

MARY
QUEEN
OF
PEACE
CATHOLIC CHURCH



2025 - 26 ANNUAL REPORT



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2 FROM THE PASTOR



FR. MATTHEW OAKLAND

Pastor of Mary, Queen of Peace,
Our Lady of Sorrows and St. Joseph

In the Christian life, time is a beautiful gift and opportunity to know God's presence in our midst, to share in his life and mission, and make our way to eternal life with him. Time is filled with all sorts of blessings, gifts and graces. And it's not without its sorrows as well – though these can unite us more closely together, and to the Lord.

As those who have heard my homilies about saints know – I have lots of favorite saints. One of the school students the other day asked me which was my favorite church. The good news is there is much to be grateful for in the lives of our three communities – many favorite things, some in common, some unique. Thank you for the ways that you have brought life to our communities, shared the joy of the Gospel, been a witness to Jesus Christ, revealed his love, drawn people together, passed on the gift of faith, prayed and worshipped, as we cherish the time given to us and strive to use it well. These are some of the stories we wish to share with you.

Time has its challenges as well with transitions, as with the last two years, but if we remain together with the Lord, great things await. May we remain always together with the Lord.

In Christ,

Fr. Matthew Oakland



CONFIRMATION

"Before starting Confirmation, I never really thought too much about my faith. I attended Mass every weekend with my family without an understanding of what any of it truly meant. After attending a few of the first Confirmation classes and learning about what it means to be a Catholic, I really started paying closer attention and now have a better knowledge and appreciation for the Bible. I'm so grateful for what an amazing experience going through the sacrament of Confirmation was and what a deeper relationship I have with Jesus."

~Zoe Armstrong



4 SACRAMENTS

FIRST RECONCILIATION AND FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

"We entered the Faith Formation program two years ago as lukewarm Catholics who did the bare minimum and fulfilled our obligations. We completed the program with nothing but gratitude in our hearts. Miss Adriana has been a phenomenal catechist that brought our family closer to Christ. She structured the program to explain the different facets of our faith and how each of them is important. The program helped us understand how the Sacraments were instituted by Jesus himself. We learned how the Sacrament of the Eucharist was established at the Last Supper and how the Catholic Church differs from other denominations in its belief that Christ is truly present in the Eucharist".

~Eldon Cornelio



ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (OCIA) BECOME CATHOLIC



"I was lucky enough to participate in the OCIA process with my husband who was seeking baptism to become a full Catholic, while I was coming in to finish up by getting my Confirmation. We truly looked forward to each class. Each and every OCIA team member was incredibly welcoming and kind. Each class taught me so much more about the Catholic faith and how to integrate that faith in my everyday life.

Now, I get to enjoy Sunday Mass with my husband and a newfound love of Jesus and this community.

Thanks OCIA!" ~Jessica Aguero



"My experience in OCIA last year was a meaningful journey of faith, learning, personal growth, and community. Through weekly educational sessions discussing the Journey of Faith curriculum, I gained a deeper understanding of the Catholic Church, traditions, sacraments, and Scripture. OCIA allowed me to reflect on my own relationship with God continue growing my relationship with Him for the rest of my life. OCIA was a safe space to learn, ask questions, build community, and strengthen my faith. Getting confirmed and experiencing OCIA was an incredible experience that I am very grateful for." ~Lily Vu

FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

This past year, our Faith Formation program welcomed 29 families and continued to provide the children and their parents with a dynamic and engaging curriculum. The goal of the program is to help children learn the foundations of Catholic teaching, understand and appreciate our faith, traditions, and beliefs, and, most importantly, lead them to a closer and more personal encounter with Christ. Each month, we explored a topic connected to the liturgical calendar, learning about the lives of the saints, Church feasts, and devotions. We also meditated on the Sunday Scriptures, helping the children prepare their hearts and minds for Sunday Mass. The children also visited Jesus regularly in the Blessed Sacrament, fostering a deeper love for and relationship with Him. Our sessions brought faith to life through a variety of joyful and hands-on activities, including skits, games, crafts, and prayer.



