

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Third Shipping Container to collect supplies for the Dominican Republic and Haiti

GREEN BAY, Wis. (May 1, 2018) – The World Mission Office of the Catholic Foundation of the Diocese of Green Bay is once again sponsoring the Shipping Container Project. This project aims to collect enough supplies to fill an entire shipping container to send to the Dominican Republic and Haiti. The broad range of items needed for specific projects will directly benefit the health, well-being, and quality of life of those in these two areas of the Caribbean.

The past two years, 40-foot shipping containers were filled with a total of 37 tons of items. "The people of the Diocese of Green Bay have been so generous with this project," said Cindy St. Aubin, World Mission Director for the Catholic Foundation. "They gave money, cleaned out their closets, basements and garages, and bought new items–all to donate to the poorest of the poor. These gifts will greatly improve the lives of so many people. Fr. Mike and Sr. Maria are great stewards of what they receive, nothing is wasted; even the empty shipping containers are converted into buildings! It brings me such joy to see the generosity of our communities."

For more than 50 years, the Diocese of Green Bay has provided financial support and priests to staff two parishes in the Dominican Republic, St. Teresa Parish in Elías Piña and St. Isidore Parish in El Llano. They are currently served by Fr. Mike Seis, who ministers to approximately 90,000 people in his two parishes and approximately 1,350 students in Catholic schools.

Sr. Maria Marciano previously worked as a missionary for 22 years in the Dominican Republic and now focuses her work across the border in Haiti. She works to construct roads, provide fresh water, teaches agriculture, and reforestation. Her work provides, clean water, life-sustaining food sources, health, wellness, education, and flood and erosion prevention. Sr. Maria's efforts impact over 160,000 lives in Haiti.

Items needed include: office supplies, farm/construction supplies, medical supplies, hygiene items, housewares and clothing. For a list of specific items, please visit: <u>www.catholicfoundationgb.org/container</u>. Financial gifts are always appreciated and are used to buy needed items. To make your gift, visit <u>www.catholicfoundationgb.org/give</u>.

The Shipping Container Project deadline is September 1, 2018. For drop-off locations across the diocese, pickup service, or additional information, please visit <u>www.catholicfoundationgb.org/container</u>. You may also contact Cindy St. Aubin, World Missions Director, at 920-272-8192 or <u>wmissions@gbdioc.org</u>.

The Catholic Foundation encourages financial stewardship and generosity through faith-based giving. The Foundation focuses on supporting Catholic parishes, schools and ministries through endowment funding. To learn more, please contact Josh Diedrich at 920-272-8181, or via email at <u>catholicfoundation@gbdioc.org</u>.

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Who we are: As friends and followers of Jesus, the Catholic Diocese of Green Bay is devoted to fostering households and communities of discipleship through the mission and ministry of the Catholic Church. We are missionary disciples striving to lead all people to the Kingdom of God. Established in 1868, the diocese is composed of 324,000 Catholics in 16 counties: Brown, Calumet, Door, Florence, Forest, Kewaunee, Langlade, Manitowoc, Marinette, Menominee, Oconto, Outagamie, Shawano, Waupaca, Waushara and Winnebago.

Contact: Justine Lodl, director of communications, at 920-272-8213 or <u>ilodl@gbdioc.org</u>; or Sarah Bradford, communications coordinator, at 920-272-8209 or <u>sbradford@gbdioc.org</u>.

Celebrating 150 years of making disciples in the Diocese of Green Bay.