

**Four Pillars in Faith ACC
Pastoral Council Meeting
December 16, 2025, St. Mary's Mora**

Attendance: Father Timothy Gapinski; Amy Udermann, Parish Associate St. Louis Bertrand Foreston, Jared Barse, ACC Chair, St. Mary's Milaca; Kris Archibald, Administrative Assistant, St. Mary's Milaca; 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, Katie Kerr St. Mary's Mora, Jackie Leveille, ACC Pastoral Council Secretary/St. Mary's Milaca Trustee, Curt Wojciechowski, ACC Vice Chair St. Louis Bertrand Foreston, Rose Ryan, Trustee St. Kathryn's Ogilvie.

Absent: Rose Voss, St. Kathryn's Ogilvie, Nancy Frerich Trustee St. Louis Bertrand Foreston

Opening Prayer: Father Timothy

1. Agenda approval

2. Old Business

A. All Things New Update

Father Timothy

Submitted the draft of the final version of the two different options of ACC: Two-site option and Three-site option. Brenda Kresky from the planning office came out in the second week of November and announced that the diocesan CAP (Committee for Affirmation of Plans) approved the Two-site option. Adjustments may be made and it will be a few months before anything final is decided. The diocese plans to go to three Masses per ACC tentatively by July. Due to weather, the December 9 parish hall meeting with the diocese has been rescheduled for January 15, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

B. Review Chairperson Bulletin Article
Reviewed and approved by Council

Jared Barse

C. Parish Mission Review

Father Timothy

ACC Parish Mission featuring Cardinal Raymond Burke, Fr. Timothy, Mr. Gregory Gall, and Fr. Robert Altier was held at St. Mary's, Milaca on November 23 with about 400 people in attendance from throughout the St. Cloud Diocese and St. Paul and Minneapolis Archdiocese. This ACC committee expresses gratitude for all who planned and served and participated in the Mission Day.

3. New Business

A. Advertising in the Milaca Community Guide
and Down Through the Years

Father Timothy

If the finances are available, the council agrees to continue with the advertisements.

B. Christmas/Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God Schedule

Father Timothy

Christmas Eve: 4pm at St. Mary's, Mora and 7pm at St. Mary's, Milaca

Midnight Mass at St. Louis Bertrand, Foreston

Christmas Day: 9am at St. Kathryn's, Ogilvie

Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God
December 31, 6pm at St. Mary's, Mora
January 1, 8am at St. Mary's, Milaca and 5pm at St. Louis Bertrand, Foreston

C. Parish sub-committee updates

Father Timothy

St. Mary's, Milaca Update: Kris

All Saints' Party:

October 31 held at St. Mary's, Milaca was well attended with over 100 people from the ACC and community.

St. Mary's/St. Louis Bertrand Lifelong Faith Formation:

- All is going well. Good turnouts and positive feedback regarding the monthly guest speakers. Many families stayed for the Social on December 3.
- OCIA: Classes continue with good attendance and involvement from the participants.
- Grow In Virtue Faith Formation classes will begin in January.

Awaken: Father Timothy has requested that families attend at least one *Awaken* this school year. Several families from St. Mary's, Milaca/St. Louis Bertrand have attended and submitted their participation forms.

ACC Parish Mission:

Update was given in Father Timothy's Parish Mission review.

Tree Removal: The remaining ten trees were removed.

Holiday Helping Hands Giving Tree:

Mittens were available for parishioners to take and purchase gift items for children in need in our community. Five area churches participate in this event each year. All the mittens were taken from our tree and gifts were purchased and returned for distribution.

St. Mary's Guild Christmas Party:

Monday, January 5; Social 5:30 pm - Potluck Meal at 6:00 pm. All women in the ACC are invited to attend.

Mom's Group:

The Mom's Group continues to meet twice a month at St. Mary's, Milaca. All moms and their children of our ACC are welcome!

The Epiphany Blessing of Sacramentals will be held on Saturday, January 3 at 8:00 a.m. at St. Mary's, Milaca. No First Saturday Mass on this day.

St. Mary's, Mora: Amanda

Building updates:

- Church basement windows - the second and third set has been ordered and will be installed this spring.
- We have had some slight issues with one of the church furnaces not working, that is being worked on by Joe Murphy. He had to order some replacement parts.
- We are looking into some more hearing assistance options that work with the current sound system. More on this to come in the future months.

