



Our Parish Family Update – July 2025

In July 2024, the Archdiocese of Seattle formed 60 parish families from 136 parishes. This was a milestone in the Partners in the Gospel strategic pastoral planning process focused on reenvisioning parish life. As a parish family, we have begun asking ourselves: How can we look at the resources we have – people, properties, finances – and use them to support the mission of Jesus Christ: to go make disciples? How can we ensure this mission remains at the heart of the Catholic Church in Western Washington? Partners in the Gospel is an opportunity to renew our commitment to this mission, while re-envisioning parish life in a new structure.

We have been working together since April of last year to get to know each other and move towards having one heartbeat for Christ. Much of the work has been done by our priests as they learned about the charisms alive at each parish and got to know the people attending each church. Fr. Brad was intentional in not changing how the two churches are celebrating liturgies or their community events.

Meet and Greet



Parish Family High School Retreat



Parish Family Confirmation Mass



Pastor Installation Mass at Bastyr



Welcoming

It's been a year since our parish family formed, and we have made great progress in this first phase of our journey focused on welcoming and getting to know each other.



Consultative Groups

To help guide our parish family on this journey to becoming one parish, we will be following the One Parish Planning process. As part of this, we have two new consultative bodies - the Parish Family Leadership Team (comprised of staff) and the Parish Family Advisory Council (comprised of parishioners).

The Parish Leadership Team (PLT) includes - Fr. Brad, Fr. Val, Dave Laidler - our Pastoral Associate, both PAA's - Ann Vandewark and Karen Reinke, and the School Principal, Susan Webster. They started meeting as a group in November 2024 and have been working to establish a faith-filled and trusting relationship between all members as well as spending time in discernment.

The Parish Family Advisory Council includes:

From Holy Family

Michele Ahearn
Holly Chan
William Devereux
Toni Poppe
Veronica Bernabe
David Guerrero Del Rio

From St. John Vianney

Mary Torbenson
Dave Almond
Joan Sullivan
Colin Radford
Manny Baluyot

Both parishes Finance Councils will continue to meet as separate bodies, but at the same time in the same room until July 2027 when we become one parish fiscally as well as spiritually.

Year One of Partners in the Gospel for the Parishes of Kirkland

April 2024	Announcement of Fr. Brad as Pastor and Fr. Val as Parochial Vicar
May/June 2024	Said goodbye to our previous pastors, Fr. Bryan and Fr. Vu Joint staff "get together" with our new priests
July 2024	Meeting our new Fathers at Welcome receptions Name tags! Bread of Life Discourse
August 2024	We were challenged to be "open and flexible" and if we are moved by the spirit, we will "be surprised by the outcome." OCIA and some Youth activities were combined within the Parish Family.
September 2024	Parish Family Mass held at Bastyr with installation of Fr. Brad as Pastor Celebration of Cultures picnic for Parish Family at SJV Parish Family Styrofoam Recycling event at both campuses Friday Night "Meet and Greets" started with parishioners signing up to meet "2 on 12" with the priests.
October 2024	Hired Dave Laidler as Pastoral Associate for the Parish Family The "Last Four Things" letter from Fr. Brad
November 2024	Joint Fall MS and HS Retreats Joint Confirmation Prep Joint Parish Family Service Project - Thanksgiving Dinner
December 2024	Adjusted Immaculate Conception and Christmas Masses between churches to provide more Mass times
January 2025	Discipleship series homily started at both churches
February 2025	Hosted Catholic Schools Week at both churches
March 2025	Rescue Project for the Parish Family Started strong on our Parish Family Service Hours for the Archdiocese of Seattle's "Season of Service"
April 2025	Parish Family Styrofoam Recycling event at both campuses The Parish Family initiated 24 new Catholics at Easter Vigil services EXCEL retreat for our Parish Family Second combined MS retreat Youth Alaska Retreat announced for the Parish Family
May 2025	Parish Family Advisory Council formed Finance Councils for both churches began meeting together Began the 33 Day Consecration to Jesus through Mary

	71 youth and adults confirmed at our Parish Family Confirmation Mass
June 2025	Parish Family consecrated to Jesus through Mary Parish Family Vacation Bible Camp held at SJV
Starting July 2025	New logo for Parish Family Parish Family Newsletter launched on July 10 th
November 19-21, 2025	Parish Family Mission by Barbara Heil - "Fully Alive in Christ"