

Holy Ghost parish in the town of Valley, Washington, was founded in 1918. The first parish church was actually built in 1914, but prior to the Diocese being established and the parish being erected, it was a mission. Bishop Augustine Schinner appointed Father F.W. Schulte as the first pastor. In October of 1954, the church burned down. The suspected cause of the fire was faulty wiring in the choir loft. At that time, Father Pius Mutter was the pastor, and he wasted no time in acquiring the necessary funds to build a new church. Construction was completed the next year, and in the Fall of 1955, the new church was opened. The last major renovation in the church was done for the church's sanctuary in 2004, when Father Jose Luis Millan was pastor. The walls were painted, and all new furnishings were commissioned to be built by parishioners. Don Lelifeld (a parishioner of Sacred Heart in Springdale) built the new altar and ambo (which were dedicated to the memory of Holy Ghost parishioner Ed Van Doren), and Hugh Osborne (a Holy Ghost parishioner) built the tabernacle pedestal, flower stands, and minor alterations to the ambo. One priest served as pastor to Holy Ghost, Sacred Heart, and Saint Joseph at Jump-Off Joe for many years, and during the tenure of Father Al Grasher, the pastor's responsibilities expanded to include Saint Mary of the Rosary parish in Chewelah. Holy Ghost serves as the parish for the Catholic families living in Valley, Jump-Off Joe, Waitts Lake, and the surrounding areas.