

Four Pillars in Faith ACC Meeting Minutes

January 14, 2025 at 6:00pm

St. Mary's, Milaca

Attendance: Present and Introductions: Father Timothy Gapinski; Amy Udermann, Parish Associate St. Louis Bertrand Foreston, Nancy Frerich, Trustee St. Louis Bertrand Foreston; Jared Barse, ACC Chair, St. Mary's Milaca; Kris Archibald, Administrative Assistant, St. Mary's Milaca; Rose Ryan, Trustee St. Kathryn's Ogilvie; Rose Voss, St. Kathryn's Ogilvie; Brenda Lundberg, St. Kathryn's Ogilvie; Amanda Peterson, Administrative Assistant, St. Mary's Mora/St. Kathryn's Ogilvie; Karen Renaud, Trustee St. Mary's Mora; Katir Kerr, St. Mary's Mora

Not present: Curt Wojciechowski, ACC Vice Chair St. Louis Bertrand, Foreston; Jackie Leville, ACC Pastoral Council Secretary/St. Mary's Milaca Trustee

Jared Barse called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

Opening Prayer.

Faither Timothy led in prayer.

Minutes approved. Minutes from October 29, 2024, meeting sent by email on 12-16-2024, motion made to approve by Amy Udermann, All members present at the meeting voted unanimously in approval.

1. **Agenda Approved.** Motion made by Amy Udermann, seconded by Rose Ryan, to approve the agenda for October 29, 2024 meeting, motion carried.

2. **Old Business**
 - A. Youth in our Parish Sub-committee meeting. Amy Udermann headed the Sub Committee on 1/13/2024 and the Discussion Group focus was on "Youth in our Parishes". Parishioners included Amy Udermann, Loren Hubert, Sandy Lambertson, Lee Ann King, Katy Juetten, and Amanda Eich. Questions included from the sub committee that can be brought to the ACC included "Will we be keeping activities available to our youth now that we do not have a specific youth director?" and "Is there a model of Youth activities from other parishes that we could follow? There was discussion on what we are already doing: 1. Lee Ann King shared information on NET Teen Mass and Castaway and 2. The invite to St. John's Youth Group was well received. Do you have thoughts on other activities we can offer our youth? 1. Movie Night, 2. Game Night, 3. Youth Mass. Suggestions for Youth Mass, Keeping the traditional Mass, yet having the homily geared towards youth. Letting the youth be involved in the ministries that they can be involved in. Encouraging all parishioners to attend, letting them know it is a youth Mass. Next topic for the Committee will be Building Community and this is set for March 2025. Other comments: The ACC "All Things New" Planning Committee was brought up in discussion. It was shared that this could be a 2-3 commitment and that not much is known at this time about what is exactly expected from this committee.
 - i. Results. Feedback from parishioners and direction discussion ideas going forth.

- ii. Action items based on discussion. Lee Ann gathering things together and making sure that the information is front and center. Listening to the children and providing feedback to the youth. Going forward gathering more committee members for involvement and feedback from the subcommittee. The information from the subcommittee topic will be brought to the ACC for discussion.

B. Communication/Transparency.

i. Chairperson letter for bulletin update. Jared Barse has provided a bulletin communication on the behalf of the ACC pastoral council summarizing the last couple of years. Jared will continue this again this year. Good feedback from the committee.

ii. Other ideas? Reevaluate survey, Katie Kerr will tweak and look at putting together and sending to the group. Will also include a QR code and be available to parishioners by the end of January. Results in early February. Comparison based on results from the last survey to this new survey. Father Timothy commented "Insightful areas were comments from Parishioners". There will also be paper copies upon request from Secretaries.

3. New Business

- A. Discussion process for gathering/approving minutes. Jared has listed the committee members with a new format per parish on the agenda to make this user friendly for the secretary when documenting the information for the meetings. Following the completion of minutes, the approval of the minutes is completed by email from the committee. The approved minutes are then available to the parishioners in the entrances of the church.
- B. "All Things New" Planning Committee. The Diocese of Saint Cloud has asked each ACC for developing a plan for the ACC. This is a 2-3 year commitment for this committee. The "All Things New" ACC Planning Committee is committed to developing a comprehensive plan for the ACC that fosters a vibrant faith community rooted in the love and mission of Jesus and in line with the diocesan parameters provided. The Committee will work in collaboration with the planning facilitator, diocesan staff, and community members, guided by the Holy Spirit, to create a strategic and future-oriented plan. Any Parishioner interested in being on this committee, will need to submit a letter to Father Timothy by January 31, 2025. Father Timothy will determine who will serve on this committee. This will be a separate committee from the ACC pastoral council. Expectation "All things should be considered including closing or merging Parish's". Father would like to move forward as quickly as possible formulate the committee and a plan. The "All Things New" ACC Planning Committee outline is attached, the Diocese of Saint Cloud Guiding Principles are attached, and the Diocese of St. Cloud Final Guiding Change Document is attached to the minutes. Information was provided by the Diocese and it is attached as a part of the minutes.
- C. Mass Intention Policy has been formed and brought forth to the ACC pastoral council for discussion, comments, and review. Any suggestions by council members are to be provided to Father Timothy by January 17, 2025.

