



February 2018

# The Compass

IN THE

# Bulletin

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## Diocese kicks off Jubilee Year

### Jubilee Mass for Youth and Youth Ministers held Jan. 14 at cathedral

SAM LUCERO | THE COMPASS

**GREEN BAY** — The Diocese of Green Bay kicked off the celebration of its 150th anniversary on Jan. 14 with the first of 12 Jubilee Year liturgies. Bishop David Ricken presided at the inaugural event, a Jubilee Mass for Youth and Youth Ministers, at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral.

"I welcome all of you and pray especially for the youth ministers," Bishop Ricken said. "Thank you for all you are doing for our young people in the diocese. I know sometimes it's not too easy, but we really appreciate you."

Fr. Dan Felton, vicar general of the Green Bay Diocese, and Fr. Michael Thiel, parochial vicar at Green Bay's Quad Parishes, joined Bishop Ricken for the Jubilee Mass. Several youth and youth ministers from around the diocese participated in the Mass as readers, altar servers and gift bearers.

In his homily, Bishop Ricken mentioned two saints whose statues grace the cathedral's worship space: St. Francis Xavier and St. John Paul II. Francis



SAM LUCERO | THE COMPASS

**St. Francis Xavier Cathedral usher Patty Scasny distributes commemorative rosaries to youth attending the Jubilee Mass for Youth and Youth Ministers at the cathedral Jan. 14. Bishop Ricken celebrated the Mass, the first of 12 liturgies planned for the diocese's 150th anniversary.**

Xavier, the cathedral's patron saint, "was a real missionary apostle," said Bishop Ricken. "He converted thousands and thousands of people to Christianity."

St. John Paul II "is really the main force behind the new evangelization," he said. His statue "is a reminder that our diocese is acting as disciples on the way, learning to re-introduce others

to Jesus. That's what the new evangelization is all about."

Bishop Ricken told youth ministers and youth in attendance that they are living in "a very distinguished, important and humbling time in the life and history of this diocese."

**Our full story appears in the Jan. 19 issue.**

### FRANKLY, FRANCIS



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Resuming the catechesis on the Eucharistic celebration, let us consider today, in the context of the Introductory Rites, the Penitential Act. In its sobriety, it favors the attitude with which we are prepared to worthily celebrate the holy mysteries, that is, by acknowledging our sins before God and our brothers and sisters, acknowledging that we are sinners. In fact the priest's invitation is addressed to the whole community in prayer, because we are all sinners. What can the Lord give to one whose heart is already filled with self-importance, with one's own success? Nothing, because a presumptuous person is incapable of receiving forgiveness, as he is satisfied by his presumed righteousness.

+ Pope Francis, Jan. 3, 2018

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## Lena High School volleyball teammates serve up kindness

BY TOM BESCHTA | FOR THE COMPASS

**LENA** — Sept. 19, 2015. It's a day that holds both sadness and joy for the small community of Lena. It was on this day that 10-year-old Kyle Hodkiewicz lost his two-year battle with leukemia. Though the sports-loving kid who never complained about his illness is missed, his determined spirit and faith have not been forgotten.

Since his death, Kyle has inspired countless efforts to help families and individuals suffering from medical ailments. These efforts include those of the Lena High School Girls Volleyball Team.

For junior Alayna Peterson, it's an opportunity to bring people together for a good cause.

"It's really nice to be able to go down and help these families, especially with knowing a

family that went through that and how tough it is," Peterson said.

The team volunteered on Dec. 2, sporting orange T-shirts representing leukemia awareness. Diapers and other baby supplies were delivered, and the girls made snack bags for families to eat throughout the day.

**Our full story appears in the Jan. 12 issue.**

# 5 THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

## About Candlemas

PATRICIA KASTEN | THE COMPASS

- 1 Feb. 2 marks the midpoint between the start of winter and the first day of spring. It is also 40 days after Christmas.
- 2 Feb. 2 is called "Candlemas" in the Catholic Church. In France, it is *Chandeleur*; in Mexico, it is called the *Día de la Candelaria*. Food customs include pancakes and tamales.
- 3 The day commemorates the Presentation of the Lord in the Temple when he was 40 days old. The candles refer to Simeon calling Jesus "a revealing light to the Gentiles" (Lk 2:32).
- 4 Candles are blessed in churches on Feb. 2 and taken home by the faithful to be lit during the year, especially during thunderstorms.
- 5 Feb. 2 also honors the feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary after the birth of her son, Jesus.

## Personal stories of DACA recipients

This past summer, I wrote a column about immigration, in which I encouraged all of us to learn the stories of our immigrant brothers and sisters. Recently, I had the privilege to listen to the personal stories of



### BISHOP'S CORNER

Bishop David Ricken

five young women, who are DACA recipients and live in our diocese.

The DACA program (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals), instituted by President Obama, allows undocumented individuals who came to this country as children to apply for legal status, enabling them to remain in this country, obtain a driver's license, and work legally. In order to qualify for DACA, they must meet

several key requirements, and DACA must be renewed every two years. This past fall, President Trump announced that DACA would be ending in March of this year unless Congress enacts a permanent solution for these young people; often referred to as "Dreamers."

While I recognize the decisions surrounding DACA and immigration are generally quite complex, I also realize how important it is to understand the way these policy decisions are affecting real people in our neighborhoods. In today's column, I'd like to share with you some of the personal testimonies of the DACA participants I was fortunate to meet recently.

As I listened to each person's story, I was as-

tounded by the many sacrifices that were made by the families who came here. When these young women arrived in the United States, their parents typically worked long hours, sometimes in multiple jobs, in order to provide for their children. Often, as young girls, they took on important roles in helping raise their siblings or serving as translators for their parents.

As a result, they were forced to grow up fast. One participant told me that during her high school years, she was putting in 13-hour days between school, work and extra college-credit classes. She did this in hopes that she could work her way up and take care of her parents someday as they reached retirement.

Another participant said of her parents, "They've given up so much for me. I want to make them proud." Each of the participants shared similar accounts of sacrifices they and their family members made for each other, beautifully illustrating the Christian concept of love, which is to will the good of another.

Through this visit, I also came to understand that DACA provides a lifeline for many young people. Before DACA, one woman said, she wondered if graduating high school even mattered, since it would be so difficult to get a job without documentation. When DACA became available, however, she received her work authorization, and at 16, she was able to work three different jobs to help pay the rent. Today she is attending college, has a job and dreams of one day being a teacher.

The entire column appears in our Jan. 19 issue.

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## Parish SNAPSHOT



Submitted photo | Fr. Michael Seis

Members of St. Raphael the Archangel Parish in Oshkosh recently traveled to the diocese's mission in the Dominican Republic on a medical and dental mission. The volunteers offered basic medical and dental checkups for residents.

Compass  
in your mailbox

The Compass will be mailed to all registered parish households on Feb. 9. It's your yearly opportunity to see what you are missing.