



The Compass IN THE Bulletin

www.thecompassnews.org | www.gdioc.org

Pew kneelers are repurposed into wall-sized rosaries

BY BOB ZYSKOWSKI | FOR THE COMPASS

SHAWANO — In what used to be the milk house on her family farm, Mary Lou Kugel dips a clean, soft yellow cloth into a container of Danish oil, then transfers the pungent compound onto the cross of an over-sized wooden rosary.

From the cross, she works her way up the one-and-one-half-inch-long rectangular beads, rubbing the oil thoroughly around each side, top and bottom, then moving on to the next and the next and the next.

By the time she's done with the finishing, Kugel will have 28 wall-sized rosaries, each unique, ready to present as gifts — and for the special purpose that begat the rosary project in the first place.

"Last year we went down to the storage room at Sacred Heart Church in Shawano," Kugel recalled, "and they had some pews and kneelers left from when the church was remodeled a few years ago.

"They needed the storage space, and my husband Chuck and I said we'd take the kneelers," she said. "Chuck tinkers



BOB ZYSKOWSKI | FOR THE COMPASS

In the old milk house on her Shawano County family farm, Mary Lou Kugel applies a finishing oil to wooden elements of wall-sized rosaries, five of which will be given away as door prizes at diocesan Rural Life Days in the spring.

in woodworking, so we figured we'd use them for something."

Although her family belongs to St. Martin of Tours Parish in Cecil, where she lectures and is an extraordinary minister of holy Communion, Kugel is coordinator for the Rural Life Days celebration at the church in Shawano, which shares a priest with St. Martin, Fr. Thomas Farrell.

After last year's Rural Life Days at Sacred Heart, Kugel was think-

ing about what she could use for door prizes for the 2019 celebration. An idea to turn the wood from Sacred Heart's old kneelers was inspired by two large wooden rosaries that adorn walls in her own home, one from the wood of the home she grew up in and another from black walnut trees on her grandfather's farm.

Our full story appears in the Dec. 14 issue.

FRANKLY, FRANCIS



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

In our continuing catechesis on the "Our Father," we now consider the attitude required by Christ of his disciples as they pray. Jesus invites us to invoke God as "Father" thus encouraging us to beseech him in a way that breaks down barriers of subjection and fear. The prayer's seven questions are also rooted in our daily experience of life and its basic needs. We are taught, for instance, to ask for our daily bread — a simple yet vital request. Our first prayer, in a sense, was the cry that accompanied our original breath as a new-born child, for it announced our life's destiny: our continual hunger and thirst and search for happiness. With this prayer, then, Jesus desires that every suffering and anxiety should rise up to heaven and become a dialogue. Indeed, to have faith is to be able to cry out in this way.

+ Pope Francis,
Dec. 12, 2018

@Pontifex
Follow Him On
twitter

\$5 OFF

SPECIAL OFFER

Subscribe now to receive diocesan breaking news and tips from Bishop Ricken on how to live as Missionary Disciples.

ONE-YEAR SUBSCRIPTION FOR ONLY \$23

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ PARISH: _____

EMAIL: _____

Mail this form along with your check to: The Compass
P.O. Box 8474
Carol Stream, IL 60197-8474
For immediate service, call Barb at
(920) 272-8208 or toll free
(877) 500-3580, ext. 8208.
NEW SUBSCRIBERS ONLY.


www.thecompassnews.org

5 THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

The Lord's baptism: Jan. 13

PATRICIA KASTEN | THE COMPASS

- 1 The Solemnity of the Baptism of the Lord ends the church's liturgical season of Christmas.
- 2 Before 1955, the Lord's Baptism was marked on the Octave (Eighth Day) of Epiphany. (In 1955, the Vatican suppressed many octaves and therefore began this feast.) Before 1955, it was called the "Commemoration of the Lord's Baptism." Today, it is celebrated on the Sunday following Jan. 6.
- 3 In the Eastern Orthodox and Catholic churches, this feast is known as the "Theophany," because all Three Persons of the Trinity are manifest together.
- 4 Jesus' baptism is considered as the start of his public ministry.
- 5 In 1979, St. John Paul II began the custom of popes baptizing babies on this feast.

