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The Compass

IN THE

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India hospital offers cleft lip, palate surgeries thanks to diocesan donations

BY SAM LUCERO | THE COMPASS

ALLOUEZ — Missionaries from around the world make special visits to parishes around the Diocese of Green Bay every year. These missionaries are part of the Missionary Cooperative Plan (MCP) created by the Diocese of Green Bay, and the visits help them raise funds for their ministries.

After giving Mass-goers a description of their mission activities, parishes take up a collection and the diocese forwards donations to the MCP participants. Most parishioners, however, never see how their funds are used.

But last week, one of last year's MCP participants sent a note of thanks to Cindy St. Aubin, World Mission director for the diocese. Dr. Geetha Yervu and her husband, Tom Chitta, founders of the Foundation for Children in Need based in India, also sent photos showing how the funds support surgeries for children with cleft lips and palates at GSR Hospital in Hyderabad, India.



SUBMITTED PHOTO | FOR THE COMPASS

Tom Chitta and Dr. Geetha Yervu, standing at far right, are pictured with mothers and their children who received surgeries for cleft lips and palates in Hyderabad, India. The surgeries were made possible by donations from the Diocese of Green Bay.

Chitta also distributed over 8,000 notebooks, purchased with the MCP donations, to numerous Catholic schools in India. The women met on Feb. 12 in the Holy Family Hall at St. Pius X and worked from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m.

The couple visited the diocese in May 2019 and spoke to parishes in Brussels, Casco and Lincoln/Rosiere.

"They started the Foundation for Children in Need in 2002,"

said St. Aubin. "They live six months in the United States and six months in India. Besides medical care, they support health education and developing women's work skills for economic independence."

According to St. Aubin, the Foundation for Children was one of 38 MCP participants last year.

Our full story appears in the March 20 issue.

FRANKLY, FRANCIS



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Today we will consider the fifth Beatitude which says: "Blessed are the merciful for they shall obtain mercy" (Mt 5:7). There is a peculiar aspect to this beatitude. It is the only one in which the cause and the fruit of happiness coincide: mercy. Those who show mercy will find mercy, they will be "shown mercy."

This theme of reciprocity of forgiveness is not found only in this Beatitude, but is recurrent throughout the Gospel. How could it be otherwise? Mercy is the very heart of God! Jesus says: "Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive and you will be forgiven" (Lk 6:37). It is always the same reciprocity. And the Letter of James states that "mercy triumphs over judgment" (Jam 2:13).

+ Pope Francis,
March 18, 2020

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Diocese Museum offers devotional items to public

SAM LUCERO | THE COMPASS

GREEN BAY — The Green Bay Diocese Museum is hoping to find homes for abandoned devotional objects and sacramentals that it recently acquired.

The museum, located in the lower level of the Cathedral Center, adjacent to St. Francis Xavier Cathedral, is hosting an "Enhancing Your Home

Devotions" event. More than 200 devotional items such as religious statues, rosaries, Nativity sets, paintings and prayer booklets will be available for a donation to the museum.

Sherry Steffel, president of the Green Bay Diocese Museum Board, said the religious items were donated last April to the Diocese Museum by the Two Rivers Historical Society. The objects were donated to the historical

society following the 2002 merger of St. Luke, St. Francis and St. Mark parishes in Two Rivers and Manitowoc creating St. Peter the Fisherman Parish.

Michael Lenth, the historical society's vice president, contacted Steffel after learning about the Diocese Museum in a parish bulletin.

Our full story appears in the March 20 issue.

5 THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

Palm Sunday

BY PATRICIA KASTEN | THE COMPASS

- 1 On the first Palm Sunday, Jesus entered Jerusalem from the Mount of Olives, which is east of the Old City. Tradition says he used the now closed "Golden Gate" near the Temple Mount.
- 2 The word "Hosanna" comes from a Hebrew word meaning "Save us, we pray." (See Ps 118:25.)
- 3 Jesus rode a donkey. This fulfilled Zechariah's prophecy that the Messiah would "come riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey" (Zec 9:9).
- 4 As early as the fourth century, people recreated Jesus' entry for Palm Sunday processions.
- 5 Palms are an evergreen plant, symbolizing both unfading victory and eternal life.

The Compass

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NEW SUBSCRIBERS ONLY

Responding to the coronavirus

Dear friends and followers of Jesus:

I write to you today to offer my prayers, hope and guidance as together, throughout the 16 counties of the Diocese of Green Bay,



BISHOP'S CORNER

Bishop David Ricken

we maneuver through this extremely fluid situation regarding the COVID-19 outbreak.

This is a difficult time for us all as we strive to stay positive, proactive and preventative within our homes and communities. Fear of the unknown, including how to care for children as schools are closed, the care and safety of elderly and those with compromised immune systems, and prioritizing

responsibilities at work and at home as the virus ramps up, is causing stress on a variety of fronts for many families.

I have been working closely with the bishops of the state of Wisconsin and diocesan staff, as well as professionals from Catholic health care over the last week. Based on their advice, the latest directive from the CDC regarding limiting public gatherings to no more than 50 people (federal government is recommending 10 people), and after much prayer and discernment, I am providing you the latest directives with regard to the celebration of Mass and other sacraments, as well as other directives and information.

CELEBRATION OF SACRAMENTS:

Effective Friday, March 20, ALL PUBLIC

ATTENDANCE AT MASSES in the Diocese of Green Bay is suspended through mid-April. I want to assure you all that not attending Mass during a national health emergency like this is not sinful.

During this time when we are most in need of the Eucharist as the source and summit of our Catholic faith, I encourage parishes to find innovative ways to meet the needs of the faithful and to be the body of Christ for each other, even when physically apart. In addition to spending Sunday in prayer, the Parish Life and Evangelization Mission Team has created resources for parishes to share. They can also be found on the diocesan website at gbdio.org/covid19.

I will celebrate a 30-minute Mass each Sunday during the suspension of public attendance and it will be broadcast over the local CBS affiliate, WFRV Local 5 at 10:30 a.m. Sunday Mass is also available diocesan-wide via broadcast television on ABC affiliate WBAY at 5:30 a.m. Sunday morning, and on CW14 at 8 a.m.

Mass is also available on Relevant Radio, 1050 AM at 9 a.m. Parishes throughout the diocese are also livestreaming Mass. Check your parish website for details. As additional resources are made available, we will keep the public informed.

Daily Mass is livestreamed Monday through Friday from the campus of Relevant Radio here in Green Bay. You can access the Mass through the Relevant Radio app, or at this link relevantradio.com/faith/daily-mass-video.

The entire column appears in our March 20 issue.

Parish SNAPSHOT



Ambrose Kerr and Rich Mihal-ski serenade the fish fry crowd at St. Casimir Church in Krakow on Friday, March 13. It was the last fish fry of the year for the parish, along with other parishes in the Diocese of Green Bay.

SUSAN SIMONS | FOR THE COMPASS