



WAKE UP THE WORLD!
— 2015 Year of Consecrated Life —

Mass for Year of Consecrated Life Feb. 8 at cathedral

LA CROSSE – Bishop William Patrick Callahan will celebrate a Mass to commemorate the Year of Consecrated Life on Sunday, Feb. 8 at 10:30 a.m. at the Cathedral of St. Joseph the Workman, La Crosse. The weekend of Feb. 7-8 marks the celebration of World Day of Consecrated Life.

Mass will be followed by a Pancake Breakfast served by Cathedral Parish's Men's Club in the Cathedral undercroft, providing an opportunity to enjoy a meal with consecrated persons of the Diocese of La Crosse.

Diocese seminarians receive Rite of Candidacy

BY STAN GOULD
Editor

LA CROSSE – On the Sixth Day of the Octave of Christmas, Dec. 30, 2014, Brandon Guenther, Ss. Peter & Paul Parish, Independence, hometown Blair; Kyle Laylan, St. Mary Immaculate Conception Parish, Tomah; Matthew Canter, Sacred Heart Parish, Cashton; Arturo Viguera, St. Peter Parish, Stevens Point, hometown Elk Horn; and Samuel McCarty, St. Michael Parish, Wausau, took one of the first steps toward becoming priests of Jesus Christ during the Mass for Seminarians.

During the Rite of Admission to Candidacy for Holy Orders, the five men discerning for the priesthood, who have reached a certain stage in their formation, publicly expressed their intention of receiving holy orders, and that



CT Stan Gould

Bishop William Patrick Callahan presides over the Rite of Candidacy Ceremony that officially admitted five new men as seminarians for the diocese. Standing in front of the bishop are (from back left) Arturo Viguera, Kyle Laylan, Samuel McCarty, Brandon Guenther and Matthew Canter.

intention is recognized by the bishop. Held at the Holy Cross Diocesan Center La Crosse, the Call to Candidacy is the call that the Church officially gives to those who have been

accepted for studies for the priesthood, said Bishop William Patrick Callahan.

At the beginning of the ceremony, Bishop Callahan gave a warm welcome to all: "Wel-

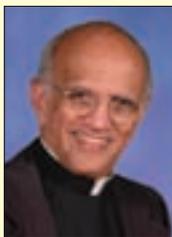
come to all of you; our families, our friends, supporters of our seminarians, ... supporters of vocations in our diocese; ...

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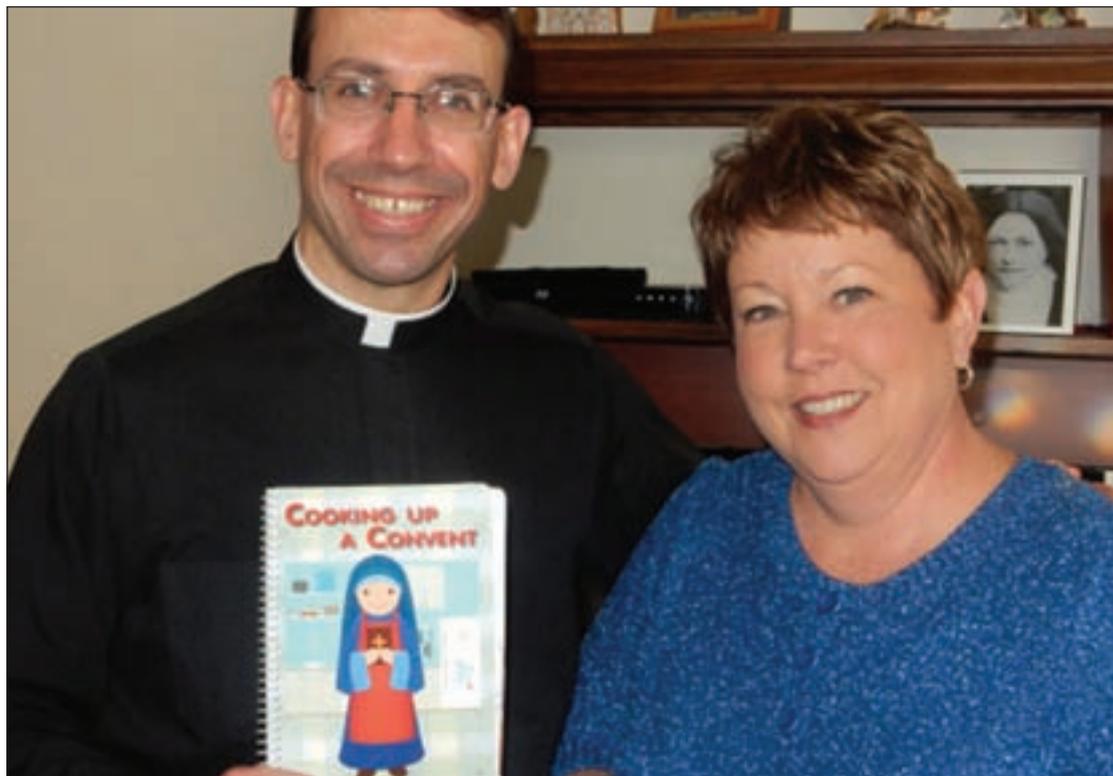
Marshfield parish lends international hand