Family Faith Formation/ Youth Events/Adult Classes:

- We continue onward with our Pathways curriculum this year with *Witness* which focuses on the Saints. As part of our study, we are also paying special attention to the heroic virtues of our saints and how we can cultivate those in our lives. So far, we have studied St. Therese, St. Padre Pio, and The Blessed Virgin Mary (especially her Immaculate Conception).
- Our special events this year included our Family Olympics kick-off, Box City with speaker Shegitu Kebede.
- Christmas Decoration Making Evening of Crafting Fun (with Nachos for the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe).
- 8th and 9th graders are studying *Theology of the Body* and we have four confirmation students this year.
- Castaway planning meetings start January 12, 2026. We need to get our students signed up by the end of January. Cost is \$210.00 per student & chaperone. We had a wonderful time last year and we hope we can bring a larger group this year.
- Tuesday afternoon Bible Study continues. We were blessed to celebrate a Friendsgiving meal together. Thanks to one of our members winning a large turkey at Turkey Bingo.
- OCIA - We have one catechumen who is in the inquiry stage right now.
- NCCL Grant - We have put together a plan to increase our outreach to families of children ages birth to five. Keeping those families engaged after Baptism is really important in making sure they remain active in faith formation programming and feel fully welcome in the community.
- Some parents want to plan a lock-in event for teens. This was from feedback from teens that went to Castaway last year. More details to come on this in the future as the planning progresses.

Events Committee:

- Turkey Bingo was well attended and a lot of fun.
- Another family movie afternoon is scheduled for January 24 at the Paradise Theatre in Mora.

ACC Mini Parish Mission:

The administrative team is working with Hallow in hopes to do a Mini ACC Parish Mission event before Lent begins. The tentative plan is for a Hallow representative to come to each of the four parishes to talk after Mass. Then on Sunday after the 10am Mass at St. Mary's, Mora the representative and another guest speaker would give a presentation to our parishioners. We would also have a light lunch and opportunity to sign up more members on Hallow.

St. Mary's/St. Kathryn's Knights of Columbus:

The council is having monthly meetings. During the Fridays of Lent, they will be hosting Fish Fries in the St. Mary's, Mora Parish Center.

St. Kathryn's, Ogilvie: Rose

Craft and Bake Sale:

In November, we had our Craft and Bake Sale with a soup luncheon. It was very successful. We made over \$4,000 to go to the cemetery and general funds.

Maintenance:

In December, we had two furnaces fixed - new burners. Church is warm now.

Christmas Program:

We will have a Christmas program on December 17 following our FFF classes. Parents and families are invited and all are welcome.

Christmas Decorating:

After Mass on December 20, we will be decorating for Christmas. We encourage all to pitch in.

Minnesota Hotdish Buffet

Towards the end of January, we are planning a Minnesota Hotdish Buffet. We will be posting dates and times soon.

St. Louis Bertrand, Foreston Update: Amy

St. Louis Christian Women:

- The St. Louis Christian Women's Mission Bazaar was successful. It brought in over \$10,000.00. All proceeds will be donated to local missions and surrounding communities. The breakdown was:
Lunch: \$753.50; Doll Raffle: \$200.00; Quilt Raffle: \$250.00;
Silent Auction Baskets: \$1,828.00; General Raffle: \$2,900.00;
Crafts, Cookies and Baked Goods: \$4,671.75
Total donated to the Missions in the last 51 years: \$245,996.80
- Christian Women served at the Foreston Creamery meeting, which was held at the parish center at St. Louis Bertrand on December 11.

Holiday Helping Hands Mitten Tree Program went well – all mittens were filled and returned.

Midnight Mass:

There will be a procession at the beginning of Mass. A small reception will be held following Mass. The ladies of the Fellowship Social Committee are hosting this.

Fellowship Social is on a 6-week schedule and is going strong. They served around 85 people last Saturday.

Grounds and Beautification Committee:

Projects will resume in the spring.

Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God Mass Schedule:

Thursday, January 1 Holy Day of Obligation

St. Louis Bertrand – 5:00 p.m.

Knights of Columbus are not meeting in December. They will resume in January.

4. Additional Items:

5. Set next meeting: March 10, 2026, at 6:00 pm, St. Kathryn's Ogilvie

Closing Prayer: Father Timothy