CGS

During the last year, our Level 1 Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program for children ages 3 to 6 offered a Montessori-based faith formation experience for seven children. Guided by a rotation of six trained catechists, the program created a peaceful, hands-on environment called the Atrium where the children encountered Scripture, liturgy, and the love of the Good Shepherd. Catechists dedicated time to preparing materials, leading twenty-five sessions throughout the year, and nurturing each child's spiritual growth through individual presentations, practical life work, individual and group prayer. It was a joy to see the children develop over the year!



YOUTH GROUP



Photo from Steubenville - July 26, 2025

6 PARISH LIFE



JOYFUL DISCOVERY PRESCHOOL 7



Joyful Discovery Preschool has grown in faith, fun and learning as we welcomed nearly 50 families to the preschool for our 12th year. We have continued to be blessed with kind hearted families, students and teachers who make the JDP community an amazing place to be. JDP is truly the best hidden gem in Sammamish.

We are beyond blessed to be the foundation of children's education, creating a safe loving environment as they grow socially, emotionally and academically. Our teachers' expertise and wisdom is above and beyond for teaching preschool. Beyond their extensive credentials, we have a passionate team who love each of our JDP students as their own as they explore and discover new things together.

Our enrollment each year continues to grow and we welcomed nearly 50 families to JDP for the 2025-2026 school year! We added a three year old T/Th Class which had a waitlist by September. With classrooms and waitlists continuing to grow, this shows everyone a true reflection of the trust families place in us.



JDP prides itself in creating a strong community, it takes a village to raise children. The year was filled with events bringing together current students and our alumni for Brownies & Bingo, The Christmas Story, Dad's Pumpkin Carving, Muffins for Moms, Summerfest, among others. We are so lucky to have a school built on community grounded through faith and driven by love & learning. We also partner with Eastside Catholic High School's community service class and welcome two volunteers every semester to help in the classroom three days a week. Being a community reaches beyond our JDP doors and extends throughout the Sammamish and many surrounding cities.

Visit www.joyfuldiscoverypreschool.org

8 OUTREACH MINISTRIES

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

MAKING A DIFFERENCE - ONE LIFE AT A TIME



Over the past four years, Knights of Columbus Council 9833 has donated approximately \$7,400 through our Tootsie Roll Campaign to the Down Syndrome Community of Puget Sound (DSC).

Brianna Papish, DSC's Communications and Development Director, expressed the organization's deep appreciation for its continued partnership with

Council 9833, noting that our generosity "directly fuels our programs, services, and community events that empower individuals with Down syndrome and their families throughout every stage of life."

For Jake's parents, DSC has provided something equally meaningful: a community of families who understand their journey, offering connection, encouragement, and support. As they shared, "It has given both Jake and our family a strong sense of belonging and a community we know we can turn to."

As Mark Flynn, Council 9833 Knight and Tootsie Roll Program Lead, reflected while standing outside QFC with a collection bucket in hand: "God doesn't need grand gestures, just willing hands." Those willing hands have helped turn small acts of generosity into opportunities, friendships, and a community where families like Jake's know they are not alone. This is Faith in Action!

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Over the past year, guided by the Gospel and inspired by the example of St. Vincent de Paul, we had the privilege of serving our neighbors in Sammamish and Issaquah with compassion, dignity, and hope. Our volunteers completed more than 662 home and phone visits, providing assistance to 255 households and 767 individuals. Thanks to the generosity of our parish community, 99% of donations went directly to helping people in need.

Our Vincentian mission continued to foster spiritual growth and fellowship through service to our neighbors in need of assistance. SVdP provides various types of assistance to our neighbor, as we walk alongside our neighbors during difficult times. This past year, St. Vincent de Paul provided a total of \$132,196 in assistance. The three largest areas of support were rent (\$81,212), utilities (\$17,228), and food and household needs (\$16,913). Thank you for your prayers, generosity, and continued support of this important ministry. Your partnership makes it possible for us to be there for our neighbors when they need help most.

HUMAN CONCERNS

THANK YOU FROM PREPARES

"Dear Parishioners of MQP, I am writing to say how grateful we are for your beautiful gifts to our PREPARES ministry at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton. It is so nice of you to donate the lovely clothes, diapers and money.

We needed them very much as our program has grown! Soon, two mothers will receive new bathtubs full of your clothing. We will purchase car seats for them with your kind donations of money. The mothers are always so grateful to receive diapers, too.

