



Catholic Foundation

for the Diocese of Green Bay, Inc.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Annual Seminarian Collection to help future priests kicks off Aug. 4-5

GREEN BAY, Wis. (Aug. 1, 2018) – The 14th annual Seminarian Collection will kick off this weekend, Aug. 4-5. This collection benefits the education and support of those who are pursuing a calling to the priesthood for the Green Bay Diocese. Last year, \$1,064,900 was given by more than 11,882 families. Those who would like to make a gift today can do so online at www.catholicfoundationgb.org/give or at their local parish. Seminarians will visit parishes throughout the month of August to ask for people to give to this important collection.

“Our seminarians have been praying, studying, and preparing to walk with us as Catholic disciples. Through your support of the Seminarian Collection, young men are able to receive the training and the tools to share the Gospel. These men are called to be the face and the hands of Jesus Christ offering hope, prayer, and encouragement to all people. Please know whatever gift you are able to give is greatly appreciated,” said Bishop David L. Ricken.

This year, Father José López, Father Greg Parent, and Father Kyle Sladek were ordained priests on June 30, 2018. Each year we are blessed to see the culture of vocations growing in our area. With this great news comes the challenge of funding our vocation efforts. Most men are in the seminary for six to eight years, which includes two years of studying philosophy and four years of studying theology. It costs nearly \$38,000 per seminarian per year. This helps cover the cost of their tuition, room and board, insurance and other expenses, and funding for the Vocation Office.

“As many people know, a calling to the priesthood is not very common and the cost of education can be an added hurdle for those considering this life. This collection makes it possible for our candidates to undertake the beautiful task of serving the Church. All of our efforts are working because people around here are so generous. The Seminarian Collection is never far from the minds of our seminarians as they go about their year,” said Father Daniel Schuster, Vocation Director.

The newly ordained Father Greg Parent said, “I think the best thing about priestly service is first and foremost being able to bring the Sacraments to the people that I serve. It’s amazing to be able to share these incredible graces that the Church gives us. I feel so blessed to be a priest. Thank you for all your prayers and financial support of the Seminarian Collection.”

Seminaries:

Seminarians are currently studying at the following seminaries:

- St. John Vianney College Seminary, St. Paul, Minn.
- Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary, Winona, Minn.
- St. Mary of the Lake/Mundelein Seminary, Mundelein, Ill.
- St. Francis de Sales Seminary, Milwaukee/Sacred Heart, Hales Corners, Wis.
- Pontifical North American College Seminary, Rome, Italy

Meet Our Seminarians (including details on home parishes and current studies):

- Dcn. William Evans, St. Francis Xavier Cathedral, Theology IV, St. Francis de Sales Seminary
- Matthew Faucett, Holy Family, Marinette, Theology IV, North American College
 - Matthew will be ordained to the Diaconate on September 27, 2018 in Rome Italy.
 - Co-Sponsored Seminarian with the Archdiocese for the Military Services – Army
- Benjamin Johnson, Most Blessed Sacrament Parish, Oshkosh, Theology III, Mundelein Seminary
- Kevin Ripley, Assumption BVM, Pulaski, Theology III, Mundelein Seminary
- Samuel Schultz, Holy Spirit Parish, Kimberly, Theology III, Mundelein Seminary
- Patrick Costello, St. Margaret Mary, Neenah, Theology II, North American College
 - Co-Sponsored Seminarian with the Archdiocese for the Military Services – Navy
- Zygmunt (Ziggy) Gross, Good Shepherd, Chilton, Theology II, Mundelein Seminary
- Matthew Colle, St. Mary's Parish, Luxemburg, Theology I, North American College
- Michael Uchtyl, Ss. Peter & Paul Parish, Hortonville, Theology I, St. Francis de Sales Seminary
- Aaron Hietpas, St. John Nepomucene, Little Chute, Theology I, St. Francis de Sales Seminary
- Andrew LeGreve, St. Agnes Parish, Green Bay, Pre-Theology II, Mundelein Seminary
- Brandon Lewandowski, Sacred Heart Parish, Shawano, Pre-Theology II, St. Francis de Sales Seminary
- Ben Pribbenow, Holy Spirit Parish, Kimberly, Pre-Theology II, Mundelein Seminary
- Jace Scheffler, St. John's Parish, Menasha, College IV, St. John Vianney Seminary
- Juan Altamirano, St. Therese Parish, Appleton, College III, Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary

For more than 20 years, the Catholic Foundation has been impacting lives within the 16 counties of northeastern Wisconsin which make up the Diocese of Green Bay. During this time, the Foundation has grown to more than \$90 million in managed assets and has distributed nearly \$40 million to support Catholic schools, parishes and other Catholic organizations. 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 visit www.catholicfoundationgb.org or contact us at 920-272-8181 or catholicfoundation@gbdioc.org.

###

Catholic Foundation Contact: Josh Diedrich, Executive Director, at 920-272-8197 or jdiedrich@gbdioc.org; or Tammy Danz, Bishop's Appeal Director, at 920-272-8123 or tdanz@gbdioc.org.

Diocese of Green Bay Media Contact: Justine Lodl, director of communications, at 920-272-8213 or jlodl@gbdioc.org; or Sarah Bradford, communications coordinator, at 920-272-8209 or sbradford@gbdioc.org.