

## Four Pillars in Faith Area Catholic Community

## Served by Father Timothy Gapinski Deacon Ken Rosha

St. Louis Bertrand Church 187 1<sup>st</sup> Street South, PO Box 128 Foreston, MN 56330 320-294-5460 St. Mary's Church 645 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue SE Milaca, MN 56353 320-983-3255 St. Kathryn's Church 318 Hill Avenue Ogilvie, MN 56358 320-679-1593

St. Mary's Church 210 East Forest Avenue Mora, MN 55051 320-679-1593

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Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

You are aware that the All Things New planning process for the Diocese of St. Cloud has been ongoing for many months already. This began so that we could address some of the major issues and current realities we face as a diocese and a people here in Central Minnesota, and pave the way for not only protecting but strengthening our Church and our faith.

Our ACC has intensely engaged in this process and through many meetings and presentations, through much prayer and discernment, through discussions and deliberations, we prepared two plans to present to the diocesan representatives on the Committee for the Affirmation of Plans. They received our plans, reflected, discussed, and prayed over it, and have now affirmed the plan that proposes moving to one corporation with two worship sites which includes closing St. Kathryn in Ogilvie and St. Louis Bertrand in Foreston. The Plan can be found by following the All Things New Update link on the homepage of our website at www.fourpillarsinfaith.org.

The next step in the process is consultation with the Diocesan Presbyteral Council, followed by review and decrees from the Bishop. Once all ACC plans are approved by the Bishop, the diocesan plan – comprised of the plans of our 29 ACCs – will be shared and official decrees will follow.

While the plan is not yet final and may require modification as neighboring ACC plans are revealed, or other new information comes forward, there is enough of a solid basis to begin moving forward with the goals of the approved plan in mind. We also remember that a plan is still just a guide and cannot foresee every option or obstacle. There may need to be some adjustments to the plan even after final approval as we seek to implement that plan. The goals of faithfully carrying out the Christian mission and being prudent stewards and good disciples must remain constant.

We will endeavor to keep you informed as updates become available. Please pay attention to the bulletin and the ACC website, as well as any other announcements or meetings that may come. Your involvement is important and going to be necessary to do what must be done. Your faith, your love for one another, and your dedication to renewing the Church is admirable and will see you through the challenges we face.

As your pastor, I know how difficult this is and that there is grieving to do for all of us. It is okay to grieve; it is okay to cry; it is important to remember others are hurting too. Be patient with others; respond with charity and mercy. Pray for our Bishop and our Diocese; pray for all the people of our ACC, pray for our parish leadership and the members of the transition team we will be forming, and last of all please pray for me.

Sincerely in Christ,

Fr. Timothy Gapinski Pastor