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THE VOCATION CONNECTION

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF GREEN BAY

+ PRAY + INVITE + SUPPORT +

Opportunities to Promote

Consecrated/Religious Life:

- Invite parishioners to send a Thank You or Christmas card to Sisters who have served your parish.
- Use the Collection for Retired Religious to discuss the connection between your parish and religious communities. The collection is December 10-11.
- Mark your calendar for the World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life—February 5, 2006.
- Place the yellow brochures from the last bulk mail in your parish pamphlet rack. They contain contacts for many of the religious orders who minister in our diocese.
- Invite a sister, brother or priest to speak during Vocation Awareness Week January 8–13.

Three to be ordained deacons on December 17

David Duffeck, Quinn Mann and Walter Stumpf will be ordained deacons on Saturday, December 17 at 10:00 AM at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral. We hope many will come and show their support for these three men.

Dave is a student at St. Meinrad School of Theology in Indiana. Quinn and Walter are students at the University of St. Mary of the Lake/Mundelein Seminary in Illinois.

While completing their seminary work, Dave will serve as deacon in parishes near St. Meinrad. Quinn and Walter will come back to the Green Bay Diocese on weekends to serve parishes here.

We look forward to this celebration. Priests and deacons are invited to vest in the lower level of the Bishop Wycislo Center.



David Duffeck



Walter Stumpf



Quinn Mann

Resources:

Seminarian Prayer Cards and Booklets

Weekend Help-Out

Fr. Tom Long is available for weekend Masses in your parish. While there, he will share a vocations message.

Young Adult or Parent Talks

Invite Fr. Tom to talk to your young adult gathering or to meetings of parents for your school or religious education program.

Who are you inviting to December 22 Project Andrew Lunch?

Priests and Parish Directors are encouraged to invite young men, juniors in high school or older, who might make a good priest, to a lunch with Bishop Zubik.

These Project Andrew meals are intended to be a low-key opportunity for young men to meet Bishop Zubik and to hear some vocation stories. They will also have the chance to meet other young

men who may be thinking of the priesthood.

On Thursday, December 22, the next Project Andrew Meal will be held at Bishop Zubik's residence at 12:00 Noon. Prayer, lunch, and discussion will last for about an hour and a half.

Priests and Parish Directors are encouraged to invite men, and RSVP to Fr. Tom Long by Dec. 15.

**INVITE!—INVITE!
INVITE!**

Traveling Vocation Cross successful in parishes

Some of the parishes in our diocese have a special Vocations Cross, or Candle, or Statue, which spends one week in the home of a parish family before moving on to another family.

This Vocations Cross is a means to visibly promote vocations within the parish community, while specifically targeting families. During the week in which a family has the cross, the family is asked to pray daily for vocations, and to learn and talk about the different vocational calls.

At St. Joseph Parish in Green Bay, Sr. Toni Marie Jendrasiak, SSND, has put together a "Vocation Kit" which travels with their vocation candle. In the kit are prayers, videos, pamphlets and other information which the family can use during their week. She shared her experience with the project at recent meetings of parish Vocation Contact Persons.

Parishes who participate adapt the program to meet their own needs. Most use the end of Mass as the time to present the Cross to a new family.

For more ideas or help in getting this project started, contact Fr. Tom Long.



Sr. Toni displays the Vocation Kit for St. Joseph Parish

A Vocations Intention

For an increase of happy vocations to the married life, to the single life, to the consecrated life, and to the ordained life, we pray to the Lord.

Seminarian Collection tops \$350,000

The first ever Seminarian Collection has exceeded \$350,000 in donations. This tremendous generosity will be used for the education, room and board, and health care costs of our diocesan seminarians. A HUGE THANK YOU to all who helped promote this collection, and are providing *Hope for the Future*. In 2006, parishes will be asked to take the collection between August 13–September 3, on the weekend that best fits the parish schedule.

Plan for Vocations Awareness Week—January 8-13

Vocations Awareness Week planning can begin now to avoid getting lost in the Christmas rush.

Recently, parish Vocation Contact Persons were given packets of suggestions to use. You may contact the Vocations Department to receive a copy if no one from your parish was able to attend. The packet included sample lesson plans which could be used in religious education or Catholic school classes.

Bulletin announcements and a sample insert will be included in an upcoming bulk mail. For now, parish leaders may want to review the following checklist.

Vocation Awareness Week Checklist:

- Give date to DRE and school principal.
- Ensure Prayers of the Faithful reflect a special prayer for vocations on January 8.
- Check with Parish Contact Person to discuss plans on incorporating lesson plans and other activities.
- Consider a display in gathering area or parish bulletin board.
- Watch for bulletin announcements and insert.