



Bishop Ricken ordains five men to the priesthood on July 1

BY RACHEL KOEPKE | THE COMPASS

LEDGEVIEW — The Fourth of July weekend kicked off with the ordination of five new priests for the Diocese of Green Bay. Bishop David Ricken ordained Deacons Adam Bradley, Mark Mleziva, Matthew Rappl, Jon Thorsen and Zachary Weber to the priesthood on July 1.

Due to the number of men being ordained, the ordination liturgy was held at St. Mary Church in Ledgeview, which has more seating capacity than St. Francis Xavier Cathedral, where ordinations are typically held. The high turnout packed both the parking lot and the church. With over 1,200 guests and 110 priests in attendance, every pew was taken, causing many to stand along the walls and even spill into the entrance space outside the church.

In his homily, Bishop Ricken said the group of five new priests was the largest class of ordinandi since 1991. "We are blessed to have a growing



SAM LUCERO | THE COMPASS

Bishop David Ricken addresses the five men who were ordained to the priesthood July 1 at St. Mary Church in Ledgeview.

number of seminarians and new priests to serve. I'm excited to see how they will go out to our parishes and draw people closer to God," he added.

Bishop Ricken was not the only one excited about the growing number of seminarians and priests in the Diocese of Green Bay.

"It's been so long since we've had that many (priests ordained)," said McKenna Rohan,

a member of St. Clare Parish in Greenleaf. "I think that's such an awesome testament as to where our diocese, and hopefully the world, is going. We just need to keep getting that number up every year. I'm just going to keep praying for all these seminarians and everyone who is pursuing their vocation. It's so beautiful."

Our full story appears in the July 14 issue.

FRANKLY, FRANCIS



Dear Brothers and Sisters,


When in the Gospel Jesus sends the disciples on mission, he does not mislead them with mirages of easy success. On the contrary, he warns them clearly that the proclamation of the Kingdom of God always involves opposition. And he also uses an extreme expression: "and you will be hated — hated — by all for my name's sake" (Mt 10:22). Christians love but they are not always loved. Jesus places us before this reality from the start. In a somewhat strong measure, the confession of faith occurs in a hostile climate.

Christians are therefore men and women who "go against the tide". It is normal: because the world is marked by sin, which manifests itself in various forms of selfishness and injustice, those who follow Christ walk in the opposite direction.

+ Pope Francis, June 28, 2017

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St. Norbert College competes in Blended Burger Project

BY JEFF KUROWSKI | THE COMPASS

DE PERE — Last year, St. Norbert College's campus dining was named "Best College Food in Wisconsin" by Niche, an organization that provides rankings based on statistical data and student feedback. St. Norbert was also ranked 15th nationally by Niche.

A duo from the college is hoping to add

to St. Norbert's national recognition. Chef Ben Sauer and Amanda Beck, event manager for Conference and Catering Services, created the Lodi Dodi Smoke Burger, an entry in the 2017 Blended Burger Project, sponsored by the James Beard Foundation. The creators of the top five blended burgers, based on votes, will receive an all-expenses paid trip to the James Beard House in New York.

Sauer and Beck are hopeful for an opportunity to make their burger for a panel of judges, who will decide the winner. They already have one victory. In March, Dan Froelich, executive chef at the college, asked the chefs and event managers to team up to design a burger based on the Blended Burger Project.

Our full story appears in the July 14 issue.

5 THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

About mountains

PATRICIA KASTEN | THE COMPASS

- 1 The feast of the Transfiguration is Aug. 6. Mount Tabor is traditionally considered the site of Jesus' Transfiguration.
- 2 Moses is linked to Mount Horeb (also called Mount Sinai). Horeb is honored as the site of the giving of the Ten Commandments and of the burning bush (Ex 19 and 3).
- 3 St. Catherine Monastery, in Egypt's Sinai Peninsula, is said to have Moses' burning bush on its grounds.
- 4 Elijah is tied to Mount Carmel. There, he won a challenge to call down fire from heaven, defeating 450 priests of Ba'al (1 Kg 18).
- 5 After killing these priests, Elijah fled from Queen Jezebel to Mount Horeb (Sinai). God came to Elijah there, in a whispering sound (1 Kg 19:12).

The faces of immigration

Recently the bishops of the United States gathered in Indianapolis for our Spring Assembly. One of the topics of conversation was immigration, and since that time, I've been thinking about my grandparents.



BISHOP'S CORNER

Bishop David Ricken

My paternal grandparents were immigrants. William Rieken (later Ricken) migrated from Northern Germany in 1911 and his brother Heinrich "crossed the pond" in 1913. Heinrich was accompanied by others from Germany including a young woman named Christina Hanekamp who married William, my grandfather.

They suffered greatly when they first arrived.

Grandpa was the eldest of

18 children in the old country; Grandma was an orphan and had a very difficult childhood. They came without money, having no English language skills, but an eager desire to make a life for themselves and a great dependence on the gift of their faith.

As I visit with immigrant families around our diocese, I see the faces of my grandparents and that generation. I also see the face of my Dad who suffered as the first descendants of German immigrants, forced to leave school after the eighth grade to help his parents make a living for his nine siblings. Though the faces and names have changed, the immigrants I meet come to this country with similar hopes and dreams. They also experience some of these same challenges that my family faced.

Unfortunately, in the past 100 years, it seems that we still struggle to welcome immigrants into our communities. Today, there is an abundance of hateful rhetoric, rooted in fear of immigrants.

Fear that they are infiltrating our country to do us harm. Fear that they are taking

jobs from Americans. Fear that they come here to live off the government. These fears can cloud our vision to the point that we no longer see immigrants as people, but rather as faceless creatures. When we do this, we rob immigrants of their human dignity.

As disciples of Christ, we are called to place our trust in God and not be overcome by fear. Specifically, the Scriptures demand that we welcome strangers, not as faceless creatures, but as human beings. In the Old Testament, God commanded Moses and the Israelites to welcome the foreigners, remembering how they, too, were once foreigners (Dt 10: 19). Likewise, in the Gospel, Jesus says that when we welcome the stranger, we welcome him (Mt 25: 31-46).

To help us see these faces and learn their stories, I offer a few suggestions:

- Visit the *Estamos Aquí* exhibit at the Neville Public Museum in Green Bay. This bilingual exhibit, which will continue into 2018, celebrates Latino identity in northeast Wisconsin. While there, you can also learn the stories of other immigrants who have come to this region since the 17th century.

- Attend a bilingual Mass at one of our diocesan parishes and introduce yourself to someone after Mass.

- Find a program in your parish or community that assists immigrants in getting settled here. If you can't find one, consider starting one.

These are just a few suggestions. I invite each of us to consider prayerfully how Christ is calling us to see him in the faces of immigrants in our community. As we do, I am confident that we will no longer see these people as faceless strangers, but as fellow disciples on the way.

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Parish SNAPSHOT

Members of the Knights of Columbus, Council #11305, gather July 20 around the new Ten Commandments Monument they funded at St. Raphael Parish in Oshkosh.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

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