

# Red River Valley Area Catholic Community

St Gall-Tintah

St Thomas Aquinas-Kent

St Mary of the Presentation and St Mary's School-Breckenridge

# Overview-Red River Valley ACC

St. Galls 45 Families



St. Mary's 347 Families

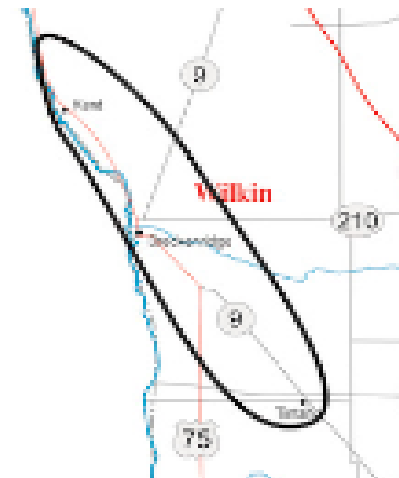


St. Thomas 90 Families



# Dynamics and Challenges-Who we are

- Distance:
  - 3 Parishes Spread out-35 miles from edge to edge
  - Hard to create cohesion
- ACC Realignment
  - St Mary's and St Thomas have been together much longer, St Gall's joined about 3 years ago
    - This has been challenging to bring St Gall's into the fold
- Large Farming Community
  - Agriculture greatly affects our ACC
- Seasonal migration shrinks our attendance
  - Attendance ebbs and flows
- 1 Priest, limited admin support, do we look again at a Pastoral Associate?
- ACC Council
  - Lots of ideas..... Hard to Execute
  - The ACC is all of us, not a council



# Dynamics and Challenges-St Gall

- Used to having a priest that travels
- Herman and Elbow Lake parishioners don't attend as much now that St Gall is in a new ACC
- CCD program includes high number of non-Catholics
- Hispanic population attends Morris
- Covid affected attendance

# Dynamics and Challenges-St Thomas

- Collaboration with Breckenridge
  - Faith formation
  - Right to life
  - Parish activities
- High percentage of volunteers for parish activities
- Many parishioners commute to work, affects weekday activities
- Active non-Catholics

# Dynamics and Challenges-St Mary's

- Parish office and administration located here
- Dynamic of having St John's in Wahpeton, ND gives options
  - Mass attendance
  - Knights of Columbus
  - Catholic Daughters
  - Adult faith formation opportunities
- St Mary's School creates energy
- Volunteer very stagnant for church events, very good on the school side



# St Mary's School

Coming in Fall 2024



# St Mary's School

- Enrollment Today
  - 20 Preschool, 120 K-8
- Expected Enrollment Fall 24
  - 35 Preschool, 135 K-8
- Non-Catholic Attendance 30% of enrollment
- Momentum is growing!



# Eucharistic Revival

- Weekly message of real presence stories in bulletin
- Prayer cards in pews
- Beautiful Eucharist book
- Would like to increase adoration times, struggling to implement
  - Consistent Adoration times

# Building Bridges and Adapting

- Bulletins
- Website
- Introduction of ACC Council to parishes
- Good crossover to support events but we need to do better

# Top Priorities

- Developing a Cohesive and Unified Mission
  - Adoration
  - Education
  - Attendance
  - Involvement
- Communication Improvement
- Enhancing the Liturgy
  - Lectors, Servers, Eucharistic Ministers

Thank you!