

Notes from North Central Regional Meeting Green Bay 2026

This year our North Central Region gathered in Green Bay, Wisconsin from July 9 through July 11. The 3 days were packed with fun, friendship, spiritual growth and formation.

Thursday began with a trip to Our Lady of Champion Shrine, the only approved Marian Apparition site in the U.S. Along with a Mass, we were given a lecture by one of our Young Vincentians who now works for the Shrine about the story of Adele Joseph Brice and Our Lady of Champion.

Thursday ended with that other Shrine in Green Bay, a trip to Lambeau Field. Let's just say, the love is large for the Packers in Green Bay. I have never seen a store containing so much spirit wear and other items for one team in my life! We also were escorted out to the field through the game day tunnel and shared some Bratwursts and Burgers in the on-site restaurant. However, the best part of the evening was when we "Stuffed the Sneakers" to raise funds for some lucky Conferences. We raised over \$7,000 in less than 10 minutes thanks to the matching funds of the 2 players whose sneakers we were stuffing.

Other Highlights included:

- Welcome and opening prayer by Bishop David Ricken. Topic: Entrustment to the Holy Spirit. **"The Holy Spirit is active in the Silence."**
- Bishop Hying Topic: Jesus Christ – The Wonder of Divine Humility **"Heaven is other people"** "Equality in God the Father"
- Father Bob Kabat Topic: Dropping Our Nets: Good Vincentian Virtue
We had a discussion on how each of us "Dropped Our Nets to follow Jesus like Peter, Andrew, James and John." **"If I see others as weak, I will try to help them. If I see others as broken, I will try to fix them. But If I see others as valuable, I will serve them."**

The best part of this Regional Meeting for me was how many Vincentians from our Archdiocese participated. We filled an entire table!

Next year the Regional Meeting will be held in Peoria, Illinois July 15-17, 2027 with a focus on Fulton J. Sheen.



