



The Salley Family

Brad Salley was a cradle Catholic, the oldest of 5 children and was a member of Holy Family in Auburn and St Stephen the Martyr in Kent. Karen was raised Episcopalian on Mercer Island. Brad and Karen met at the University of Washington in 1981, were married in 1986, and have been members of Holy Trinity Parish twice. The first time they came to Holy Trinity was with their young son Brandon in 1990 after Brad got a job with an auto dealer in Poulsbo. When they found out that Brandon was deaf, however, they knew that it would be difficult to keep him from disturbing others, so they found a church with an interpreter.

Brad's mother did some detective work in 1997 and discovered that Sue Dougherty was providing sign language at our church, and they

eagerly returned. By that time, they had three boys – Brandon, Cameron and Ethan – and they all came to mass so Brandon could join in. Two years later Mason arrived and the family was complete.

During the boys' years of religious education, Sue often interpreted for Brandon while the other boys went to their classes, although Karen took over after the classes were switched to Sundays. Sue had a previous engagement - in the church.

Karen, after coming to church with the boys for several years, went through the RCIA program with Sue as her sponsor and was welcomed on Easter 2009.

Currently the oldest 3 sons are up and out of the family home and working, while Mason, who was born in 1999, is the lone occupant with Brad and Karen. Similarly, to "Blue Bloods", the Salley family tries to celebrate Sunday dinner together as much as they can, with the addition of various friends and girlfriends.

When I asked Karen about her activities in the church, she said she often filled out the talent questionnaire but didn't get any calls except to bake for the religious education teachers, which she did gladly.

As families grow up and children start their separate lives, Holy Trinity remains as a church family. All those who have been here for a while have seen this happen, and the Salleys are one example of this. For this reason alone, we should all get to know our parish family.