

Merger FAQs

Last updated on March 7, 2024

1. Why are the four parishes merging into one corporation (parish)?
 - a. *Answer:* Our community has a strong depth of collaboration as we function pastorally as one community. This is being done to streamline the management of 4 separate legal entities, better utilize financial resources, empower all ministries to achieve excellence and provide all parishioners, students, and staff with the best environment for spiritual growth.
2. How was the decision made to merge the four parishes into one corporation?
 - a. *Answer:* Please refer to Fr. Matthew's letter posted on 3/7/24.
3. What will happen to the parish properties?
 - a. *Answer:* All the parishes will be considered sites and remain operational.
4. When will the four parishes be merged into one parish (corporation)?
 - a. *Answer:* July 1, 2025.
5. How does this affect the school, if at all?
 - a. *Answer:* Since Waukesha Catholic was formed to serve four parishes, the reality of the parishes becoming one, would necessitate the changing of the school by-laws. Although the time of the merging may be different from the parishes, the expectation is that the school would eventually merge into the newly formed parish.
6. How will the naming of the new parish be addressed? Will there be one name? If so, what will it be?
 - a. *Answer:* There will be a process of getting parishioner input in discerning a new parish name over the coming months. Ultimately, the Archbishop has the final decision.
7. When will the new name go into effect?
 - a. *Answer:* The new name will go into effect on July 1, 2025.
8. Will the new parish (corporation) have a new logo?
 - a. *Answer:* Undecided at this time.
9. After the Merger: Understanding Your Donations
 - a. *Answer:* Effective July 1, 2025, our community will operate as one unified parish with a single budget and accounting system. This means:
 - i. Weekly parish donations to the general fund will now be utilized across all four sites regardless of where the donation originated. Previously, a weekly donation made to a parish's general fund was used to pay for the shared expenses of all four sites, such as shared

ministries and staff wages, with remaining funds limited to that specific parish's general fund. However, now that all four sites will be one parish, general funds will be managed collectively as guided by the new Financial Council composed of parishioners selected from all four sites.

- ii. Previously restricted funds will remain restricted to their original purpose. This means donations like those from the Love One Another campaign and endowments will continue to be used exclusively for the specific purposes they were originally designated for, and at the original location.
- iii. Restricted funds remain in separate accounts: These funds cannot be "mixed" with the general fund or used for any purpose beyond the restriction.
- iv. New funds donated to the LOA campaign will continue to be used solely for each parish's original restriction.

10. Who to contact with questions about the merger?

- a. *Answer:* Please email merger@ccwauk.org.

11. Will Mass times change starting July 1, 2025?

- a. *Answer:* Undecided. More information will come as the process continues.

12. How can I get involved?

- a. *Answer:* Work teams will be developed in the areas of the parish ministry plan, sacramental and administrative records, financial aspects, communication plan, Catholic school aspects, human resources aspects, and legal aspects. Future information on how to be involved on a work team and other areas will be forthcoming.