

PRAYER FOR ALL THINGS NEW



Ever-present God,
just as you accompanied our biblical ancestors,
so, too, you accompanied our ancestors
who came to Central Minnesota generations ago
to begin a new life and set down
their roots of faith in our churches.
Be with us now as we, the people of the Diocese of St. Cloud,
embark on a new, uncharted journey,
heeding your call for renewal and transformation.

Send forth your gifts of
courage, compassion, trust and collaboration.

Help us discern the best ways
we can fulfill your call to missionary discipleship
with vibrant communities and effective ministries.
Open our hearts to the stirrings of the Holy Spirit
and give us the grace we need for this journey
as you make all things new.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord,
with the intercession of Mary, our Mother,
and St. Cloud, our patron. Amen.

Guiding Principles

1. **Missionary Discipleship**
2. **Sacramental Life**
3. **Engaging the Laity**
4. **Listening as a Way of Being Church**
5. **Prudent Stewardship**

Guiding principles are essential in the pastoral planning process because they serve as foundational values that anchor decision-making, promote unity and keep the community focused on its mission.

Guiding principles provide clarity and direction amid complex and often emotional decisions, helping leaders and participants prioritize what matters most. They foster transparency, accountability, and consistency, ensuring that actions taken during the planning process reflect shared values rather than personal preferences or short-term goals. By acting as a moral and spiritual compass, guiding principles encourage collaboration, inspire trust and help faith communities navigate challenges with a sense of purpose and integrity.

There are five guiding principles for the All Things New planning process: Missionary Discipleship, Sacramental Life, Engaging the Laity, Listening as a Way of Being Church, and Prudent Stewardship. All of these principles come directly from the current reality report and the pastoral visits with Bishop Neary.

For further information, additional resources and descriptions of the guiding principles, visit www.stcdio.org/all-things-new/.

1. **Missionary Discipleship** - As baptized Catholics, we are all called to the evangelizing mission of the Church. Rooted in this mission, together we are guided by a desire to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ in the world by living and sharing a life of faith.
2. **Sacramental Life** - The sacraments are outward signs of grace that God gives to people to help them live a life close to Jesus. We are guided by an invitation to encourage the full, conscious and active participation of the faithful in sacramental life and prayer of the Church.
3. **Engaging the Laity** - God has given each person a unique set of gifts and charisms to live out their individual vocation. Through revitalized prayer and formation opportunities, encounters with family, friends, co-workers and neighbors, we can welcome new faces into the fold. We are guided by our strengths to stimulate renewal in the Church.
4. **Listening as a Way of Being Church** - The Holy Spirit calls us to pray, listen and discern together what God is asking of us today. By listening to each other, we are guided by learning to best respond to the spiritual needs of all people in our diocese.
5. **Prudent Stewardship** - All our resources — human, structural, financial — are gifts from God. With a deep sense of gratitude, we are guided by the use of resources to achieve our shared mission in a healthy and responsible way.

Diocese of St. Cloud – All Things New Planning
Design Parameters for the Pastoral Plan

Design parameters are crucial in creating a strategic plan because they provide a clear framework for decision-making, ensuring that the Church's mission is carried out effectively and sustainably. Each parameter was developed from listening to various groups throughout the Diocese of Saint Cloud. A strategic plan built on these parameters will help the Church flourish, grow, and effectively serve its people for generations to come. Additional details for each parameter follow this page.

Accessibility to Sunday Mass (includes Saturday evening vigil) (P. 10)

- 80 % of the faithful must have access to a Sunday Mass within a 20-minute drive.
- No rotation of Mass schedules between churches.

Budgeted Ministries (P. 10/11)

- One administrative office per ACC if under 3000 households.
ACC Business Administrator (Paid).
- Liturgical Ministries.
- Formation Ministries: Children - Youth – Adult.
Catholic schools included.
- Hispanic ministries with 10% of the total census population.
- Pastoral Care.
- Social Outreach.

Pastors/Priests (P. 12)

- Limit of three Sunday Masses per weekend/priest not including weddings/funerals.
Mass schedule must be able to be accommodated by assigned priests to ACC.
- Pastors will spend at least 50% of their time in pastoral ministry.
- Desire to live in community within ACC will be considered.

Buildings (P. 12/13)

- Overall facility usage must average 50% occupancy or higher for all weekend liturgies in the ACC.
- Buildings must be physically accessible, hospitable and safe.
Restrooms in church building.
Church building is either one level or has access to an existing elevator.
- ACC plan must specify how empty buildings will be repurposed or relegated for secular but not unbecoming use ideally within five years.

Governance (P. 13)

- Reduce the number of parish corporations.
- Potential Worship Sites – Primary Church, Partner Church.

Finances (P. 14)

- Each finance council will approve an attainable and reasonable annual balanced budget.
- Parish investment in Catholic school may not exceed 40% of plate/envelope within five years.
- Routine building operations may not exceed 25% of plate/envelope.

OPTIONS

- Accessibility to Sunday Mass
 - Goal: Not likely an issue in our situation

- Governance
 - Goal: Reduce the number of corporations
 - Option #1: Form the four parishes of the ACC into one *new* parish
 - Option #2: Merge the four parishes of the ACC into one of the *existing* parishes
 - Option #3: Merge the four parishes of the ACC into two (or three) parishes

- Priests/Pastors/Buildings/Finances
 - Goal: Reduce the number of weekend Masses to three
 - Option #1: Same as current schedule but without 6 pm Saturday Mass
 - Option #2: Move Saturday evening Mass to Milaca, and a Sunday evening Mass in Foreston and Mora
 - Option #3: Have one Saturday evening Mass in Milaca, and a Sunday morning Mass in Milaca and Mora

 - Goal: Address the buildings situation
 - Option #1: Close all church buildings and build new parish facilities
 - Option #2: Leave all buildings open, even if they do not have a weekend Mass
 - Option #3: Relegation, closure of St. Kathryn, and option to sell
 - Option #4: Relegation, closure of St. Kathryn and St. Louis Bertrand, and option to sell
 - Option #4.5: Relegation, closure of St. Kathryn and option to sell, and Relegate St. Louis Bertrand for non-sacred use
 - Option #5: Relegation, closure of St. Kathryn and St. Mary, Milaca, and option to sell
 - Others:

- Budgeted Ministries
 - Goal: Consolidate to one administrative office
 - Option #1: Have the administrative office in Milaca
 - Option #2: Have the administrative office in Mora
 - Option #3: Have the administrative office in Foreston