



June 2020

The Compass IN THE Bulletin

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Parish offers drive-through meals

BY SAM LUCERO | THE COMPASS

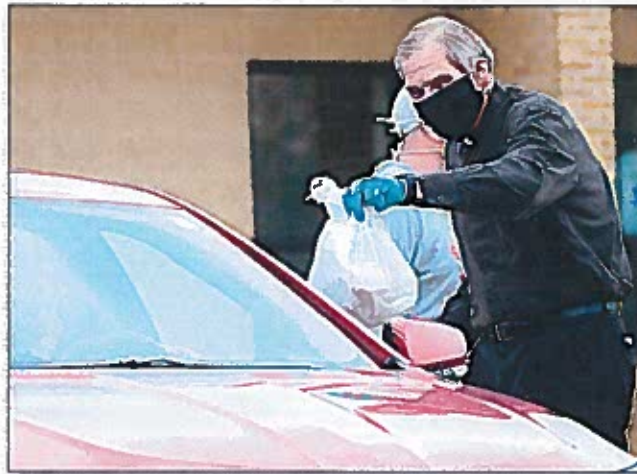
KAUKAUNA — It wasn't mana in the desert or a multiplication of loaves and fishes, but the drive-through community meal May 14 sponsored by Kaukauna Catholic Parishes did demonstrate how faith can bring people together to satisfy physical and spiritual hunger.

Approximately 600 meals — each featuring a choice of bratwurst, hot dog, hamburger or a vegetarian salad — were prepared and served by about 20 parish volunteers in the parking lot of St. Katharine Drexel-St. Mary Church. Other volunteers helped cars maneuver through the four serving lanes divided by traffic cones.

"It has been a wonderful opportunity to do what we can to raise the spirits of people in the city of Kaukauna and (in) Hollandtown in a very simple way," said Fr. Don Everts, pastor of Kaukauna Catholic Parishes, who took orders and handed bagged meals to guests.

Volunteers wore masks and gloves as they directed traffic, took food orders and handed the meals to drivers.

It was the second week in



SAM LUCERO | THE COMPASS

Fr. Don Everts, pastor of Kaukauna Catholic Parishes, hands a plastic bag filled with meals to a driver during the parish's drive-through community meal May 14 in the parking lot of St. Katharine Drexel-St. Mary Church in Kaukauna. About 600 meals were served by parish volunteers.

a row the parish sponsored a community meal, said Gloria Schuh, parish discipleship coordinator, "We had 52 jars of spaghetti sauce (left over from the St. Ignatius School lunch program) and we were like, 'How can we use this,'" said Schuh. With a donation from Catholic Financial Life, the parish's inaugural community meal, held May 7, fed spaghetti

and meatballs to nearly 400 people.

"People are out of work and they need a good meal and budgets are stretched thin," said Fr. Everts. "That's one of the reasons" for having the drive-through meal in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Our full story appears in the May 22 issue.

FRANKLY, FRANCIS



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

In our continuing catechesis on prayer, we now consider the mystery of creation. The first pages of the Bible resemble a great hymn of thanksgiving for the goodness and beauty of creation, whose grandeur awakens a sense of wonder within the human heart and a desire to pray. The awe-inspiring immensity of creation stirs us to contemplate the mystery of our own being. Though we may experience the weight of our insignificance, we are not nothing. Prayer assures us that things do not exist merely by chance, and that our relationship with God is the source of our nobility. Men and women, by nature, may be almost nothing; yet by vocation, they are children of a great King! Amidst the difficulties and trials of life, prayer sustains our appreciation and gratitude, for it gives vigor to our hope. For the simple joy of being alive, let us offer praise and thanks to our heavenly Father.

+ Pope Francis, May 20, 2020

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Neenah parish breaks bread in middle of pandemic

PATRICIA KASTEN | THE COMPASS

NEENAH — At this time of year, children usually come to church for first Communion. Due to the coronavirus pandemic, first Communions have been delayed and children, and their families, have had to stay home and not attend Mass at church.

So instead of people coming to church for blessed bread, St. Gabriel church staff in

Neenah went to people's homes with freshly baked bread.

Meredith Lauer, youth ministry and faith formation coordinator at St. Gabriel, came up with the idea of delivering 200 loaves of bread to all the students in the parish's faith formation classes from first through 11th grades, including confirmation students and second graders who are preparing for first Communion.

"All I can say is that it was inspired by the Holy Spirit," Lauer told The Compass. "I like bread. My kids like bread. And I thought, 'Oh it would be such a fun thing to do.' It's the end of our religious education year and I thought it would be nice to be able to see them and say 'Goodbye.' And bread came to mind. I don't know why."

