



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Diocese to celebrate Rural Life Days 2020

GREEN BAY, Wis. (March 9, 2020) – The Diocese of Green Bay will host Rural Life Days on Saturday, March 21, 2020, at 10:00 a.m. at St. Louis Parish in Dyckesville and on Saturday, March 28, 2020, at 10:00 a.m. at St. Mary Magdalene Parish in Waupaca. Very Rev. John Girotti will celebrate the March 21 Mass and Bishop David L. Ricken will celebrate the March 28 Mass. The events include a Mass and the blessing of soil, seeds, animals, and machinery, as well as a luncheon and keynote address.

The purpose of Rural Life Days is to recognize the hard work, dedication and stewardship of those who care for the land and to pray for a fruitful and safe farming season. “These two days will emphasize the value of the people in our rural parishes and celebrate the fruits of their labor and faith,” Bishop Ricken said. “The festivities include the blessing of soil, seeds, machinery and animals, which are all vital parts of a prosperous agricultural year.”

The featured speaker is Fr. John W. Girotti, a priest of the Diocese of Green Bay, Wisconsin. Ordained in 2002, he was a parish priest for many years before earning a degree in Canon Law in 2015. Currently, he serves as vicar for canonical services for the Diocese of Green Bay. As a pastor, Fr. Girotti served in four rural parishes in Tigerton, Marion, Wittenberg, and Leopolis and he currently serves as priest celebrant at Holy Rosary Parish in New Holstein. Although he grew up in the suburbs of Milwaukee, he has fallen in love with rural ministry because “I learned how to be a priest and pastor there.” He regularly teaches and speaks about the Catholic Faith, helping Catholics and those of other faiths to better understand and to follow the Way of the Lord Jesus.

Everyone is welcome. Tickets are not necessary for those attending only the Mass. Those planning to attend the luncheon are asked to purchase a ticket (\$10) at least seven days in advance by submitting your check or cash to the host parish with Rural Life Day 2020 in the memo line.

- Tickets to the March 21 event are available by mail, phone, or email at St. Louis Parish, Dyckesville: N8726 County Line Road, Luxemburg, WI 54217; phone: (920) 866-2410; or email: pattyk@stlouisdickesville.com.
- Tickets to the March 28 event are available by mail, phone, or email at St. Mary Magdalene Parish, Waupaca: N2845 Shadow Road, Waupaca, WI 54981; phone: (715) 258-2088; or email: carol@smm-waupaca.org.

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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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