**St. Bernard’s Families in Faith**

*Parents Planning Meeting, April 5, 2017*

* What are member’s needs/interests?
  + “Support my faith as a mom”
    - Be with others who appreciate our struggles, camaraderie, speakers
  + Teach children how to pray
  + Adult faith formation, even faith formation for parents with goal of teaching children in the faith, with childcare available (example: St. Mary’s in Elm Grove)
  + Want to get to know other parishioners
* Communication
  + Update the blurb in church bulletin monthly (Maggie Mueller)
    - Include 1 practical idea for families to practice their faith at home
    - Update for newly scheduled group events
  + Not all present were receiving all posts on FB
    - Provide instructions and reminder to mark Families in Faith as first in your newsfeed; post these instructions in FB and church bulletin
  + Most didn’t realize that members were expected to contribute to FB page
    - It is nice just to sit back and receive information (mom with baby)
    - More contributors provide more variety in perspectives and interests
    - Refine group description to emphasize this
* Ideas for increasing membership
  + Create postcard advertising the group and have available at mass, in cryroom, in children’s busy bags
  + Encourage existing members to invite their FB friends who are St. Bernards parishioners to join the group
* Help Needed
  + Are you willing to post 2x/month on FB for relevant topics with regards to raising your children Catholic? Topics include: Prayer/mass with kids, Service with kids, faith formation for parents/kids. Could be original content or links/articles. Keep it authentic – if it is of interest to you it will likely be of interest to some others.
  + Do you enjoy writing?
    - Are you willing to help draft or edit a description of the group (why it is important, what the group offers, how to participate, etc)?
    - Are you willing to help design a postcard with group overview for potential new members?
  + Do you want to plan and host an event?
* Next Steps
  + Solicit interest and availability in a parent learning session – Topic idea: how to teach your children to pray & how to pray with your children. Schedule a social event to follow immediately after the learning session.
  + Create and print postcards for group
  + Continue on existing path – give the group time to develop
  + Facebook posts (1) to encourage members to invite their parishioner FB friends and (2) updating newsfeed to prioritize this group