

# THANK YOU FOR YOUR ONGOING SUPPORT



## **FR. GREG PARENT - ORDAINED IN 2018**

Serving as a priest in the Diocese of Green Bay is amazing. To be able to celebrate the sacraments as a priest is a surreal experience and an incredible privilege. The fact that I get to be a priest in the diocese where I grew up only makes it more special. Thank you so much to everyone who is investing in the future of the Diocese of Green Bay through the Seminarian Collection!



## **FR. JOSÉ LÓPEZ - ORDAINED IN 2018**

From the bottom of my heart, I'd like to thank each family and every individual who made it possible for me to study at the seminary. Without your support I wouldn't have been able to be a priest for our diocese. It has been a blessing to serve the people of God in this diocese through your help and support. May God abundantly bless your generosity and love for His Church and His priests.



## **FR. EDWARD LOONEY - ORDAINED IN 2015**

When you support the annual Seminarian Collection you are helping a man of God say yes to discerning and preparing for the priesthood. I am grateful for the support I received on my path to ordination. Every day people turn to the Church for guidance in their lives, sometimes at difficult and vulnerable times. I am blessed to serve as a priest and be able to meet people along their journey of life.



## **FR. BRIAN WIDEMAN - ORDAINED IN 2014**

Please know how thankful I am for the many people who helped me along the way of priestly formation, both financially and spiritually. The Seminarian Collection was one of several ways people expressed their support of me, and I will always be thankful for that generous encouragement.







# SEMINARIAN COLLECTION 2020

Celebrating 15 Years of Supporting Vocations to the Priesthood







## THIS YEAR'S ORDINANDS



**FR. BENJAMIN JOHNSON**

Seminary is a beautiful place where a man learns to become not just who God is calling him to be but also who God made him to be from the very beginning. Formation can often seem like a hard, difficult word but, in reality, the goal of formation is to help you become who God already made you to be. To really become a true sense of yourself, not a cookie-cutter priest but as this unique individual that God wants to be His priest in His diocese.



**FR. KEVIN RIPLEY**

It all started with an invitation to consider the priesthood by a priest and through time in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, as well as the invitation of other faith-filled people. Many people asked me, "Have you considered the priesthood?" and it started to really grow on me. During my time in prayer it became kind of a growing light in my soul that said more and more, "Yes! I'm supposed to be a priest."





# 15 YEARS OF FOSTERING A CULTURE OF VOCATIONS

## THE VOCATIONS GOAL

As we strive to call forth and form leaders who love Jesus and live His mission, Bishop David Ricken announced a Vocations Goal in the fall of 2019: **By 2025, we will call forth and form 30 seminarians to be missionary leaders in the priesthood.**

Having 30 seminarians would mean that in any given year, we would ordain three to five priests, which is what we believe we will need in order to meet the pastoral needs of our diocese.

There is significant work ahead, as we work to build families and communities of discipleship that discover Jesus, follow Jesus, worship Jesus and share Jesus with others.

*"We know this is an ambitious goal, but we believe that if we are going to be the church that God intends us to be, we need to be bold. As Jesus reminds us in the Gospels, the Kingdom of God is like a mustard seed, which starts as the smallest seed but becomes the largest of plants."*

**- Bishop David Ricken**

## THE SEMINARIAN COLLECTION

For the past 15 years, the annual Seminarian Collection has invited the faithful of the Diocese of Green Bay to participate in the education of our future priests. This includes tuition, room and board, health care and other expenses — as well as inviting more men to consider the priesthood.

Because the number of seminarians is increasing, your generous gift of \$15, \$150, \$515 or more will make a huge difference now — and for the future of our Church.

To learn more about the Seminarian Collection or vocations to the priesthood, contact Fr. Mark Mleziva, Vocations Director, at (920) 272-8316 or 1-877-500-3580, ext. 8316, or email [vocations@gbdioc.org](mailto:vocations@gbdioc.org).

If you would like to support our seminarians,  
you can make an online gift by visiting:  
**[www.catholicfoundationgb.org/give](http://www.catholicfoundationgb.org/give)**