C. Parish Subcommittee updates

i. St. Louis Bertrand, Foreston. Provided by Nancy Frerich

St. Louis Christian Women – Bazaar was held on 11/23/24, many hands involved and great attendance. Everything went great and Bazaar cleared \$10,700.80 total to Missions for 50 years \$235,634.55. This was provided to local and non-local missions including seminarians. Looking forward to other options for events this summer.

Fellowship Social Committee- We now announced the 7th week for another family and looking to add additional members for that week and continuing with the growth of this beautiful opportunity for the committee and all that partake in coming to the socials.

Grounds and Beautification Committee-We have had donations in the recent past and last Sunday were able to put them in their place at St. Louis Bertrand. We will be having a meeting now in February preparing for the spring season and have projects to complete. The projects that are in need should be minimal cost as we have donations to cover them.

Knights of Columbus Holy Family Council 11856, St. Louis Bertrand/St. Mary's, Milaca will be meeting to set the final details for the Lenten Fish Fries.

Faith Formation Lifelong St. Mary's/St. Louis Bertrand, St. Mary's has provided an update for the parishes.

Finance Council- meeting scheduled for 1/16/2025.

ii. St. Mary's Milaca; provided attachment. Provided by Kris Archibald.

St. Mary's, Guild – Planning is underway for the Annual Mother/Daughter Banquet being held on Sunday, February 23 at noon.

St. Mary's/St. Louis Bertrand Lifelong Faith Formation –January's presentation was given by international speaker Dr. Pamela Patnode who spoke on Family Prayer and the Moral Life. In addition to the 7-12 graders, we had 34 adults in attendance. Father Timothy will speak in February on Compassionate Truth: The Catholic Teaching on Homosexuality and Transgenderism, Pornography, Marijuana Use, and the Occult.

OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults) at St. Mary's, Milaca – Classes are going well. We have had an additional adult and three youth join in the classes.

Home Altar Showcase – We completed the Home Altar Showcase and held the drawings. The Central MN Catholic featured our ACC's showcase and is now holding its own showcase inviting all those in the diocese to submit photos of their prayer space to be shared.

Cardinal Raymond Burke has accepted our invitation to come and speak. The date is November 23, 2025, Feast of Christ the King. He is the founder of the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in La Crosse, WI. He was a member of the Supreme Tribunal of the Apostolic Signatura, the church's highest court. He has “written and spoken widely on Roman Catholic Canon Law, the Holy Eucharist, devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, devotion to Our Lady of Guadalupe, and the sanctity of human life.”

St. Louis Bertrand/St. Mary's, Milaca Knights of Columbus will be meeting to set the final details for the Lenten Fish Fries.

Remembrance Mass went very well, and the family members were appreciative.

Fr. Hennepin Club Coat Drive – over 40 coats were collected and donated to the Community Closet Thrift Store in Milaca for those in need.

iii. St. Kathryn's, Ogilvie; Provided by Rose Ryan.

We had our craft and bake and soup luncheon in November went over well. We had over 50 for soup and our bake goods sold out fast. Some people suggested that we stay later.

Advent social was good attendance of families with young kids, and they all loved the crafts, then the Christmas program and social. The program was beautiful and well done, Thanks Hannah.

Social after was a big hit the hot chocolate bar had long lines and everybody also enjoyed the goodies.

Soon we will be planning our salad luncheon in mid-March no theme or actual date as yet.

iv. St. Mary's, Mora. Provided by Amanda Peterson.

Music- The Advent/Christmas program was successful. No other updates at this time.

Family Faith Formation- LeeAnn is trying to get a group of kids from out ACC to attend Castaway this year. It is a weekend retreat at the end of March. She has been taking youth to the Lifeline Mass still. The numbers are small but the kids going have a lot of fun.

There is a weekly Bible study group meeting on Tuesday afternoon. The next session is to do a study on the TV series "Chosen".

The events committee is working on having a movie at the theater in Mora. More details to come as they are finalized. In March the committee is going to do Ham Bingo. Again, more details to come as it is arranged.

St. Mary's & St. Kathryn's Knights of Columbus have been doing pancake breakfasts each month. They will be doing the Fish Fries during Lent again this year.

Other discussion topics discussed.

Father explained that we needed to begin using new music books in the church due to licensing. This is also providing consistency between all parishes in the ACC.

D. Set next meeting: March 27, 2025, St. Louis Bertrand, Foreston, MN at 6:00pm

Closing Prayer

Father Timothy ended the meeting with Closing prayer.