God Bless You All,
Mary Dietsch"
PREPARES group
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton parish



Pat Johnson
Cindy Stevens
Human Concerns
PREPARES Baby Shower
June 2025

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP 9

It is only because of the generosity of our parishioners in sharing their time, talents and treasure that the work and ministry of Jesus Christ continues locally. What follows is a summary of our stewardship of your gifts.

Collections are always the primary means of income for a parish community. While collections started the year about 10% down, we finished the year down 4% from the prior year (-\$59,108). Half of this was from the ongoing decline in employer matching giving as more companies stop matching to churches.

Donations to the Annual Catholic Appeal surpassed those of the prior year, and our rebate over our archdiocesan goal of \$90,296 in addition to realizing \$100,000 in Building Fund donations helped fund some major capital projects – a new central boiler, a new low roof, new hot water pumps for the north/south boiler, and resealing the parking lot. Utility costs also rose now that our central boiler is operating again, and all the adjacent air movement systems. Our building continues to require repairs large and small as it ages.

Staff salaries and benefits were down as we had several staffing transitions and gaps in replacement, and work toward some shared leadership staff for the Parish Family in the next year. The staff are essential coworkers in the parish. These savings are the primary reason the parish finished operationally so significantly in the black.

This year we gave a total of \$72,000 to help those in need through St. Vincent de Paul, local shelters and resources for those in need, the TriParish Food Bank serving migrant farm workers in Skagit County, as well as a preschool in Ghana. This also included supporting the work of evangelization at our Catholic Newman centers in the state.

As we look ahead to FY26-27, we are helped by midyear hiring in our budget, which will make FY27-28 more difficult. We also have a number of capital projects in the works to ensure the health and longevity of our building in serving our community and mission. Thank you for your gifts, past, present, and future, to aid in all of our work.

For full financials visit mqp.org/partners, and/or with any questions, please email, please email Jeehae Lee at bookkeeper@mqp.org.

Abbreviated Balance Sheet				
	6/30/2023	6/30/2024	6/30/2025	6/30/2026
ASSETS				
Cash and Savings	1,360,180	1,043,128	1,134,995	1,146,241
Prepaid Expenses and Receivables	564	65	15,578	10,819
Fixed Assets (buildings and land)	11,442,477	11,748,559	12,079,852	12,417,846
TOTAL ASSETS	12,803,221	12,791,752	13,230,425	13,574,906
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY				
Custodial Funds and Credit Card	85,791	45,318	47,218	52,963
Restricted and Designated Funds	367,515	388,527	451,443	460,978
JDP Unrealized Tuition	4,600	43,615	49,966	57,993
Total Liabilities	457,906	477,460	548,627	571,934
EQUITY	12,345,315	12,314,292	12,681,798	13,002,972
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	12,803,221	12,791,752	13,230,425	13,574,906

6/30/26 Largest Designated/Restricted Funds:

