



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Ecumenical Prayer Service and Workshop to be held Sunday, October 29

GREEN BAY, Wis. (Sept. 27, 2017) – Leaders from the Diocese of Green Bay and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America are pleased to host an ecumenical event titled “That We May Be One,” on Sunday, October 29, 2017, from 3-5 p.m. at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church in Green Bay (2771 Oakwood Drive).

The event will include an Ecumenical Prayer Service from 3-4 p.m. commemorating the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. The Most Rev. David L. Ricken, Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Green Bay, and Rev. Gerald L. Mansholt, Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, East Central Synod of Wisconsin, will give a joint sermon. For more information and historical background on the Reformation, please visit: www.vatican.va/roman_curia/pontifical_councils/chrstuni/lutheran-fed-docs/rc_pc_chrstuni_doc_2013_dal-conflitto-alla-comunione_en.html

The ecumenical commemoration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation is a “unique ecumenical commemoration” marked by thanksgiving and joy for the gifts of the Reformation and by lament and repentance over the divisions among us that we have all perpetuated (adapted from “From Conflict to Communion: Lutheran-Catholic Common Commemoration of the Reformation in 2017” report of the Lutheran–Roman Catholic Commission on Unity).

Following the Ecumenical Prayer Service, from 4-5 p.m. there will be a workshop titled, “Ecumenical Marriages: A Mirror of Lutheran-Catholic Sharing”. As the Lutheran-Catholic document “From Conflict to Communion” so powerfully observed, there have been a number of key things that have happened in our modern world that led us to the need for greater dialog and cooperation between Lutherans and Catholics. One of these is the reality of ecumenical marriages between Catholics and Lutherans, which illustrates the potential for greater unity among Christians. This year’s workshop will consist of a panel discussion led by Catholic-Lutheran ecumenical couples, Mary Ann and Jeff Otto and Maria and Tom Nelson. The workshop will focus on how these couples live out the Christian unity we are working toward by the grace of the Holy Spirit.

Maximus Cabey, ecumenical officer for the diocese, meets regularly with Bishop Ricken to discuss activities to foster better communication and joint endeavors between the diocese and other Christian faiths. If you would like to get involved in ecumenical work or have questions about this event, please contact Maximus Cabey at (920) 272-8288 or MCabey@gbdioc.org.

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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.

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