

Manitowoc podcast aims to grow faith

BY SUZANNE WEISS | FOR THE COMPASS

MANITOWOC — The soundtrack of the wildly popular Broadway show “Hamilton” inspired Cameron Gruenke to start a Catholic podcast with his friend, John Christianson.

The hip-hop musical about Founding Father Alexander Hamilton features the song “Who Lives, Who Dies, Who Tells Your Story,” which addresses how Hamilton might be remembered after death.

“I thought if I died tomorrow, who tells my story?” Gruenke asked. “I thought about all of the people in our parish who I don’t really know, who maybe I would see only at the parish picnic or at Easter Vigil. Well, why don’t we just have those people tell their story?”

The two started “Humbly Speaking,” a St. Francis of Assisi Parish podcast, this past spring. They feature a different guest from their Manitowoc parish in each episode and simply offer an open-ended discussion about their faith journeys.

The parish has provided



SUZANNE WEISS | FOR THE COMPASS

John Christianson, left, and Cameron Gruenke prepare to record “Humbly Speaking,” a St. Francis of Assisi Parish podcast, at their studio in the Manitowoc parish’s office.

a microphone, USB mixer for allowing the playing and recording of audio directly into the computer, headphones, pop filters to prevent audio distortion, as well as a studio space in the parish office.

Gruenke, 29, said he felt it was important for parishioners to get to know other people in the parish in order to build a stronger

Catholic community.

“We only see them an hour on Sunday, but it’s important to give people a perspective on how the Catholic life is lived outside of the walls of the church because God doesn’t ask us to be a Catholic for an hour on Sundays.

Our full story appears in the Aug. 12 issue.

FRANKLY, FRANCIS



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Old age is the fitting time for the moving and joyful witness of expectation. The elderly man and woman are waiting, waiting for an encounter.

In old age, the works of faith, which bring us and others closer to the Kingdom of God, are by now beyond the power of the energy, words, and impulses of youth and maturity. But precisely in this way, they make the promise of the true destination of life even more transparent.

And what is the true destination of life? A place at the table with God, in the world of God.

It would be interesting to see whether, in local churches, there is any specific reference intended to revitalize this special ministry of awaiting the Lord — it is a ministry, the ministry of awaiting the Lord — encouraging individual charisms and community qualities of the elderly person.

+ Pope Francis, Aug. 10, 2022

@Pontifex
twitter

When European WWII refugees came to Wisconsin

BY LISA HAEFS | FOR THE COMPASS

ANTIGO — “I was 32 years old when the war came to our area in the form of German invasion and occupation.”

Those words, typed in the front of the book “Vengeance of the Swallows,” a memoir of Polish World War II refugees, serve as a prelude to introducing one of

the Catholic church’s early programs to assist refugees from war-torn areas, and its links to the Green Bay Diocese.

Sept. 2 is the 77th anniversary of the signing of the documents of surrender aboard the USS Missouri in Tokyo Bay, Japan — effectively ending World War II. Earlier, on May 7, 1945, representatives from the Allied high command had

accepted the unconditional surrender of Nazi Germany, officially ending the war in Europe.

“August and Ruby were wonderful people,” said Susan Holubecki Steiner, Stanislaw’s daughter, who was 9 at the time. “They treated us very well.”

Our full story appears in the Aug. 26 issue.

5 THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

St. Michael the Protector

BY PATRICIA KASTEN | THE COMPASS

- 1 The Feast of the Archangels is Sept. 29. However, before the 1970 revision of the church calendar, only St. Michael was honored on Sept. 29.
- 2 The day was sometimes called "Michaelmas" — short for "Michael's Mass. It was, for a time, a holy day of obligation.
- 3 St. Michael's feast was considered to end the harvest year and filled with celebrations, parades and harvest feasts.
- 4 Michael's name — *Mikha'el* — means "Who is like God?" Michael is called the military leader of the angels and protector of God's Chosen People.
- 5 The Sept. 29 feast date comes from the fifth century dedication date of the *Basilica Archangeli in Septimo*, a church about six miles from Rome. It no longer exists.

After knee surgery: Counting my blessings

Dear friends and followers of Jesus:

As you may know, in July I had knee replacement surgery. Anyone who has experienced this surgery or other major surgeries knows that the



BISHOP'S CORNER

Bishop David Ricken

road to recovery is long. I am pleased to report, however, that I am making good progress. As I continue on my journey, I want to share my gratitude for the many people who have supported me and offer some insight on what this experience has taught me.

First of all, I cannot possibly express my sincere gratitude for your prayers during my surgery and recovery. Your prayers are very powerful; they are tangible and palpable. This experience has helped me see just how powerful and effective intercessory prayer can be. What a beautiful tradition we have within the Catholic Church that

we can pray and offer sacrifice for each other, as well as seek the intercession of the "cloud of witnesses" who have gone before us. When the people of God unite in prayer, there is so much that we can do. Thank you for taking time to pray for me, and I humbly ask you to keep me in your prayers as my recovery continues.

I am so grateful for the doctor, the nurses and staff of HSHS St. Clare Memorial Hospital in Oconto Falls for their excellent care. They belong to a partnership between the Hospital Sisters Health System (HSHS) and Prevea Health. HSHS began with a small group of religious women in the 19th century and has grown to serve people throughout Wisconsin and Illinois. Their commitment to providing health care rooted in their faith is an inspiring example of missionary discipleship. I am also grateful for the home health care that began my rehabilitation program here and for my follow-up care with a local physical therapist.

Read the entire column in our Aug. 26 issue.

Parish SNAPSHOT



AMY KAWULA | THE COMPASS

Prince of Peach Parish in Green Bay had a car and lawn implement show along with their summer picnic on Sunday, Aug. 14.

The Compass
Official Newspaper for the Diocese of Green Bay

eNEWSLETTER!

GET FREE CATHOLIC NEWS.
SIGN UP NOW!

Submit your Snapshot Email your digital photo to us at compassnews@gbdioc.org