



February 2020

The Compass

IN THE

Bulletin

www.thecompassnews.org | www.gbdioc.org

Laundry Love offers free laundry services to needy in Green Bay

BY NANCY BARTHEL | FOR THE COMPASS

GREEN BAY — Michele Whittington stood in line with a large mound of clothing, bedding and towels, waiting for her turn at Corner Coin Laundry, 433 N. Irwin Ave., on Tuesday morning, Dec. 10, to have her dirty laundry weighed.

That day, she was looking forward to a new beginning: clean clothes would be coming home with her, thanks to the nonprofit Laundry Love Green Bay, which provides free laundry services to people in need two times a month.

Whittington had unexpectedly lost her job before Thanksgiving, and both she and her son had been hit with an intestinal virus. She had been washing their clothes in the bathtub. "This means I am going to have clean clothing," she said of Laundry Love Green Bay, which she has donated to in the past. "I literally sent my son to school in clothes (today) that I reserve for the playground. They have holes in them," she said.

Clean clothing is a basic



SAM LUCERO | THE COMPASS

Volunteer Sara Cork carries laundry detergent while pulling a laundry basket at the Corner Coin Laundry-East Dec. 10. Cork has been a volunteer with Laundry Love Green Bay since the program started 12 years ago. It provides free laundry services to people in need.

human need, and Laundry Love Green Bay offers free laundry services the second Tuesday of the month at Corner Coin Laundry-East from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and the fourth Friday of the month at Corner Coin Laundry-West, 404 Mather St., from 6:30 to 9 p.m.

The story of Laundry Love began 12 years ago, according to the laundrylove.org website, with T-Bone (Eric), a homeless

gentleman living in Ventura Calif.

In one particular conversation, a question was asked of him: "T-Bone, how can we come alongside your life in a way that would matter?" His response was honest and practical: "If I had clean clothes I think people would treat me like a human being."

Our full story appears in the Dec. 20 issue.

FRANKLY, FRANCIS



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Today we conclude our catechesis on the Acts of the Apostles with Paul's arrival in Rome, in chains, to appeal his case to Caesar. As we have seen, St. Luke's account of the spread of the Gospel largely coincides with Paul's missionary journeys. In Rome, Paul is welcomed by the Christian community and permitted to remain under house arrest. Luke ends the Book of Acts not with Paul's martyrdom but by describing his tireless proclamation of the Gospel, showing the power of God's word which can never be chained (cf. 2 Tim 2:9). Paul's missionary journeys, culminating in this city, reveal the power of God's grace to open hearts to the Gospel and its saving message. Having in these past months followed the spread of the Good News throughout the world, let us ask the Holy Spirit to renew in each one of us the call to be courageous and joyful missionary disciples of Christ.

+ Pope Francis,
Jan. 15, 2020

@Pontifex

Follow Him On

twitter

Fr. John Girotti will lead October Compass pilgrimage to Hungary, Poland

ALLOUEZ — The Compass will sponsor a 13-day pilgrimage to Hungary and Poland next October. Some of the trip's highlights include a stop at Poland's Jasna Gora, the Marian shrine that is home of the Black Madonna icon, also known as Our Lady of Czestochowa; Wadowice, Poland, birthplace of St. John Paul II; and Auschwitz, Poland, home of the World War II Nazi concentration camp.

Fr. John Girotti, vicar for canonical services and associate moderator of the Curia for the Diocese of Green Bay, will lead the pilgrimage. Pilgrims will depart from Green Bay by bus to Chicago on Friday, Oct. 2, and return on Wednesday, Oct. 14.

"Poland is the birthplace of St. John Paul II, who was pope for 27 years," said Fr. Girotti. "He's a saint, a beloved figure, and to see

where he lived, grew up and the country that formed him is an inspiration for all of us."

Poland and Hungary are "really the two places in Europe where the faith has remained strong, despite persecution and communism," added Fr. Girotti. "To be able to see that vibrant faith is a wonderful thing."

Our full story appears in the Jan. 17 issue.

5 THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

Vestments

BY PATRICIA KASTEN | THE COMPASS

- 1 Vestments (liturgical attire) are an important part of Mass. The most basic, allowed to each Catholic, is the white alb. It symbolizes baptism.
- 2 Priests wear chasubles over an alb. These show the color of the church season and symbolize the yoke of Christ.
- 3 Priests also wear a stole around their necks, under the chasuble. Deacons wear a stole across their left shoulder and tied at the right hip. Stoles match the color of the season. They represent carrying the cross.
- 4 Deacons may wear a dalmatic. It looks like a chasuble, but has sleeves.
- 5 Priests also tie a cincture at their waist. It symbolizes chastity and purity of heart.

A trip to Rome and visit with Pope Francis

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ:

A few weeks ago, I had the opportunity to travel to Rome, where I joined 24 other bishops from the Upper Midwest. Every



BISHOP'S CORNER

Bishop David Ricken

five to seven years we are asked to do a thorough review of the state of each of our dioceses and send a written report to the Vatican. The report is followed by a visit to the Vatican offices and to meet with the Holy Father himself.

This is my third "ad Limina" visit. The term means "threshold" because, while in Rome, we cross the thresholds or doorways of the four major basilicas

in the city. They are St. Mary Major; St. Paul Outside-the-Walls, where St. Paul is buried; St. John Lateran, which serves as the Cathedral for the Diocese of Rome and was the center for the pope for centuries; and St. Peter's, where the tomb of St. Peter is located. We celebrated Mass in each of these places and renewed our profession of faith as bishops and successors of the apostles. These Masses were very moving and I had the privilege of being principal celebrant at St. Mary Major.

Outstanding in our visit was the meeting with the Holy Father. He gave us almost two and one-half hours of listening and honest conversations and dialogue. He told us of some of his experience as a Jesuit priest and diocesan bishop in Argentina. He explained that some of his "controversial" comments

are taken out of context by the press and used to manipulate and to cause division. It is also clear that the Holy Father is calling the church to change and become more "missional" in reaching out to help people discover and follow Jesus.

I had a chance to describe to him the cultural change we are undergoing in the diocese, which is gathering momentum in helping more of us reach out to others with the joy of the Gospel. I asked him about the role of the Holy Spirit in all of this. He thanked me for the question and said that we need to pray and have more faith in the power of the Holy Spirit. He also said that we need to remember that it is not so much that we bring the Holy Spirit to others; the Holy Spirit is already there. We simply help the people realize how close God is to them already and help them to respond to God's love. What a beautiful way of expressing the truth of God's love for us!

He told me to read through the book of Acts thoroughly and prayerfully and the Holy Spirit will give us the next best steps, usually one step at a time, as was true for the apostles and early Christians. As I said farewell to the Holy Father, he said: "Very good! Keep moving forward!"

Being with him and hearing him reminded me of so many conversations I had as a young priest with my bishop, Bishop Arthur Tafoya of my home Diocese of Pueblo, Colo. He was a real spiritual father to me and to many priests of the Diocese of Pueblo. He was very much like Pope Francis, especially in his desire to be close to the people of God as their pastor.

The entire column appears in our Jan. 3 issue.

Please mail \$23 payment to:



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

Subscribe: Save \$5 NOW!



Parish SNAPSHOT

In December, St. Thomas Aquinas Academy students in Peshtigo participated in weekly Advent projects benefiting people in need. The first week featured a pajama collection for foster children (pictured at left). They also "adopted" children from the St. Vincent de Paul Angel Tree, created Christmas cards for families and rang Salvation Army bells at a local grocery store.

SUBMITTED PHOTO | FOR THE COMPASS