



December 19, 2024

Dear Fathers, Deacons and Parish Leaders,

I hope and pray these days of Advent have been a blessing for you amidst all of the work and ministry. I know that during these days it can be a challenge to find time for your own prayer and reflection time, as well as good self-care. Please know you are in my prayers as you journey through this season and toward celebrating the first Christmas in your new parish family.

Supporting Each Other

A number of priests have recently shared with us how you are supporting each other. We've heard of priests hosting a weekly dinner for brother priests, small groups of priests who regularly meet for peer support, priests making a point to call priests in the deanery just to check in. These are all wonderful ways to support each other, and I hope you can continue to make the time and effort for this important mutual care.

One Parish Planning

Parish families were formed six months ago, and these months have been focused on getting to know each other. We are now in a moment of starting to form some of the new consultative bodies that will help guide the development of the One Parish Plan through the planning process:



With this letter we are launching the first set of planning guidance and tools for this process! These tools were highlighted in the recent One Parish Planning Process webinar, which you can [access here](#). Many thanks to the volunteers and consultative groups who developed these tools to help you on this journey. All the One Parish Planning materials are located on the [One Parish Plan web page](#).

Key documents to get you started:

- [One Parish Planning Introduction](#)
- [Core Concepts](#)
- [Phase 1: Who Are We?](#)
- [Web page for "Who Are We?"](#)

Here are links to other recent tools that were developed and may be helpful for you:

- [One Parish Planning Overview](#)
- [Overview of Consultative Bodies](#)
- [Parish Family Advisory Council Overview](#) - This document can be shared with lay people who are considering your request to be part of this council.

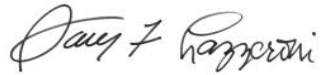
Upcoming Training

This next year we will be offering a series of trainings targeted at different audiences to help support this journey. Here is a sneak peek at the next few months:

- **January: Mission and Outreach in a Parish Family**
Webinar for Pastors, key staff/volunteers
 - January 22 from 3-5pm or February 5 from 10-Noon
 - Register: <https://archseattle.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/3466/responses/new>
- **February: Consultative/Discernment-based decision making (part 1)**
Webinar for Pastors, key staff/volunteers
 - February 13 from 3-4:30 pm or February 19 from 10-11:30am
- **March: Consultative/Discernment-based decision making (part 2)**
Webinar for Pastors, key staff/volunteers
 - March 26 from 10-11:30 am or March 28 from 2-3:30pm
- **April: Mandatory Pastor Retreat at the Archbishop Brunett Retreat Center**
 - Retreat begins April 9 at 10:30 am and ends on Thursday, April 10 after lunch.
- **April: One Parish Planning and Discernment-based Decision Making**
Webinar for Consultative Leaders
 - April 14 from 6-7:30pm

Please reach out to me or the team at partners@seattlearch.org with any questions or concerns. Again, thank you for your partnership in this renewal effort. May these coming days of Christmas draw you, your parish family, and all of us deeper into the love of God that comes to us in the Word-Made-Flesh. And may the Holy Spirit continue to guide and inspire us to seek the renewal this effort offers us.

Sincerely in the Lord,



Fr. Gary Lazzeroni

For all Partners in the Gospel parish materials

<https://archseattle.org/for-parishes/forparishespartners/>

Monthly Intercessions

January

For our parish family, that through the intercession of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, we may be instruments of joy, courage, and peace.