



OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

DIOCESE OF GREEN BAY

P.O. Box 23825 • Green Bay, WI 54305-3825 • 920-272-8194 • FAX 920-435-1330

August 29, 2018

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The celebration of World Mission Sunday this October 21<sup>st</sup> provides an opportunity to commit ourselves, as missionary disciples. As *children of God*, Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, reminds us of our common call *to be voices for mission.* World Mission Sunday is a time for all humanity to come forth offering prayer and generous gifts for our brothers and sisters who are enduring tremendous need throughout the world.

We must remember places like Uganda where people face food uncertainty and violence...in the Philippines where local clergy face martyrdom...in Oceania where people's livelihoods are threatened by climate change, and in remote regions of Latin America where people are hearing the Gospel for the first time. These are just some examples of the great need throughout our world.

My brothers and sisters, we have been working hard in the Diocese of Green Bay embarking on the path of missionary discipleship. World Mission Sunday offers an ideal opportunity to follow that journey. It is through this opportunity we are able to support the loving service priests, religious sisters and brothers offer to those in most need around the world.

Pope Francis reminds us that, "*Mission is part of the 'grammar' of faith, something essential for those who listen to the voice of the Spirit who whispers 'Come' and 'Go forth.'* Those who follow Christ cannot fail to be missionaries..." My brothers and sisters, let us join together to empower this awesome effort initiated through the eyes of Jesus Christ!

May you find Jesus among each other, and may His goodness inspire you to missionary discipleship, as I remain.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

The Most Reverend David L. Ricken, DD, JCL  
Bishop of Green Bay

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