Our full story appears in the May 15 issue.

5 THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

St. Boniface

BY PATRICIA KASTEN | THE COMPASS

1 June 5 is the memorial of St. Boniface. While it's summer, Boniface has ties to Christmas trees.

2 Boniface was born in England. His name was Winfrid. Later, he was called "Boniface" which means "good order" in Latin (bonum facere).

3 In 719 A.D., Winfrid became a missionary to tribes in what is now Germany.

4 The tribes followed local gods, including Donar, who later became known as Thor.

5 Winfrid chopped down a sacred tree called "Donar's Oak." An evergreen was found behind it, so Winfrid told them to use it as a symbol of God's eternal love. This tradition later led to the German Christmas tree.

An update on public celebration of Mass

Dear friends and followers of Jesus:

Over these two months of "safer at home," I have been continually inspired by the innovation and creativity I have seen from our priests, pastoral leaders and



BISHOP'S CORNER

Bishop David Ricken

parish and school staffs as they have ministered to the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of the faithful throughout the Diocese of Green Bay. It is during these challenging times that our Lord walks with us to be bolder and better. Now is our time to "love all God's people, all the time!" I extend my most heartfelt thanks to everyone in the parishes and schools for rising in the days of Easter to serve those who

are just looking to find some normalcy in this time of the coronavirus pandemic.

I also want to share I too, have been hard at work with my brother bishops throughout the state, curia leadership and with the Regional Vicars and Presbyteral Council to bring our church and her members back to the source and summit of our faith, which has been missing for so many during these two months. The health and safety of the faithful is our number one priority. And, I want to be clear we will continue to comply with the safer-at-home policies as long as they are in place.

As we issue this plan, we see the diocese as being in the pre-phase of the "Bounce Back Plan." As you may know, the Archdiocese of Milwaukee issued their plan for returning to Mass several weeks ago. Our plan is different and takes into account the particular circumstances of our diocese. Because of concern for those living in the northern counties of the diocese, who are not projected to see spikes in the virus until perhaps mid-July, we will remain vigilant in our observance of our plan and our monitoring and measuring of data.

Last week, I shared with priests and pastoral leaders our plan for the "Distribution of Holy Communion" outside the Mass on Sundays during the coronavirus pandemic. The solution the church has provided, and which we are implementing beginning Pentecost weekend, May 30-31, is a simple Communion service. Parishioners who are able are strongly encouraged to participate spiritually at Mass by means of television, online or radio before coming to a parish Communion service. Those who are unable to do so are encouraged to read the Scriptures for the day or pray a rosary or in some other way prepare to receive holy Communion. The Communion service will include reading briefly from the Word of God, praying the Lord's Prayer together, and receiving the Eucharist, providing an opportunity for the faithful to be sacramentally nourished.

The entire column appears in our May 22 issue.

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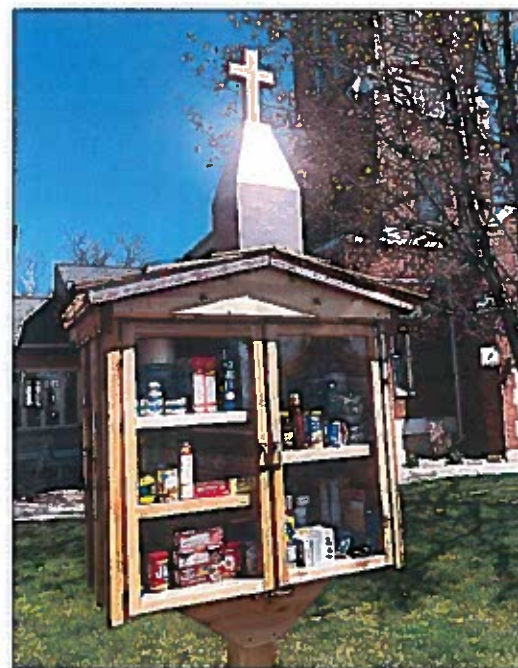
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Parish SNAPSHOT

St. Francis and St. Mary Parish in Brussels installed a "Little Food Pantry" to the front of their church on May 8. Similar to the concept of the Little Free Library, the Little Food Pantry provides resources for the needy in an anonymous way. While the parish hopes that it can assist the poor, it is meant for anyone, said Fr. Edward Looney, pastor. The Little Food Pantry movement's motto is "Take what you need and give you what you can." The pantry is also part of the parish's community outreach, in addition to responding to its Parish Mission Planning goals, added Fr. Looney.

FR. EDWARD LOONEY | SPECIAL TO THE COMPASS