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The Compass

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Youth provide service to community through 'Love Begins Here'

BY BOB ZYSKOWSKI | FOR THE COMPASS

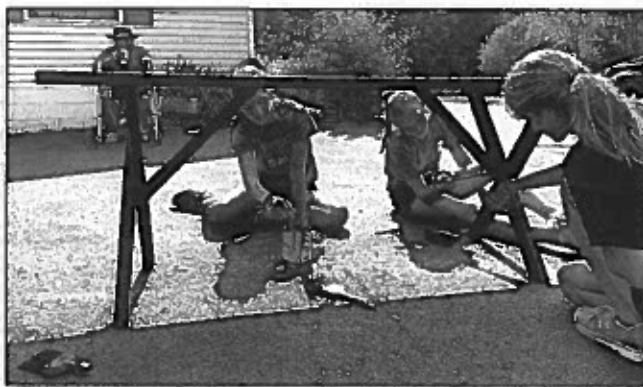
SHAWANO — Tucked into a semi-rural section of the City of Shawano, John and Betty Kadlec's home comes with a view of woodlands and prairie that fox and deer run across.

And grass. Lots of grass.

On a summery Monday, John, 79, never moved from a seat on his patio as a team of young people from the "Love Begins Here" program repainted a picnic table and their chaperone, Marny Clark, wheeled around the property on a green and gold John Deere, mowing that expanse of grass. "I loved that John Deere," Kadlec recalled.

For some 40 years before retiring, Kadlec was the nursing home administrator of the Shawano Convalescent Center — now named Manor Care — and happy to do his own lawn mowing. Now, he quipped, "I'm too smart for that!"

"The outside work and the inside work is too much for us," explained his wife, Betty, a retired registered nurse. "I'd like to have gotten to the weeds in



BOB ZYSKOWSKI | FOR THE COMPASS

Shawano homeowner John Kadlec watches as youth in the "Love Begins Here" summer youth service program refinish his picnic table. Working, from left, are Claire Murphy and Addison Conrad, both from St. Nicholas Parish, Freedom, and Eva Passel from De Pere.

the flower bed there, but I just can't keep up with it."

Lending a hand at the Kadlec home and at sites across the Shawano/Clintonville area were some 40 teens, mostly middle-schoolers, as part of Love Begins Here, the three-year-old summer youth service ministry of the Green Bay Diocese.

Love Begins Here challenges middle school and high school

youth to three days of prayer and service. This summer, 270 teens accepted the challenge to become Love Begins Here missionaries, spreading from bases at five different parish sites to help senior citizens and others by doing whatever jobs they might need around their homes.

Our full story appears in the July 19 issue.

FRANKLY, FRANCIS



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The fruit of Pentecost, the powerful outpouring of the Spirit of God upon the first Christian community, was that many people felt their heart pierced by the Good News — the kerygma — of salvation in Christ, and they freely adhered to him, converting, receiving baptism in his name and in turn, welcoming the gift of the Holy Spirit.

About 3,000 people joined that fraternity which is the habitat of believers and is the ecclesial leaven for the work of evangelization. The warmth of the faith of these brothers and sisters in Christ makes their lives the landscape of God's work which, through the Apostles, is manifested with miracle and signs. What is extraordinary becomes ordinary, and everyday life becomes the site of the manifestation of living Christ.

+ Pope Francis,
June 26, 2019

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Biking for Babies kicks off northern tour at shrine

BY JEFF KUROWSKI | THE COMPASS

CHAMPION — In 10 years, Biking for Babies has grown from the humble beginning of two guys who cycled across the state of Illinois to four national teams in visible bright yellow jerseys that "cover the pavement in prayer," explained Nikki Biese, executive director. The mission of the apostolate is to raise awareness

and support for centers that help women in crisis pregnancies.

Biese spoke at the northern route kickoff event on July 7 at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help. In 2011, Kevin Biese, Nikki's husband, became the first cyclist from northeast Wisconsin to join Biking for Babies.

On July 8, a group of northern missionaries departed from Green Bay for St. Louis, where

on July 13, they met up with three other Biking for Babies teams at the "Celebration of Life." Eleven team members — eight cyclists and three support crew — formed the northern team, including six from northeast Wisconsin and two others with ties to the area as students at St. Norbert College in De Pere.

Our full story appears in the July 19 issue.

5 THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

Saintly queens

BY PATRICIA KASTEN | THE COMPASS

- 1 St. Jane of Valois was briefly Queen of France. Her unhappy marriage to Louis XII ended in annulment.
- 2 St. Clothilde is the patron of queens. She married Clovis I, first king of the Franks. Her children included Kings Chlodomer, Chloathar and Childebert.
- 3 St. Jadwiga (Hedwig) was the first woman to rule as "King of Poland." Her father was Louis I of Hungary and Poland. She was crowned at age 10 and ruled for 15 years.
- 4 Eastern churches honor St. Tamar of Georgia, who became queen after her father (George III) died in 1184. She rode into battle against Muslim invaders.
- 5 St. Margaret of Scotland met her husband, King Malcolm III, after her family was shipwrecked in Scotland while fleeing Norman invaders.

Surrendering life into God's hands

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ:

In my last column on discipleship (The Compass, June 7), I touched on the truth that Jesus is standing patiently at the door of our hearts, waiting for each of us to let him



BISHOP'S CORNER

Bishop David Ricken

in. And although Jesus will never force his way into our lives, the sooner we invite him in, the sooner our lives will be better.

As You see, the key to a fulfilled and happy life is to surrender your life into the hands of God who is deeply in love with you. Surrender to God and he will do all things for you.

After I say these words to many people, the most common response is, "I am

not worthy. I have done some really bad things in my life. Yes, I have confessed them, but God simply cannot love me after what I have done."

This response is a total lie. It is because we are sinners that we need God, that we need his help. He loves each one of us, no matter what we have done, no matter how grievous our offenses against him and others have been. He still loves you and died on the cross to express that love. His arms stretched on the cross during the crucifixion show how much he loves you.

People also resist the idea of surrendering to God because it means giving up control. In our culture that places such a great emphasis on individualism and self-reliance, the idea of surrendering control to someone else, even God, can feel very unsettling.

So many of us have been going through life, carving our own path, and trying to piece it all together in the midst of trials and struggles. But I have to ask, how's that working out for you? If you're anything like me, I'm guessing that going through life on your own is not working out so well.

But it seems that some people have to try everything once themselves. They pay little attention to the wisdom of others who may have traveled those roads before them. While experience is important, you do not have to keep experiencing evil in order for you to be convinced of its devastating effects on your life and on the lives of others. Save yourself a lot of trouble, confusion and brokenness by simply turning to your love, savior and best friend, Jesus.

When you do, you will begin to recognize that life is not about following your own will and satisfying your every desire. Life is about living from the source of all life, God himself. In many ways, your life and my life are on loan to us, to be used for the sake of the glory of God. We do best when our lives are connected strongly to our creator and to the Son of God, Jesus.

The entire column appears in our July 19 issue.

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SUBMITTED PHOTO | FOR THE COMPASS

Young girls from around the Diocese of Green Bay enjoy an outdoor activity underneath a parachute this summer during a youth camp experience at Camp Tekakwitha near Shawano. Summer camps were scheduled through Aug. 9 at Camp Tekakwitha, an outdoor ministry of the Green Bay Diocese.

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