

Proclaim

April 12/13, 2025

Chrism Mass

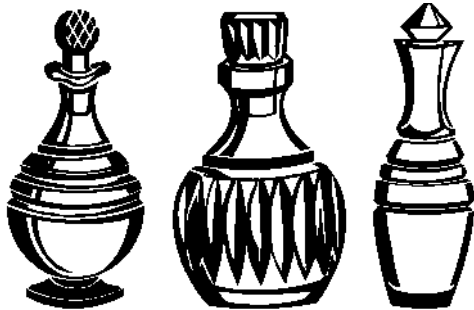
This last Thursday evening we celebrated a special event in Saint James Cathedral in Seattle that we call the Chrism Mass.

At this liturgy, the Holy Oils we use in our sacraments were blessed by the Archbishop and then distributed to all the parishes for insertion into our churches.

The word "chrism" is derived from the Greek word for "anoint". Throughout the history of our tradition, oils have been used to anoint people and, in so doing, express divine blessing and communion with God.

This year it struck me that the use of the "Oil of the Sick" for healing and forgiveness finds its scriptural reference in the Letter of Saint James in the Bible.

And there we were, in Saint James Cathedral . . .



OIL OF THE SICK

OIL OF THE CATECHUMENS

SACRED CHRISM

Fr. David

Welcome, Everyone, to "Proclaim".

Welcome to "Proclaim", a new feature brought forth and written by Father David to accompany the life of our Parish Family.

The title "Proclaim" is inspired by the words in Chapter 16 of the Gospel of Mark of going into the world and proclaiming the Gospel to every creature . . .

Articles and features in Proclaim will pertain to our Parish Family as a whole, and will serve to help me in carrying out my pastoral responsibilities throughout our region.

Proclaim will be published periodically, as needed.
(It's not intended to be a weekly bulletin.)

Again, Welcome to "Proclaim".

Blessings!

Continuing to Discern Together

Our Partners in the Gospel work ahead asks that we discern, and ideally that we consent to becoming more discerning people as we discern.

What is discernment? It has a long view in mind; a long perspective. Discernment is designed for responding to questions and topics that require careful, thoughtful, and prayerful consideration. Also, discernment leads to the transformation of the person or people involved, above and beyond reflection on the questions at hand.

There are many methods of discernment that have been developed and practiced over the centuries. In our contemporary times, the method taught by Elizabeth Liebert* captures the wisdom of our tradition while offering clear steps that can be followed.

The method of synodality** is also central, particularly when people are called to enter into discernment together as a group. (Synodality comes from the Greek language for "together on the path".) It reminds us of our common Baptism and the special blessings each of us

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"Proclaim" is a publication of Parish Family #47 of the Archdiocese of Seattle, also known locally as the Pacific County Catholic Parishes.

"Proclaim" is written by Father David Young

... *Discernment, Continued from Front Page*

have received for communicating the faith and helping others know something of God's presence. Synodality will be central for us as we bring ourselves into group settings, begin sharing with each other, and start taking note of how we experience the Holy Spirit guiding us forward.

* Liebert, Elizabeth. *The Way of Discernment: Spiritual Practices for Decision Making*. 2008.

** Synodality involves listening to each person without interrupting, and offering input freely from one's own heart and experience.

What Can We Expect on April 26/27th & May 4th

Father David will say a few words about synodality and then invite everyone to share based upon these questions:

How have your experiences in the parish brought you closer to God?

What has been the spiritual impact of your participation in the parish?

If you had to describe the main gifts and charisms of the parish to a newcomer in one sentence, what would you say?

What is your favorite part about being a parishioner? What stands out to you as something to be proud of?

For the English speaking sessions, at least to begin, Joy Erickson will summarize in writing what is spoken, as part of the official record of our discernment. Who will provide this service for the Spanish speaking sessions has not yet been established. These records will remain confidential, except as described here: The summary notes will be delivered to our new Combined Parish Council, whose responsibility it is to spiritually synthesize what everyone has shared and then seek and strive to name the presence of the Holy Spirit within the experience. A summary of this Council work will be published for everyone.

We will then conduct this synodal listening, with accompanying Council synthesis and discernment, two more times, with two further sets of questions. The dates and questions for these will be published in future editions of "Proclaim". In all instances, a summary that follows upon the work of the Combined Parish Council will be published to the parish.

Who are the members of the Combined Parish Council? We are at the very beginning of forming this group, and are actively seeking people who might feel a call to service in this way. More than an advisory group, the Combined Parish Council will be called to discern the guidance of the Holy Spirit and also assist in the implementation of what is discovered - that is, what will eventually emerge as our "One Parish Plan". Please let Father David, Joy Erickson, or Ymelda Montiel know if you would like to explore in greater depth what service on this new Council might entail. Ps. It will be a big job!

Thanks in advance for taking a look at the questions and for contributing to this work!

We have been called together and entrusted with the responsibility of reinvigorating the Catholic faith throughout Pacific County and western Lewis County.

To begin, a small group from among our three parishes met in the Ruth Center at Holy Family Church in Frances on Saturday, March 1st. This was the start.

How might we continue? By hopefully more and more of us meeting each other and discerning together, in each of our parishes and in communal gatherings of us all.

In support of this, the next three opportunities we have are:

Saturday, April 26th, 6pm
(Holy Family Church in Frances)

Sunday, April 27th, 10am & 12 Noon
(Saint Lawrence Church in Raymond)

Sunday, May 4th, 10:30am
(Saint Mary Church in Seaview)

We invite everyone to participate in these and in all future gatherings.