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The Compass

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ROTC team walks 140 miles to raise funds for veterans

BY JEFF KUROWSKI | THE COMPASS

GREEN BAY — Walking 140 miles over seven days was hard. Completing the trek in combat boots, while carrying a 45- to 50-pound rucksack, made it even more difficult.

A team of four St. Norbert College ROTC (Reserve Officer Training Corps) students — Karsen Sherrick, Jason Ortscheid, Chris Rosene and Sam Skiff — took part in the fifth annual ruck march, Aug. 16-22, from Green Bay to Milwaukee, to raise funds and awareness for American veterans.

“Whoever started this definitely did not want to make it comfortable, which is part of the point,” said Skiff, a sophomore from Fond du Lac. “It’s painful for us. It’s a sacrifice for us, but it’s not even close to the sacrifice made for us to live in this country by so many people now suffering from mental health issues because of what they have done for us.”

Money, raised through the ruck from donations, supports 4th HOOAH, an organization that



SAM LUCERO | THE COMPASS

Chris Rosene, left, Karsen Sherrick, Sam Skiff and Jason Ortscheid hold their 4th HOOAH (Helping Out Our American Heroes) banner as they depart on their walk to Milwaukee.

operates out of Green Bay with a mission to raise awareness of veteran issues and provide support for those in need. The team set a goal of \$20,000. They had raised \$16,000 by the completion of the march.

“(4th HOOAH) does things like scuba diving and skydiving for veterans who suffer from mental illness,” explained Sherrick, a senior from Neenah. “They will

give them support dogs, animals. They do window and AC repairs. They just give them a community to be a part of. They do this for veterans who suffer from mental illness or have suicidal thoughts. Twenty a day are taking their own lives. They try to take that number down.”

Our full story appears in the Sept. 11 issue.

FRANKLY, FRANCIS



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The crisis we are living due to the pandemic is affecting everyone; we will emerge from it for the better if we all seek the common good together; otherwise, we will emerge for the worse. Unfortunately, we see partisan interests emerging. For example, some would like to appropriate possible solutions for themselves, as in the case of vaccines, to then sell them to others. Some are taking advantage of the situation to instigate division: by seeking economic or political advantages, generating or exacerbating conflicts. Others are simply not concerned about the suffering of others; they pass by and go their own way (cf. Lk 10:30-32). They are the devotees of Pontius Pilate, washing their hands of the suffering of others.

The Christian response to the pandemic and to the consequent socio-economic crisis is based on love, above all, love of God who always precedes us (cf. 1 Jn 4:19).

+ Pope Francis, Sept. 9, 2020

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Catholics celebrate Sunday Mass on Washington Island

SAM LUCERO | THE COMPASS

WASHINGTON ISLAND — Life on a remote island ebbs and flows, much like the unsettled waters surrounding it.

Larry and Diane Kahlscheuer, residents of Washington Island in northern Door County since 1987, have successfully navigated those unsettled waters. Their faith has been the couple’s anchor, especially during the coronavirus

pandemic. Not only have the Kahlscheuers, members of Door County’s Stella Maris Parish, lived out their faith six miles from the nearest mainland, they’ve helped fellow island Catholics do the same.

Even though Catholic settlers (fishermen of Irish descent) have occupied Washington Island since the 1860s, it has no Catholic church.

Last May, when Bishop David Ricken an-

nounced that parishes would begin holding Communion services, the Kahlscheuers asked their pastor, Fr. Tom Farrell, if he could offer the services at their home. In June, when the diocese announced resumption of public Masses at 25% church occupancy, they began hosting outdoor Sunday Mass in their yard with restrictions on social distancing.

Our full story appears in the Sept. 11 issue.

5 THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

Nine choirs of angels

BY PATRICIA KASTEN | THE COMPASS

- 1 Oct. 2 is the Feast of the Guardian Angels. The feast, though on varying days, dates to the 17th century.
- 2 While no one knows how many angels exist, tradition, going back to the fifth and sixth centuries, lists them in ranks or triads that we now call "choirs." There are nine choirs of angels.
- 3 The first triad of choirs is the angels of presence, also called councilors. They are the seraphim, cherubim and thrones.
- 4 The next triad consists of angels of governance: dominions, virtues (who oversee God's miracles on earth) and powers.
- 5 The final triad includes the messenger angels: the principalities, archangels and angels.

Transition time and the Lord's day

Dear friends and followers of Jesus:

As you know, almost six months ago, our lives changed dramatically. As the reality of the pandemic hit us, we had to adjust quickly as the decision was made to close



BISHOP'S CORNER

Bishop David Ricken

our churches and suspend Masses. Parish and diocesan leadership immediately responded to this challenge, finding new ways to serve our people from virtual communications to livestreamed Masses. This has been extraordinary on several levels for several months. In this issue, you will find several descriptions from different leaders and mission teams of the diocese on our efforts to stay connected with you during this time of the pandemic.

One way we tried to connect with you during the pandemic was to offer my weekly Mass on WFRV. This was very well received and I am happy to announce that we are bringing the TV Mass back again. We are grateful to be able to offer this beautiful ministry, especially for those of you who are confined to home or are sick in hospitals or nursing homes. The televised Masses began again this past Sunday and will continue to air on channel 5 at 10 a.m. For those who cannot attend Mass because of illness or because you care for a loved one with health concerns, I truly hope these Masses will help

you feel close to Christ and the church.

The reopening under the restrictions of the health protocols and the various safety measures has been stressful, but many parishes have adapted to this beautifully. They are safe for healthy people to return. Please join me in giving thanks to our diocesan and parish leaders and volunteers for their extra work to care for you and those who cannot be with us because of health concerns.

I also want to share that the bishops of Wisconsin have decided to remove the dispensation from the "Sunday Mass obligation" for those who are healthy and are able to attend Sunday Mass. After consultation with the Diocesan Pastoral Council, and after consultation with the priests of the diocese through the regional vicars and Presbyteral Council, I have decided that our date of ending the dispensation will be Sept. 20. That means that those who are able should return to Sunday Mass under the pain of serious sin, which needs to be brought to confession before returning to holy Communion.

So why are we doing this and why now? Before I was ordained a bishop 20 years ago, I was told by my superiors that since I was being sent to the Diocese of Cheyenne, Wyo., which encompassed the entire state, I would be responsible for every soul in the state. I thought for a minute in my head, "Thanks a lot!" Nonetheless, I recognize my role as bishop is to care for each of the souls in our diocese and I take that responsibility seriously.

The entire column appears in our Sept. 11 issue.

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Parish SNAPSHOT



Second graders in Paula Kundering's class at Sacred Heart School in Shawano, including Vincent Grignon, celebrated National Play-Doh Day on Sept. 16 by using it to practice their spelling words.

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