



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Update on St. Boniface church, Manitowoc, WI

GREEN BAY, Wis. (July 12, 2025) – Following months of parish planning in 2019-2020, an initial request from St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Manitowoc, was made to the Diocese of Green Bay to no longer use St. Boniface church. After further discussion on the matter, Bishop Ricken ultimately granted permission to St. Francis of Assisi to close St. Boniface church.

Upon permission being granted, during the summer of 2024, an appeal was presented to the Dicastery for the Clergy, regarding the permanent closing of St. Boniface church. A ruling was issued which affirmed Bishop Ricken's initial decision to close the church. A final appeal was then made against this decision to the Apostolic Signatura, which is the Supreme Court of the Catholic Church. We have now heard back from Rome on this final appeal which has affirmed Bishop Ricken's initial decision on January 15, 2023, to close the Church of Saint Boniface. Planning for the disposition of the Church, contents, and property is underway. Please continue to pray for the parish and community.

###

Who we are: As friends and followers of Jesus, the Catholic Diocese of Green Bay is devoted to fostering households and communities of discipleship through the mission and ministry of the Catholic Church. We are missionary disciples striving to lead all people to the Kingdom of God. Established in 1868, the diocese is composed of 256,000 Catholics in 16 counties: Brown, Calumet, Door, Florence, Forest, Kewaunee, Langlade, Manitowoc, Marinette, Menominee, Oconto, Outagamie, Shawano, Waupaca, Waushara and Winnebago.

Contact: Justine Lodl, communications and marketing director, at 920-272-8213 or jlodl@gbdioc.org.