



January 29, 2025

Dear Fathers, Deacons and Parish Leaders,

I pray the new year brings you blessings - and some well-deserved rest after the Christmas season. I know these first seven months of Partners in the Gospel have been very demanding. Please know you are in my prayers.

Consultation and Discernment

From the very beginning of Partners in the Gospel, consultation and discernment have been at the heart of our work. From the formation of parish families, through the appointment of pastoral leaders, and continuing into the One Parish Planning process, we have sought to listen well to each other and, together, listen to where the Holy Spirit is calling us. This listening together will be crucial in the months and years ahead. If done well, this communal discernment and consultation will engage all of us, leaders and all the baptized, in allowing the Holy Spirit to guide us and show us the way.

One Parish Planning

We recently launched guidance around the beginning sections of the One Parish Planning process, which you can find on the [One Parish Plan web page](#). These documents will help guide the process and provide suggestions for how to approach key tasks like forming the new Parish Family Leadership Team (PFLT) and the Parish Family Advisory Council (PFAC). The parish liaisons are here to support you during One Parish Planning, so please reach out to them - or to your co-workers in the vineyard working at the Chancery for support.

Five Stages of One Parish Planning



Here is a reminder of the key documents to get you started:

- [One Parish Planning Introduction](#)
- [Core Concepts](#)
- [Phase 1: Who Are We?](#)
- [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 Support Materials

- **Intercessions:** Here is a new set of Prayers of the Faithful, in [English](#) and [Spanish](#) to use each month. I encourage you all to add these to your liturgies so that all Catholics in the archdiocese are united in prayer.
- **Metrics:** The Partners in the Gospel team developed a new tool to display information about parish families sourced from the Parish Annual Report, annual financial reports, and other sources into a single data set. This single view will help teams become familiar with their Baseline Viability Metrics as described in the One Parish Planning overview documents. Please be on the lookout for this tool in the coming weeks.
- **Workplan:** Additionally, the team is developing a streamlined project management workplan that will help the pastor, PFLT and the PFAC track activities in each phase of One Parish Planning. This tool will be shared with every parish family to help them determine expected timelines and work responsibilities for One Parish Planning.

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:

- **Mission and Outreach in a Parish Family**
Webinar for Pastors, key staff/volunteers
 - February 5 from 10am to 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
 - Register: <https://archseattle.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/4229/responses/new>

- **March: Consultative/Discernment-based decision making (part 2)**
Webinar for Pastors, key staff/volunteers
 - March 26 from 10-11:30am or March 28 from 2-3:30pm
- **April: Pastor Retreat at the Archbishop Brunett Retreat Center**
 - This retreat requires the presence of all pastors and pastoral coordinators, and begins April 9 at 11:30am 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 our team at partners@seattlearch.org with any questions or concerns. Again, thank you for your partnership in this renewal effort. 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

February

For the local Church of Western Washington, that we may open our hearts to the Holy Spirit as we journey together in proclaiming the Gospel.