'Follow Jesus' Discipleship Formation Seminar

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ:

Recently in writing about the sexual abuse crisis in the church, I shared that strengthening our friendship with Jesus and growing in holiness will help us to overcome evil. That's why over the past couple of years the diocese has offered training to help people grow in their relationship with Christ through our Discipleship Formation Seminars. Last month, as part of a year-long series on discipleship, I highlighted the first seminar called "Discover Jesus." In this column, I want to focus on the second seminar called "Follow Jesus."



BISHOP'S CORNER

Bishop David Ricken

Getting to know someone is the first step in any relationship, and with Christ this is no different. But in order to live as a disciple of Christ, we must commit to following Jesus. We see this distinction throughout the Gospels.

One example of the difference between discovering Jesus and following Jesus is the story of the "Rich Young Man" recorded in three of the four Gospels. In this story, the young man asks Jesus what he must do to inherit eternal life, and in responding to the

young man's question, Jesus outlines the cost of discipleship. Upon hearing the cost, all three writers report that this young man "went away sad." His sadness illustrates that while he had discovered Jesus, he was not willing to follow Jesus.

Following Jesus is more difficult because there is a cost. While we must weigh this cost, Jesus also reminds us of the benefits of following him. After the rich young man leaves sad, Jesus tells those that remain, "Everyone who has given up houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother for the sake of my name will receive a hundred times more and will inherit eternal life" (Mt 19: 29).

The "Follow Jesus" seminar helps us to understand and accept the cost of discipleship. Our journey as a disciple begins in baptism, but simply being baptized does not make a person a disciple. The word disciple comes from the Greek word *mathetes*, meaning pupil/student of the master, so to be a disciple means we are willing to place ourselves before Jesus to learn from him. He is our leader and teacher and in all things we must follow him.

In this seminar, we present "The 10 Habits of a Disciple's Life." These habits help us to center our lives more fully on Jesus and follow him more closely.

The entire column appears in our Dec. 7 issue.

Filipino Catholics kick off traditional 'Simbang Gabi' celebration

BY NANCY BARTHEL | FOR THE COMPASS

ALLOUEZ — Very few countries are home to more Catholics than the Philippines. As of 2010, according to the Pew Research Center, there were about 76 million Catholics living in the Philippines, which is made up of over 7,000 islands. About eight in 10 Filipinos identify themselves as Catholic.

The Diocese of Green Bay is home to an enthusiastic community of Filipino Catholics, and anyone not familiar with just how exuberant Filipinos are about the Christmas season, should know that celebrations in the Philippines actually begin in September.

But Dec. 16 is a key day during Advent, as Filipinos look ahead to Christmas Day. It is that day that the devotional nine-day series

of Novena Masses, referred to as "Simbang Gabi" — "Misa de Aguinaldo" or "Misa de Gallo" — begins.

Filipino Catholics in the Diocese of Green Bay and other parts of the state gathered Dec. 16 at Resurrection Church in Allouez for this first Mass that will lead to Christmas Day. Seven Filipino priests concelebrated in Tagalog, the national language of the Philippines, with an estimated 250 people in attendance.

Missionaries of Faith Fr. Judah Pigon, administrator of St. Benedict Parish, Suamico, and St. Pius, Little Suamico, planned the liturgy. This is the sixth year the celebration was held.

Our full story appears in the Dec. 21 issue.



BRAD BIRKHOFF | FOR THE COMPASS

Missionaries of Faith Fr. Judah Pigon and other Filipino priests process into Resurrection Church in Allouez for the celebration of "Simbang Gabi," the first of nine consecutive days of prayer (novena) leading up to Christmas, held Dec. 16.