

How can we get more people to visit our unique church?

Would it be possible to keep the church open during the day (in addition to the narthex)?

Occasional tours of the church. Join Bristol 'Open doors' day where members of the public can visit buildings.

Perhaps open up the hall to other organisations ie. toddler groups, WI or perhaps remove some of the pews in the church to open up space

More socials

More social events to be able to invite friends to

To have a stronger link with both the primary and secondary schools and vice versa

Telling them that the door is open to everyone of every faith and welcome them to our church

Offer our church as an ecumenical meeting point, hold a service

Instagram or Twitter page

Administration needs reviewing and also laity and finance

Make people aware by advertising 50 years and a heritage church

Welcomers should overact their job. Be friendly, smile, chat etc

St Bernadette's Facebook page

Let the hall out

Put posters up

More welcoming to multi-nationals

Ask people to spread about the church

Open up the church for other recreational users

More events to attract different age groups

Describe what St
Bernadette's means to
you...

Being involved,
enjoying helping the
children develop
their faith

A very
welcoming place
with a lot of
freedom

A home that I can
spend time with God
and be with people of
the parish

St Bernadette's is a very
quiet, serene place. The
priest is very
understanding and I look
forward to coming to

Very holy

Love, family, hope,
coming together,
friendship

A place where I can
be myself and pray
with like-minded
people

Plays a big part in
our lives. It's very
important to us

Our family church
where I meet the
grandchildren

St Bernadette's is my
parish. After home, it's
the place where I am
most at home'

Very Holy

Second
home

I think that it is
holy

We are God's chosen
people not God's
frozen people. Smile

It's a community that
stands the test of
time and has a rich
faith at its core

St Bernadette's has
become part of the
fabric of our lives. All of
the important events of
our lives have been
celebrated here.

A place with
lots of smiles

St Bernadette's is
the corner stone for
the community

It is my spiritual
home

A place to learn about
God and life. How to
overcome problems and
share memorable
moments with the
people we love

Holds lots of
memories. A place I
can rely on to feel
safe and reflect

A community.
Feeling welcome
and belonging

Where I go to find
some peace, calm
and see some
friendly faces

What are your
earliest or most
memorable
moments here?

Dads v Altar
Servers football
matches

Father Cronin ringing on
Friday evenings to ask if he
could borrow my husband.
He was building the hall
extension which he wanted
as a bar so rugby players
could use it at weekends!

How pleased we were to
have a church belong to a
community.

Italian classes when I first
arrived! I very quickly came to
know an awful lot of people
and I've come to know more
and more ever since.

Watching the foundation
stone being laid with my
baby daughter

My children's baptism
and Holy communion
in this church.

First Holy
Communion with
Canon Harding

My First Holy
Communion with
Canon Harding.

Making my First
Holy Communion
and Confirmation
here.

We came to St B's with
the ordinariate along
with other bishops,
priests and laity in 2011.

Being asked to
serve in year 2.

When we were received
into the Roman Catholic
faith and bereavement
of one of the ordinariate
members.

My memorable moments
were getting married in
1972. Fr Cronin was the
parish priest. My children's
Holy Communion,
Confirmation and Baptism.

Getting married here, having
the children baptised and
now my children have been
married here and the
grandchildren baptised.

After making my First Holy
Communion at Sacred Heart
(Chew Magna) 37 years ago,
we came to St B's to celebrate
with the children who had
made their First Holy
Communion the same day.

My earliest memory (1968)
was when St Bernadette's
Church opened and I didn't
have far to walk from
Hengrove home.

My daughter
being baptised.

When we first came here the rain was
torrential and like rivers in the gutters
coming off the roof. We'd recently been
to St Peter's in Rome, again torrential
rain, and the gutters at St B's reminded
us of them, with the water gushing down.

Bringing my children to
mass, their first
communion, my
daughter's wedding.

Seeing the Church being
built. Watching with great
excitement, such a
wonderful parish we have.

If you could, what would
you change about
St Bernadette's?

It would be good to establish
a craft group. Oldies to show
young to knit, sew, crochet
etc. Could make items to be
sold for church funds.

Children's masses to
include hymns learnt
and sung at school
masses. Musical
instruments.

Establish a choir to sing at mass
– even just once a month, to
encourage everyone to sing
loudly (could be from St B's
school)

More music
opportunities
during mass

The Penitential
kneelers

More activities
for younger
people

Redecorate the hall –
new flooring and lighting
to make it more
attractive to hire out.

The loop system
(when I tried it Fr
Matt sounded as if
he had a bucket
over his head.

Open up the repository so
that all our cards etc, can
be seen more clearly and
perhaps we can sell more.

More music
opportunities
during mass

Improve the
heating please

Windows without gaps in.
The kneelers in the
confessionals are the
wrong height for the grill,
which is too low.

Restart Youth
Group ASAP

Instead of the strip lights in the
hall (especially on social events)
have some up lighter lamps
around for softer, more
welcoming atmosphere.

Put Frank Roper's crucifix
back in the church over
the altar. Focal point of
the church.