Building (R): \$205,573

Evangelization (D): \$103,899

10 FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

Abbreviated Income Statement					
	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26 Budget	2025-26	2026-27 Budget
<i>Parenthesis represent largest current components</i>					
REVENUE					
Sunday, Feast Day and Online Collections	1,487,900	1,472,736	1,452,000	1,413,628	1,360,000
Annual Catholic Appeal Rebate	92,213	67,926	70,000	90,296	90,000
Called to Serve as Christ Rebate	5,147	2,542		210	
CCS Rebate for Local Outreach		11,051	6,054	14,789	12,000
Restricted Gifts (<i>building, evangelization, outreach</i>)	60,236	266,554	209,000	121,129	208,000
Joyful Discovery PreSchool Tuititon	174,592	194,223	187,839	223,008	230,000
Bequests	37,500			17,568	
Fees (<i>faith formation and sacramental prep</i>)	39,336	24,411	10,900	7,677	6,000
Family 28 Shared Income/Reimbursements		72,677	2,000	988	300
Facility Rental Income	27,000	48,370	70,000	36,267	32,000
Other Income (<i>auction, interest, stole fees</i>)	79,115	66,697	56,850	67,185	67,750
TOTAL OPERATIONS AND CAPITAL REVENUE	2,003,039	2,227,187	2,064,643	1,992,745	2,006,050
EXPENSES					
Salaries and Benefits	960,855	724,416	644,415	516,985	476,420
Supplies	67,220	54,475	55,475	67,154	60,750
Program Expenses	54,305	24,362	26,400	28,292	21,850
Parish School Subsidies	57,900	60,083	45,500	42,000	20,000
Facilities, Operations and Utilities	240,085	147,058	161,900	212,681	202,000
Contracted Services (<i>insurance, vendors</i>)	122,595	121,702	181,300	185,769	191,743
Family 28 Shared Expenses (<i>priests, rectory, etc</i>)	10,833	201,383	167,000	153,206	251,669
Business (<i>property tax, stormwater, credit card fees</i>)	101,767	170,063	119,705	98,763	99,000
Donations to Others (<i>starting FY24-25, some on BS</i>)	79,332	39,818	40,000	32,027	30,000
Assessments (<i>Archdiocese, Deanery</i>)	145,682	115,173	119,171	110,612	111,903
JDP Salaries and Benefits	160,058	173,069	194,437	188,906	196,500
JDP Operational Expenses	14,303	32,076	28,884	36,823	35,650
TOTAL OPERATIONS EXPENSES	2,014,935	1,863,678	1,784,187	1,673,219	1,697,485
NET INCOME/(LOSS)	(11,896)	363,509	280,456	319,526	308,565
Capital Income incl. in above Income Statement	101,325	331,293	270,000	190,506	295,000
Capital Expenses from Balance Sheet					
Baptismal Font Repairs	52,489				
Skylight Replacement	240,041				
Low Roof Replacement	16,134	193,627	150,000	146,202	TBD
New Central Boiler and Temporary Heat		140,019	60,000	59,887	
Hot Water Pumps Replacement for N/S Boiler				56,970	
Parking Lot Reseal			75,000	74,936	
Copy Machine					14,983
Interior Glass Doors/Walls					20,000
N/W Boiler Hydronic Line Repairs					99,375
JDP Classroom Flooring					32,190
JDP Hallway and Stairwell Flooring					TBD
Exterior Resealing and Tuckpointing					TBD
Church Lighting Retrofit					TBD
	308,664	333,647	285,000	337,994	
NET OPERATIONS AND CAPITAL REVENUE/(LOSS)	(320,560)	29,862	(4,544)	(18,468)	

ONE PARISH FAMILY, ONE MISSION

On July 1, 2024, the three local parishes – Mary, Queen of Peace in Sammamish, St. Joseph in Issaquah, and Our Lady of Sorrows in Snoqualmie, were merged into a single Parish Family. This shift is a part of an archdiocesan wide effort to orient our parishes more fully to carrying out the mission entrusted to us by Jesus Christ, and making sure each parish has the resources necessary to do so. While the parishes are currently still separate entities, we have embarked on a three-year journey of discernment which will culminate in becoming one single parish community.



Every parish should have the full spectrum of ministries, with ample staff and volunteers to support the work of God, whether in the Mass, in faith formation or sacramental preparation, fostering our community life, or serving those in need. While there are many things that each of our parishes are doing well, there are also things we could be doing better, and some which just aren't happening, as at times our limitations shape and define our mission.

There are a number of challenges that we face, including the number of priests, as well as priests capable of being pastors and leading communities. Going from three priests to just two has been difficult – on the people, as well as the priests. It's important to have enough people in general to field the necessary volunteers to support the various ministries, so things don't rely on just a few. A sufficient income is necessary to support growing ministry, healthy staffing, as well as building maintenance and facility needs. We want to be sure that we can be prudent stewards of our resources, and they are serving our mission.

"Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age." (Matthew 28:19-20)

Jesus' final words to his disciples was to send them on mission, to share the Good News, to help others come to know him, and the gift of salvation. There are about 170,000 people who live within our Parish Family boundaries, and about 1.2% go to Sunday Mass. We have some work to do!

