



# Milestones from Year One

## A message from the Pastor

Thank you for all your support over this first year, most especially your participation and input in the Parish Listening Sessions. Like so many other pastors in our Archdiocese, I have been challenged, but also encouraged, by all the demands of shepherding our parish family in this first year of Partners in the Gospel. So much work is happening at the same time. Below are just a few examples of that good work:

- Fall Meet and Greet Potluck gatherings at St. Charles and St. Leo
- Bishop Schuster presides at Pastor Installation Mass October 20
- St. Leo celebrates 145th Anniversary of establishment as first Catholic parish in Tacoma, November 24
- Simbang Gabi Masses at both St. Leo and St. Charles
- Bilingual Mass of the Roses at St. Leo on December 12
- Advent and Lenten Eucharistic Adorations and Confessions at both parishes
- Lenten Small Faith Communities at both St. Charles and St. Leo
- 80 youth and adults confirmed from St. Charles and St. Leo at Confirmation Mass with Archbishop Etienne on May 12
- Corpus Christi Masses and Procession from St. Leo to St. Charles on June 22
- June parish family listening sessions at St. Charles and St. Leo
- St. Joseph Wood Shop with Fr. Michael for parish youth from both St. Charles and St. Leo
- Eucharistic Congress hosted by St. Charles Borromeo
- Bilingual Healing Mass at St. Leo for both parishes
- Service Tuesdays with Catholic School students working in St. Leo Food Connection
- Initiate Spanish Language Bible Study and small faith groups

I am also looking forward to a number of new projects in the coming year that will move us toward growing together as a parish family.

- Engaging our parish staff as a collaborative team for the whole parish family
- Forming a Parish Family Advisory Council by the winter
- Optimizing our communications resources to communicate as a parish family
- Using the new technology tools the Archdiocese has made available to us
- Finishing the construction of the new Ministry building (I am truly grateful to Fr. Mike McDermott for his initiative and assistance)
- Completing the campus security project begun at St. Leo in collaboration with Catholic Community Services
- Assessing campus facilities needs for our parish family

This complements the many ministries our parish family does each day to share faith, celebrate God's mercy, and care for those in need. I'm so grateful to be part of this good work and deeply appreciate all the thoughtful input you shared during our Listening Sessions. As we work on these endeavors, please continue your current efforts—our staff and volunteers are doing wonderful work. Unless you hear otherwise, keep doing what you're doing, and know how appreciative I am for the way you serve Christ through the Church.

Our most important task this year is building **hospitality** and **community**. I look forward to getting to know our communities better and connecting with one another—whether after Mass, in the school parking lot, or wherever opportunities arise. As we unite as one parish family, please accept my gratitude for sharing Christ's love with our growing community and for your dedication to our Lord and our parish family.