

Strategic Planning

Historical Narrative

Parish Name: St. Patrick, Seattle

Founded: 1918

Parish Number:

029

Bishop O'Dea, who appointed Fr. Michael O'Dwyer as its first pastor, founded St. Patrick Parish. Fr. O'Dwyer wasted no time in the erection of a new church, which was only 30 by 60 feet with 12 foot walls.

The parish school started in the Fall of 1922. The pastor, Fr. Aloysius McHugh and one other lay teacher, Miss Mary Milner, who was an alumna of Holy Names School, served the school. By the end of the summer 1923, a two-story structure with a basement was ready to house the parish church, school and office. In the Fall of 1923, two Sisters of Holy Names were assigned to teach alongside Fr. McHugh.

In 1945, it became apparent a new parish church was needed. During 1950 – 1952, additional surrounding property was purchased.

Since 1949, there had been rumors regarding a new freeway. This became a reality in 1959. The entire "plant" of St. Patrick needed to make way for "progress" and a new freeway. Archbishop Connolly was handed a major decision regarding the fate of St. Patrick. On the Feast of the Annunciation, March 25, 1959 Archbishop Connolly "... graciously and very fittingly gave his whole-hearted sanction...." Sunday Masses were moved to Seattle Preparatory School chapel. The students on city transit were admitted to Sacred Heart school. The new church was dedicated in July 1961.