FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Bishop Ricken makes appointment of Vicar General to diocesan curia

GREEN BAY, Wis. (March 3, 2014) – It is with great pleasure that Bishop David L. Ricken announces the appointment to the diocesan curia of the Very Reverend Daniel Felton as Vicar General/Director of Parish Ministry Services, effective July 1, 2014.

Father Felton became the only vicar general in the diocese following the recent installation of Bishop John Doerfler, as the thirteenth Bishop of Marquette, and the retirement of Bishop Robert Morneau. The Vicar-General will be responsible for assisting Bishop in the governance of the diocese, with a special emphasis on diocesan outreach to parishes.

“This call of the Holy Spirit certainly was not on my radar and in my plans,” said Father Felton. “Like our Blessed Mother Mary, and so many others in the Scriptures, my first response to this call of the Holy Spirit is, ‘how can this be?’ But after much discernment and prayer, I must respond ‘yes’ to this Holy Spirit calling.”

Father Felton was born in Portsmouth, Virginia, on February 5, 1955. He is the son of Ken and Carol Felton and the oldest of five children. Father attended St. Edward School and Appleton West. He holds a B.A. degree from St. Norbert in Religious Studies and Psychology; a M.A. in Theology from St. John University, Collegeville, MN; and a S.T.L. in Dogmatic Theology and a M.A. in Social Communications from the Gregorian University in Rome, Italy.

Father Felton was ordained a priest on June 13, 1981, by Bishop Aloysius Wycislo. His parish assignments have included Holy Innocents in Manitowoc, St. Raphael the Archangel in Oshkosh and St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Manitowoc. Fr. Felton was also the Director of Affiliate Affairs for the Catholic Telecommunications Network of America.

Presently, Father Felton is the Pastor of St. Edward in Mackville, St. Mary in Greenville and St. Nicholas in Freedom Parishes. He is the Co-Coordinator for the implementation of Bishop Ricken’s Pastoral Letter, Called to be Holy, Fully Engaged, Fully Alive.

Father Felton is a member of the Diocesan College of Consultors, Presbyteral Council, Bishop Advisory Council, Personnel Board, Diocesan Finance Council, St. Norbert Board of Trustees and Silver Lake College Board of Directors. He is also a member of the National Advisory Council of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

###

Who we are: The Catholic Diocese of Green Bay works to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ by helping people in need and by providing academic, leadership and spiritual formation opportunities to parish and school leaders. 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.
Contact: Justine Lodl, director of communications, at 920-272-8213 or jlodl@gbdioc.org or Amber Backus, communications coordinator, at 920-272-8209 or abackus@gbdioc.org.