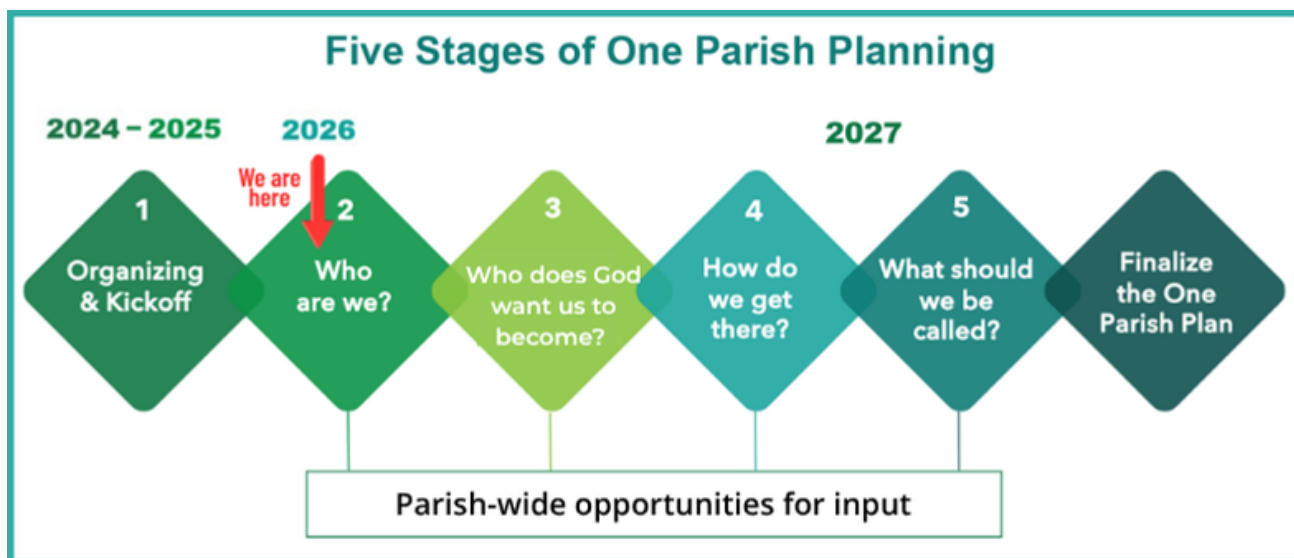


12 PARISH FAMILY

	Mary Queen of Peace		Our Lady of Sorrows		St. Joseph	
	2024-25	2025-26	2024-25	2025-26	2024-25	2025-26
Sacraments						
Infant Baptism	22	12	6	6	13	15
1st Communion	42	43	19	21	39	24
Confirmations	39	63	11	2	20	4
OCIA (Becoming Catholic) Marriages	8	22	2	2	13	18
Funerals	5	4	1	2	1	6
	10	14	9	6	18	9
People						
Total Weekly Masses	8	8	3	3	6	6
Sunday Mass Count - Fall	1,024	1,046	278	284	692	676
Sunday Mass Count - Spring	1,142	1,130	279	285	722	700
Money						
Parish Ordinary Inc	1,474,036	1,413,628	345,713	345,934	1,047,650	1,027,552

**In 2025-26 the youth and adult Confirmation programs were combined and all celebrated at MQP*

The three parish staffs continue to connect for calendaring meetings and department collaborations (we shifted to a single bulletin this year in Advent, and faith formation and sacramental preparation continue to support one another, and sometimes share ministry). This year saw the first all Pastoral and Finance Councils meeting as Fr. Oakland shared with them some of the demographics and numbers that would later be shared with the wider community, but also have an opportunity for them just to start engaging with one another. The Knights of Columbus and St. Vincent de Paul are also having some shared gatherings. Several of our celebrations became Family oriented for Our Lady of Guadalupe at St. Joseph and Simbang Gabi at Mary, Queen of Peace.



Fr. Oakland launched the Parish Family Advisory Council (PFAC) in January, which will play an important role in helping him engage with the community and discern where God is calling us together. We began Phase 2 of this process, which asks “Who are we?” The future flows from today. So we carried out a survey of gifts and charisms, which 132 people participated in. The Archdiocese provided some demographics, and local parish data was compiled and shared with the community. The final part of this phase would be six Listening Sessions, which would happen in the new fiscal year. 125 people gathered to reflect on the challenges within our wider community, the challenges in our parishes, and the opportunities in our midst. In 2026-27 we will undertake Phase 3, focusing on “Who does God want us to become?”, and begin Phase 4 – “How do we get there.”