BY ADAM HOCKING
Editor, Hub City News, Marshfield

MARSHFIELD — Father Samuel Martin of St. John the Baptist Parish in Marshfield told his congregation that one of his goals this year was to help people on more than just the local level.

"I put in the (church) bulletin a year ago that it just was on my heart to do something more international and kind of a missionary outreach," Father Martin said. "We do a lot in our own community, rightfully so. We have a duty to take care of our own first, but I think Pope Francis and others have kind of lit a fire that we are our brother's keeper, and it's a different world now than it was 100 years ago. We can kind of see past our own borders."

They found their international opportunity when a family in the parish met a nun from Tanzania who was doing graduate work in the United States, Sister Sabina Kabuga. Sister Sabina lives in Mwanza, Tanzania with one other



Adam Hocking photo

Father Samuel Martin, pastor of St. John the Baptist Parish, Marshfield, and parishioner Patti Willkom hold a copy of "Cooking Up A Convent." The proceeds from the cookbook will go toward building a convent in Tanzania.

nun, and they work as professors at St. Augustine University of Tanzania.

Sister Sabina came to speak to St. John's parish in July of last year and established a

relationship with the congregation. In meeting with Sister Sabina, St. John's parish learned about her and her fellow nun's living conditions in Mwanza.

"It's basically a two-room hut. They bathe with a hole in the floor and a bucket and a cup. And they also, what

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Parish raises funds for convent in Tanzania

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really put us over the edge was their kitchen," said St. John's member Patti Willkom. "They have to cook with charcoal inside the home in this tiny, little space. ... It's the size of any one of our bathrooms, and that's the entire kitchen."

After hearing about their housing situation, the parish decided to start fundraising to build a new convent for the two nuns, with hopes of making a large enough home that up to six sisters could live there at a time and continue the work of their order, The Sisters of Our Lady Queen of Africa.

St. John's has already raised and sent \$16,000 to Mwanza to start construction of the new convent, which is estimated to cost a total of \$100,000. A cement floor and some perimeter walls have already been put up, but more money is needed to advance the project.

To raise additional funds, St. John's congregation decided to compile a cookbook and sell it. The cookbook is called "Cooking Up A Convent," and it is filled with recipes from parishioners as well as some Tanzanian recipes from Sister Sabina. All of the proceeds go toward the construction of the new convent.

The 166-page cookbooks sell for \$15, and St. John's has sold about 500 books so far. St. John's published 700 books total, and publishing costs were covered by an anonymous do-

nor.

