



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Bishop Ricken to offer prayers for deceased Green Bay bishops on November 2, All Souls' Day

GREEN BAY, Wis. (Oct. 25, 2016) – Bishop Ricken will celebrate The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls Day) on Wednesday, November 2, 2016, with Mass at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral and a Visitation Service at Allouez Chapel Mausoleum.

On All Souls' Day and throughout the month of November, the Church offers prayers for the repose of the dead who journey toward heaven, considered a spiritual Work of Mercy. "Today, we focus on praying for our loved ones," said Bishop David Ricken. "We have confidence that they are brought into the kingdom of God." The custom of visiting graves sites on this day is also a common devotion.

Mass will begin at 8:30 a.m. at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral and will include a blessing of Bishop Krautbauer's grave, who is entombed in the floor of the Cathedral. The Visitation Service will begin at 10:00 a.m. at Allouez Mausoleum Chapel, in Allouez Catholic Cemetery. Following the liturgy, a blessing and prayer will be offered for Bishop Aloysius Wycislo (1968-1983) who is entombed in the mausoleum. A procession will then visit the gravesites of former Diocesan Bishops, including Bishops Joseph Melcher (1868-1873), Joseph John Fox (1904-1914), Paul Peter Rhode (1915-1945) and Stanislaus Bona (1945-1967).

This celebration mirrors the papal ceremony. On All Souls' Day, the pope prays for the deceased popes and visits their graves.

"We will try to do this annually," Bishop Ricken added. "Whether we will be able to do (the procession), we don't know on account of the weather, but we will always celebrate the Mass. We have to do it. This is important, especially here because people really value their history. This helps to reinforce that. For our families too, we need to pray for our families."

All are welcomed and invited to participate.

###

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.

Contact: Justine Lodl, director of communications, at 920-272-8213 or jlodl@gbdioc.org; or Sarah Bradford, communications coordinator, at 920-272-8209 or sbradford@gbdioc.org.