



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Packers partner with Catholic Charities for 53<sup>rd</sup> annual Bishop's Charities Game**

GREEN BAY, Wis. (July 22, 2013) – On Friday, Aug. 9, 2013, the Packers will host the Arizona Cardinals for the 53rd annual Bishop's Charities Game at Lambeau Field. Over the years, the Bishop's Charities Game has raised approximately \$3.7 million for Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Green Bay. General ticket sales should be directed to Packers.com, the Packer ticket office or any Ticketmaster outlet.

The charitable contest began in 1961 when the diocese approached Vince Lombardi with the idea. "It is hard to believe that we are celebrating 53 years of partnership between the Diocese of Green Bay and the Green Bay Packers," said Bishop's Charities Game Steering Committee Chairman Denis Hogan.

For 34 of those years, the Bishop's Charities Game committee – led by Denis' father, the late Jim Hogan – sold tickets for the game and produced the game program, including the sales of all advertising for the program. These efforts were so very important not only to those in need, but also to making the preseason games a success for the Packers. The efforts of many who served on the committee created tremendous fundraising success for Catholic Charities. Beginning in 1995, the Packers took over responsibility for all preparations. Over the past 19 years, the Packers organization has generously continued to support Catholic Charities through an annual contribution supporting those in need in our community. "We take this opportunity to thank the Packers for their ongoing support of the charitable works of the Diocese of Green Bay," added Hogan.

The long-standing partnership between the Green Bay Packers and the Diocese of Green Bay through its charitable efforts shows the commitment and concern that both organizations have toward the well-being of the community. "This very important and strong partnership allows us to carry out our mission of providing help, strengthening families and building community here in northeastern Wisconsin," said Ted Phernetton, director of Catholic Charities.

Former Packers Bill Schroeder and Charles Jordan, and Bishop Robert Morneau will be available from 4:30- 6 p.m. for autographs and photos at the Fan Walkway outside the Tundra Tailgate Zone on the southeast side of the stadium. Complimentary autograph cards will be provided courtesy of The Compass, the official newspaper of the Diocese of Green Bay.

Wide receiver Bill Schroeder, a graduate of Sheboygan South High School and the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, was a member of the Packers in 1994 and from 1997-2001. In 1999, Schroeder set career highs in receptions (74) and receiving yards (1,051). In 2001, he set a career mark in touchdown catches with nine and led all NFC players in yards per reception (17.3). Schroeder, who officially retired as a Packer in 2008 after signing a one-day contract with the team, is active in Circle of Friends, a foundation in support of children with cancer.

Charles Jordan was a wide receiver/kick returner for the Packers in 1994, 1995 and 1999. During the 1995 season, Jordan returned 21 kickoffs for 444 yards and 21 punts for 213 yards. That season he also caught seven passes for 117 yards and two touchdowns. During his playing days with the Packers, Jordan, who grew up in a violent Los Angeles neighborhood, set up a counseling program for young gang members in Green Bay.

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Green Bay serves people of all faiths within 16 counties in northeastern Wisconsin by providing services such as individual and family counseling, adoption, family strengthening, refugee and immigration services, and financial health counseling.

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**Who we are:** The Catholic Diocese of Green Bay works to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ by helping people in need and by providing academic, leadership and spiritual formation opportunities to parish and school leaders. 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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