Willkom said that being involved with the process of making the cookbook and donating to the convent project has been a great experience.

"It's just been remarkable for me (and for) mainly the women in our parish to embrace this project because we would have been nowhere without the recipes," Willkom said. "It's just been a remarkable process."

Father Martin said that the ultimate goal of building the convent is two-fold. St. John's wants to build a more livable environment for the nuns and also eventually hopes he and church members can visit Mwanza.

"People say, 'What's the end game?' It's to go there someday and not just to send money and so forth but maybe to go work with them, and that's where you really are impacted for a lifetime," Father Martin said.

He added that he hopes to have the \$100,000 raised for the new convent by about December of 2015.

To donate to this project, make a check out to St. John the Baptist Catholic Church and put "Sister Sabina" in the memo line. St. John's is located at 201 W. Blodgett St., Marshfield, WI 54449. To donate by purchasing the cookbook "Cooking Up A Convent," call St. John's at 715-384-3252, ext. 2.

Editor's note: This article was reprinted with permission from the editor of the Hub City News, Marshfield.

Seminarians express intention for holy orders



CT/Stan Gould

Bishop William Patrick Callahan is all smiles as he poses with the seminarians on whom he conferred the Rite of Candidacy, Dec. 30 at the Holy Cross Diocesan Center. From left are Kyle Laylan, Samuel McCarty, Bishop Callahan, Brandon Guenther, Matthew Cantor and Arturo Viguera.

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by the prayers that we offer for our priests, deacons, prayers that we offer especially for the women who are serving in our diocese and those girls who are contemplating the great gift [of consecrated life]."

He explained that prayers for priests are essential, stating that St. John Vianney, the patron saint for parish priests, said that there are no bad priests, just priests that no one is praying for.

"God calls and continually speaks to the Church, so that the work of Jesus may continue in specific kinds of ways so that the truth of the faith being taught may be affirmed in the Church until Christ comes again in glory," the bishop said.

"Today, of course, we listened to the beautiful words of St. John who continues to remind us of the forgiveness of our sins and the love and mercy of God for our lives; all poured out for us through and in the Incarnation.

"Yesterday, I spoke with a couple of the guys and they talked together about one of the most important things to do as a priest is to hear confessions. To be available to people at all times.

"Today we recognize that these men are going to take that step now, and consider the call of studies ... and to enter deeply into the mystery of faith. The studies – to acquire knowledge – that is necessary to go out into the world and tell with conviction the good news of Jesus Christ.

"These men will enter into a period of formation and education with an eye towards Jesus Himself Who will one day consecrate them, to share His ministry ... especially to forgive sins and especially to bring Jesus Himself – body, blood, soul and divinity – into churches, on altars throughout the world."

After the candidates came forward, standing in front of him, Bishop Callahan conferred the

Rite of Candidacy following the recitation of their intentions before the Church.

Bishop: "In response to the Lord's call do you resolve to complete your preparation so that in due time through holy orders you will be prepared to assume the ministry in the Church?"

Candidates: (In unison) "I do."

Bishop: Do you resolve to prepare yourselves in mind and spirit to be a faithful servant to Christ the Lord and His body the Church?"

Candidates: (in unison) "I do."

Bishop: "The Church accepts your resolve. May God who has begun the good work in you bring it to completion. The Diocese of La Crosse gained five new seminarians, who, God willing, will be ordained as priests in due time."

Editor's note: Photos of the event can be viewed and downloaded at this link: <http://goo.gl/bepnFk>

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Come Join Father Matthew Marshall from St. Anne's in Wausau along with St. Bronislava Church



Fr. Marshall

IRELAND PILGRIMAGE

JUNE 18-29 2015

Highlights Include:

- Experience an Irish Ordination of Seminarian Robert McGivney who spent two summers in the Diocese of La Crosse as he welcomes our group to his home parish
- Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin
- St Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin
- Irish Pubs including Guinness Brewery
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