

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Raising Vocations Collection will help young people hear God's call

Green Bay, Wis. (July 31, 2023): The Catholic Foundation for the Diocese of Green Bay in partnership with the Diocese of Green Bay will kick off its new "Raising Vocations Collection" in early August to support ministries and programs that encourage young men and women to say "Yes" to God's calling to the priesthood or religious life.

Some ministries that will benefit from the "Raising Vocations Collection" include campus ministry at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay and the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh. Funds may be used for retreats, spiritual direction, and other programs to help Catholic college students stay connected to their faith when they are away from home. Gifts to the collection will also support campus ministers in the Catholic high schools in the diocese and other ministries that encourage young men and women to answer God's call.

"This will help us reach our diocesan goal of calling forth and forming 30 men in the seminary by 2025. Through the Raising Vocations Collection, we will be investing in ministries that encourage young men and women to say "Yes" to God's calling to the priesthood or religious life," said Bishop David Ricken.

"We want to have more priests and religious sisters. Through your support of the Raising Vocations Collection, we will be able to encourage more fully young people to discover Jesus's plan for them. I would invite everyone to consider making a generous gift to support this important Collection," said Tammy Danz, director of the Bishop's Appeal for the Catholic Foundation of the Diocese of Green Bay.

Catholics throughout the diocese will receive by mail a letter from Bishop Ricken which includes an informational brochure, pledge card and return envelope.

Seminarians, as in past years, will speak at parishes in the diocese the first three weekends of August. "They will share their journey to say 'yes," said Danz.

Gifts to the "Raising Vocations Collection" may be made by check, credit card, debit card or automatic withdrawal. Gifts of stock, IRA and other non-liquid assets, including real estate, are also accepted in support of vocations by contacting Josh Diedrich, Executive Director of the Catholic Foundation for the Diocese of Green Bay, at (920) 272-8197. Gifts to the collection are tax deductible as allowed by law.

To learn more about the Raising Vocations Collection, contact Tammy Danz at (920) 272-8123 or **catholicfoundation@gbdioc.org**.

For more than 25 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 \$160 million in managed assets and has distributed nearly \$50 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 <a href="www.catholicfoundationgb.org">www.catholicfoundationgb.org</a> or contact us at 920-272-8181 or <a href="catholicfoundation@gbdioc.org">catholicfoundation@gbdioc.org</a>.

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