR THE WORLD.
My small group involvement is what has lead me to grow immensely in my faith life. Through that I have experienced life changing spiritual events such as Cursillo and Life in the Spirit and have formed many spiritual bonds and friendships with many people that I otherwise would not have. They have also encouraged and guided me in growing my knowledge involvement and practice of my Catholic faith.
How they stay true to the Catholic faith and all the oppotunities I have to further my faith life with all that is offered.
God is the most important
The many avenues to explore my faith
Again I have to say the people. I feel like I am among very holy people when I am at a liturgy or parish functionor serving in some capacity. The Spirit is there.
I value the parish s strong family values. We learn our spirituality as families just as much as individuals.
It has brough us closer to God through a number of good catholic family friendships. Good Adult faith formation programs.
Consistant Christian message.
Love and worship of God
My small group involvement is what has lead me to grow immensely in my faith life. Through that I have experienced life changing spiritual events such as Cursillo and Life in the Spirit and have formed many spiritual bonds and friendships with many people that I otherwise would not have. They have also encouraged and guided me in growing my knowledge involvement and practice of my Catholic faith.
I value the openness and the welcoming of each of us to hear God s voice and to apply it to our own lives and to share this with others.
It s presence I ve gained much knowledge that has helped me grow on my spiritual journey.
Believe in the Lord Jesus.
God and church.
I feel I can ask anyone questions that I can work in a project and feel supported and if I call the parish office....I will get a warm and caring approach. Spiritual life is greatly enhanced with the good sermons music and the Mass. There are many options available to enhance your knowledge and spirituality such as bible studies.
What I value most about St. Bernard Parish is the liturgy Father Dennis and the sacraments. These have helped me grow tremendously in my spiritual life. I was church shopping before I came to St. Bernard s. I had gone to other Catholic Churches to see which one met my needs and appealed to me. It also had a lot to do with the priests homilies and the music. St. Bernard s was on top as far as I was concerned. I am being fed at St. Bernard s. Homilies are spiritual not about financial concerns. The Sacrament of the Sick is offered twice a year. I had not encountered that at any other parish. Father Dennis is easily available whenever I have a spiritual question. Opportunities for growth abound within the parish. Personally I have chosen not to partake of these oppotunities because I am seeking spiritual growth not social. My spiritual growth has far surpassed anything I have had before. However I will go back to Father Dennis and all his contributions to the spiritual life of this parish. I have no idea how former priests were in this regard at St. Bernard s but Father Dennis fills our needs. If he were to leave I do not know if I would remain in this parish or would have to find another.
The resources available the parish staff and fellow members. The spiritual life.
Going to daily mass and feeling the holy spirit strengthen me every day.
God is working in us and for us. I have more spirtual life because I feel at home in Church sometimes than at home. I feel more in touch with him at Church at times than at home or in my car driving about. Even though I know He is all over the place. Including the future.
I enjoy the church (building) itself. It fits my personality and I find peace here. I am not one to share in religious events outside of mass. I feel religion is personal.
The reverant Masses - weekly and daily. Our various prayer groups - rosary charismatic and healing prayer. Sacrament of Anointing offered regularly. Especially appreciate this Fall s Session to prepare us for the sacrament with the novena. All have given me a deeper trust in Jesus and Our Blessed Mother.
St. Bernard is a faith community with a core group of parishioners who believe in the necessity and importance of a devout spiritual life that will help everyone to grow and develop in their faith life. St. Bernard s adherence to the teachings of the Church reinforces my early learning about the Catholic faith.
Positive attitude of people who are trying to be better at the things they do. I also am very proud of St. Bernard s commitment to helping those in need within our church and community. There are many ways to participate.
I value my friends and loved ones who belong to St. Bernards. I am a better person because of my relationships and faith.

