



POW bracelet holds cherished memories for Verstegen

BY JEAN PEERENBOOM | FOR THE COMPASS

KIMBERLY — A little bit of spring cleaning brought back some memories and a reminder of what military veterans have done for us.

Kathy Verstegen was 10 or 12 years old when her dad took her to a military recruiter's office where they were selling POW bracelets for \$2 apiece. She recently found her bracelet while cleaning and wondered what had happened to the person whose name was stamped on it. She tracked him down and now shares her story so others can remember those tension-filled days around the Vietnam War and the service of veterans.

Her father, John Meyer, was a Marine veteran. "I think that was why it was so important to him that we understand about the people who were missing," she said. She and other family members got bracelets bearing the name, rank and date of capture of a prisoner of war. The Vietnam War lasted from 1954 to 1975.



KATHY WEIGMAN | FOR THE COMPASS

Kathy Verstegen, a member of Holy Spirit Parish in Kimberly/Darboy, holds the POW/MIA bracelet her father purchased for her when she was about 10.

"I wore my bracelet every day when I was young," Verstegen said. "Then, as time goes on and these things happen, I put it in a box and life went on." Her mother gave her the box at some point. She took it home and put it in her closet. "It was one of those boxes filled with all the important things in a teen's life."

The name on the bracelet was Maj. Richard Vogel, captured on May 22, 1967. Verstegen and her husband, Roy, an IT specialist for the Diocese of Green Bay, searched the internet and found an address for Vogel in Florida and Verstegen contacted him.

Our full story appears in the May 19 issue.

FRANKLY, FRANCIS



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

In the last few weeks, our reflection has been moving, so to speak, within the orbit of the Paschal Mystery. Today we meet the one who, according to the Gospels, was the first to see the Risen Christ: Mary Magdalene. The Sabbath had ended not long before. On the day of the Passion, there had not been enough time to complete the funeral rites. For this reason, at that sorrow-filled dawn, the women went to Jesus' tomb with aromatic oils. The first to arrive was Mary Magdalene. She was one of the disciples who had accompanied Jesus from Galilee, putting herself at the service of the burgeoning church. Her walk to the sepulchre mirrors the fidelity of many women who spend years in the small alleyways of cemeteries remembering someone who is no longer there.

+ Pope Francis,
May 17, 2017

@Pontifex

Follow Him On



Diocese to send young adult delegation to Convocation of Catholic Leaders

BY SAM LUCERO | THE COMPASS

ALLOUEZ — Catholic conferences are common occurrences, but a gathering planned for July in Orlando, Fla., has the potential to be historic.

Not only is the Convocation of Catholic Leaders drawing participants from every U.S. diocese, including Green Bay, it also has a strong northeast Wisconsin flavor.

That's because one of the four-day event's emcees is Julianne Stanz, director of the diocesan Department of Evangelization. In addition, Bishop David Ricken has been instrumental, through his duties at the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, in organizing the convocation.

Officially titled "The Convocation of Catholic Leaders: The Joy of the Gospel in America," the gathering July 1-4 in Florida

will bring more than 3,000 Catholic leaders and laity together to reflect on Pope Francis's 2013 apostolic exhortation, "*Evangelii Gaudium*," ("The Joy of the Gospel") and how it can be integrated into church life.

Bishop Ricken chose to send a delegation comprised of millennial Catholics who serve the local church in different ministries, said Stanz.

Our full story appears in the May 19 issue.

5 THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

About Trinity Sunday

PATRICIA KASTEN | THE COMPASS

- 1 Trinity Sunday is a "moveable feast" which falls on the Sunday following Pentecost: June 11 this year.
- 2 Trinity Sunday as a universal church feast was approved in 1334 by Pope John XXII.
- 3 Understanding of the Trinity has unfolded gradually, especially in the church's first centuries, reflected in the development of the Nicene-Constantinople Creed (381 A.D.) that we often pray at Mass (Profession of the Faith).
- 4 One popular symbol of the Trinity is an equilateral triangle, with sides of equal length and having equal angles.
- 5 The three persons of the Trinity have also been represented by three fish, three circles, a three-leafed shamrock and even three hares sharing three ears.

Dominican Republic: A pastoral visit to remember

As I look back to my busy calendar, my memory tugs to this past February and my pastoral visit to the Dominican Republic; especially the parishes and chapels in Elias Piña. I must express my gratitude and deep



BISHOP'S CORNER

Bishop David Ricken

admiration for Fr. Mike Seis, our diocesan priest who has been on loan to the Diocese of San Juan in the Dominican Republic for nearly 18 years. He is a true living example of a missionary priest who, even in the seminary, envisioned his priesthood life as a missionary.

It is not unusual for Fr. Mike to have eight Masses a weekend, all in different churches and chapels. We even had open air Masses

in the streets and in the mountains. I was privileged to baptize seven children in several of the little chapel communities; what a joy! The people there have very little in the way of material goods, but despite their many hardships, are filled with great joy.

I was able to join our permanent deacons under the capable leadership of Deacon Paul Umentum, as they built yet another little chapel pictured in this edition of The Compass. The deacons have been doing this for

years at the request of the Most Rev. José Dolores Grullón Estrella, bishop of San Juan, and Fr. Mike. These are the only gathering places for Sunday Mass or prayer service in very remote territories of the Dominican Republic. The chapels are used for other community gatherings as well. I am grateful, as the deacons were very patient with my poor masonry skills and humored me with encouragement, nonetheless.

The great work and contribution of Fr. Seis in building up the Catholic school in that area will make a significant impact going forward both culturally and economically. Our partnership with one of our diocesan schools enabled the offering of many treasured school supplies. One can sense that this school, now at an enrollment of 800 students, is and will continue to make a huge difference in the lives of many. Some of the children attending the school painted the new chapel just built by the deacons.

It was an incredible experience to have the opportunity to visit an eye clinic established for the villages by optometrists and nurses from Wisconsin. What a gift and joy to watch people receive eye glasses for the first time and be able to see their world in a new, more beautiful way! It is the blessings our state of Wisconsin shares, paying it forward to so many in need!

Subscribe: Save \$5 NOW!

Please mail \$23 payment to:

The Compass

P.O. Box 8474

Carol Stream, IL 60197-8474

For faster service, call:

920-272-8208 or

Toll-free 877-500-3580, Ext. 8208

Email: compasscirc@gbdioc.org

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

ZIP _____

Phone _____

Parish _____

New Subscribers Only

Parish SNAPSHOT



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Holy Rosary Parish in New Holstein hosted an organ concert May 7 featuring "alumni" organists. Ann Arbuckle, left, Jim Fett, Jean Simons and Paul Thelen performed on the newly acquired organ donated by the Klinzing/Freund families with memorial funds. Fr. John Girotti offered a special blessing for the organ and all present.

Submit your snapshot Email your digital photo to us at compassnews@gbdioc.org