



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Diocese of Green Bay prepares for Christmas celebrations

GREEN BAY, Wis. (Dec. 17, 2018) – Bishop David L. Ricken of the Diocese of Green Bay will be the principal celebrant at Christmas Eve Mass at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral in Green Bay at 9 p.m. WFRV (Ch. 5) will again provide the live broadcast of the Christmas Eve Mass. Local hospitals, nursing homes, and other ministries serving the homebound are encouraged to invite individuals to tune in to this broadcast.

Bishop Ricken will also celebrate Christmas Day Mass at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral at 9 a.m.

Christmas, which celebrates God becoming flesh, is second only to Easter in importance in the Church year. The Church celebrates Christmas from Christmas Eve through the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord (Jan. 13 in 2019). At Christmas, we celebrate the birth of Christ into our world and our hearts, and reflect on the gift of salvation that is born with him, including the fact that he was born to die for us.

#### ***Recorded Christmas message from Bishop Ricken***

Bishop Ricken's Christmas Message will be available on [www.gbdioc.org](http://www.gbdioc.org) and various diocesan social media channels on Christmas Day.

#### ***Mass times available***

Mass times are available for Christmas Eve and Day, and Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God (Jan. 1). To view Mass times via The Compass, official newspaper for the Diocese of Green Bay, please visit: [www.gbdioc.org/christmassmass](http://www.gbdioc.org/christmassmass)

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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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