<p>Almost impossible to directly relate the two. I think St. Bernard s offers an openness to worship that was instilled originally by Father Janssen that allows you to develop your own path to a relationship with God.</p>
<p>I value the people that partipate willingly. I value the great depth of the members spiritually. I value the homilies that can relate to our lives what is said in the Bible. I value the care and love the members have for each other. From the Life in the Spirit program and the urging of my cousin I have made four retreats. From that I have become very close to the Holy Spirit. Previous to the program I never gave the Holy Spirit a thought. I have grown enormously.</p>
<p>My small group involvement is what has lead me to grow immensely in my faith life. Through that I have experienced life changing spiritual events such as Cursillo and Life in the Spirit and have formed many spiritual bonds and friendships with many people that I otherwise would not have. They have also encouraged and guided me in growing my knowledge involvement and practice of my Catholic faith.</p>
<p>The many opportunities to keep learning and growing in faith. The opportunities to get involved in service projects.</p>
<p>web accessibility positive email communication friendly office workers</p>
<p>Bible Study Mass Viewing Screens</p>
<p>I enjoy the church (building) itself. It fits my personality and I find peace here. I am not one to share in religious events outside of mass. I feel religion is personal.</p>
<p>The priests the beautiful facilities and the music provided by the various choirs singers and musicians.</p>
<p>I regret not being able to participate in the programs at this time. We appreciate the accoustics (it is difficult to hear in the old-long churches (St. Marys - St. Josephs). The parish is also in our neighborhood - Convienient.</p>
<p>What I value most about St. Bernard Parish is the liturgy Father Dennis and the sacraments. These have helped me grow tremendously in my spiritual life. I was church shopping before I came to St. Bernard s. I had gone to other Catholic Churches to see which one met my needs and appealed to me. It also had a lot to do with the priests homilies and the music. St. Bernard s was on top as far as I was concerned. I am being fed at St. Bernard s. Homilies are spiritual not about financial concerns. The Sacrament of the Sick is offered twice a year. I had not encountered that at any other parish. Father Dennis is easily available whenever I have a spiritual question. Opportunities for growth abound within the parish. Personally I have chosen not to partake of these opportunities because I am seeking spiritual growth not social. My spiritual growth has far surpassed anything I have had before. However I will go back to Father Dennis and all his contributions to the spiritual life of this parish. I have no idea how former priests were in this regard at St. Bernard s but Father Dennis fills our needs. If he were to leave I do not know if I would remain in this parish or would have to find another.</p>
<p>Right now there isn t much I value about the Catholic church. Much has happened in our lives that I have a hard time grasping.</p>
<p>The resources available the parish staff and fellow members. The spiritual life.</p>
<p>The parish has not really contributed to my spiritual life. I give my parents credit for my beliefs and my faith and molding me to be the christian that I am today. It is not so much what is taught as it is what is practiced. (And we all know that the church did not teach us much with trying to cover up all the scandalous behavior) My parents were perfect role models and they taught me to be a kind hearted person and to help others before myself and to give whenever I can. And most importantly they taught me not to lie and to face the music if I did something wrong. How much better the catholic church would be today if the priests who were committing the wrong doings would have admitted to them and left the church rather than going from parish to parish only to sin again...or if the Bishop would have faced the fact of wrong doing and expelled them from the priesthood rather than moving them around and allowing all this to mushroom out of control. I have been attending many other parishes lately like St. Joe s St. Mary s St. Thomas Moore St. Bernadette and St. Pius. I have to say that Fr. Larry at St. Joe s has the best homily s...he relates the gospel to everyday life. He also ends every mass with a joke and people leave the church smiling every Sunday. You d be surprised how even that little bit makes such a huge difference. It s not name tags etc. that brings people Parishioners and staff really care about each other and helping each other to grow.</p>
<p>Dedicated staff who facilitate programs and members participation in the wide variety of groups offered. Offering of traditional church practices - adoration rosary groups prayer intentions the praying with/over members seeking healing.</p>
<p>Well Organized</p>
<p>It took me a while to get to know Fr. Dennis (after Fr. John) but I have come to love him and honor him as our Parish Priest and really value his ministry!</p>
<p>Father Dennis and the choir. Both really accentuate and maximize the learning and growth of our faith.</p>
<p>Father Janssen was an exceptionally good pastor that established within our parish a very personal persona in how we parishoners interact and worship before during and after Mass. Father Ryan and Father Werner Deacon Reed and Deacon Vincent are all obviously dedicated to providing our parishonership with the best-possible information teaching and spiritual guidance in speech and in action. Father Ryan is to be greatly commended in how well he has led our parish during the difficult national economic situation this past year and the resulting impact on our parish (like every other aspect of our U.S. society haws been impacted). I have always felt that our parishonership at St. Bernard s is genuine is committed to papal and the magesterium s teachings and has been able to help MANY needy people in Jesus name throughout all of our parish s years. I appreciate the effort Father Simonini has made to update our music during Mass and I especially am glad that he smartly continues also to select well-known hymns. It also is inspiring to participate with the large number of very talented parishoners we have regarding playing music and singing.</p>
<p>The priests the beautiful facilities and the music provided by the various choirs singers and musicians.</p>
<p>Father John now father Dennis</p>
<p>The deacons have been great.</p>
<p>Our wonderful priests and deacons. They are truly our guides to eternal life.</p>
<p>I value the friendships I have made in groups over the years. I am not sure the spiritual resources consitently meet my personal needs but occasionally the homily is meaningful and I am inspired by the efforts of the staff to respond to parishioner as well as community needs.</p>
<p>I value the homilies taking the message and applying them to everyday life. Many people even from other parishes miss the Good Friday Tenebrae. cutting out long standing traditions make people look to other parishes. I was told that the reason for discontinuing this service was that the pastor didn t have time to devote to it. For over all the years we attended the Pastor had no active roll in the service - so I don t understand</p>
<p>See answer two for set up to this answer. The comfort level with the people was so much better that the journey in faith was much more enriched. The people were much more genuine. I feel like everyone (many staff-sorry) have personal agendas and don t really see hear care what the peoplelong standing active whether verbal or prayerful or does feel or think. It s as if someone read a pencil pushers report and said ok now this is what we re supposed to do because it look good on paper.</p>
<p>1. Prayerful 2. Home parish 3. Father Dennis and Justin are very helpful 4. Enjoyable</p>
<p>It s members who support each other our pastor and staff who are there for us when we need them.</p>
<p>The people I have come to know at the parish (staff and members) are genuinely concerned for me and my family. I think that sense of community has had the most impact on my spiritual life.</p>
<p>The liturgies and the worship are meaningful and historically the music has been great though lately there seems to be some slippage in that area. Fr. Dennis sermons have improved tremendously and I can see that he is putting in a lot of effort to make that happen.</p>
<p>That the Masses delivered every Sunday explain our faith and beliefs. And Father s remarks during it enhance the Spiritual expereince !!! :-)</p>

My involvement with small groups. I feel St. Bernards is losing its viberant feel compared to other Appleton parishes.

The sermons are so good and the pastor does not always preach about money. but Im sure father should & would like too. The two deacons are friendly and there sermons are also very interesting.

Father Dennis spent many hours with me preparing me for confirmation and becoming a Catholic. My life has changed- I have finally found what I ve been searching for all my life!

See #9 below!