

Legacies

The Northern Michigan Catholic Foundation

Spring 2008

611 W. North Street | Gaylord, Michigan 49735 | P 989.732.5147 | nmcf@dioceseofgaylord.org



"We have gifts that differ according to the favor bestowed on each of us" - Romans 12:6

Give Now or Give Later?

Throughout our lives, we accumulate assets to support ourselves, our families, communities, and the charities closest to our hearts. As Catholic stewards, we have the opportunity to benefit our parishes, schools and programs within the Diocese of Gaylord both through gifts now, and in the future.

Each NMCF donor's situation is unique, as each gift will be as well. For some, a significant outright gift to the foundation is feasible and in turn will allow the foundation to meet immediate objectives in supporting the Catholic Church here in Northern Michigan. Doing so will give the donor maximum benefits, especially attractive for those experiencing high earnings years. It can also so be the simplest gift to arrange.

Some donors may prefer to keep assets and cash flow until passing, and instead make gifts through a life estate. Even though we can not use this gift immediately, it will be critically important to our long term financial strength and help ensure our ability to meet opportunities and challenges the future may present.

To make a gift from an estate, use a will or revocable trust. You may also use life insurance or the balance remaining in your retirement plan.

Donors will need professional assistance to set up most estate-plan gifts.

Benefits of Remembering the NMCF through a Charitable Bequest

The Northern Michigan Catholic Foundation gives donors the opportunity to provide lasting charitable support to their parishes, schools, the Diocese of Gaylord, or a particular ministry beyond their lifetimes through a bequest. To do so can be a donor's

final act of stewardship, and ensure that those ministries supported with your time, talent and treasure during life will continue to flourish for generations to come.

Incorporating a charitable bequest in an estate today still allows a donor to control and utilize assets until passing, while still being able to fulfill Catholic stewardship in a meaningful way. Charitable gifts that may be impossible to make today may be much more feasible to make through a bequest.

Flexibility

Testamentary bequests allow donors the flexibility to use assets during their lifetime for any unforeseen expenses, while also achieving one's long-term philanthropic goals. Promising a gift to the NMCF enables donors to become part of the charitable giving community of the Diocese of Gaylord.

Additionally, making a gift through a bequest gives donors a variety of options. Specific items may be bequeathed, as well as specific amounts of money, or a percentage of an estate.

Tax Savings

Donors are entitled to an unlimited estate tax charitable deduction for bequests made to qualifying charitable organizations, such as the NMCF.

Simplicity

You can make a last gift to the NMCF by simply adding a few sentences to your estate planning documents.

Please note that the information provided in this publication was prepared as an educational piece and is not intended to serve as legal or tax advice. Please consult your own legal or tax advisor before making any decision based on this information.

The Northern Michigan Catholic Foundation Re-elects Members



Since its inception, the Northern Michigan Catholic Foundation has been led by faithful, responsible professionals and governed by a board of trustees comprised of lay people, and clergy that includes Reverend Joseph Graff as well as Bishop Patrick R. Cooney. At the start of this year, the board re-elected its 10 lay-members for further service to the organization. These members will each serve staggered terms of three years.

NMCF board members represent a cross-section of regions and come from various parishes in Northern Michigan including: Mike A. Mulcahy of St. Francis Parish in Traverse City, Brian D. Bartosh of St. Anne Parish in Alpena, Joel Myler of Immaculate Conception Parish in Traverse City, Rosemary E. Smith of St. Mary Cathedral Parish in Gaylord, James B. Kelly of St. Ann Parish in Beulah, Jean A. Stevenson of St. Mary Cathedral Parish in Gaylord, Kenneth P. Kleinrichert of St. Francis Parish in Traverse City, Phillip Potvin of St. Ann Parish Cadillac, and Arnold Ochs of St. Joseph Parish in Mapleton.

Mike Mulcahy serves as board president, with Brian Bartosh as vice president, Joel Myler as secretary, and James Kelly as treasurer. The board meets on a quarterly basis to discuss foundation goals and operations.

The Northern Michigan Catholic Foundation provides financial support to parishes, schools and Catholic organizations throughout the 21-county Diocese of Gaylord. For more information, please contact the NMCF at (989) 732-5147.

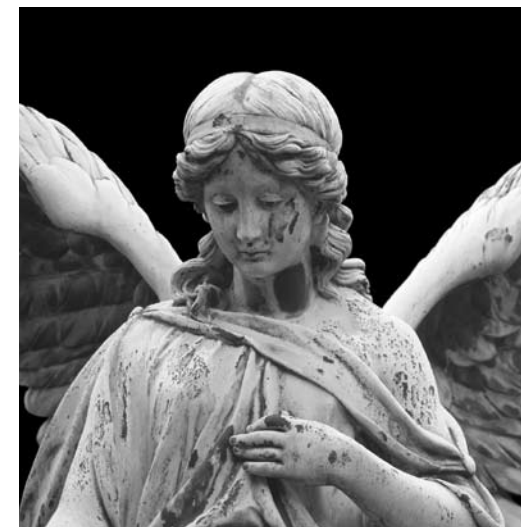
Do You Need a Will?

Your will is perhaps one of the most important documents you will ever make. It is your last chance to remember your loved ones and the organizations that you have supported throughout your lifetime. It is your opportunity to make sure that your assets are distributed as you want them to be. With your will, you can:

- Provide for your family's future security.
- Name an executor or administrator of your estate.
- Incorporate trusts to reduce taxes.
- Make charitable provisions.
- Name a guardian for those under your care.

If you don't have a will, your state of residence will have a will for you; however, the state's distribution of your assets may be very different from your wishes and intentions.

The directions that you supply in your will can save family members and heirs from frustration, expense of searching for assets and any second-guessing of your wishes.



"In the same way, your light must shine before men so that they may all see goodness in your acts."

Matthew 5:16

NMCF Board of Directors

Most Rev. Patrick R. Cooney

Michael A. Mulcahy, President

Brian D. Bartosh, Vice President

James B. Kelly, Treasurer

Joel R. Myler, Secretary

Rev. Joseph P. Graff

Kenneth P. Kleinrichert

Arnold J. Ochs

Phil Potvin

Rosemary E. Smith

Jean A. Stevenson

NMCF Executive Director

Danielle Parish

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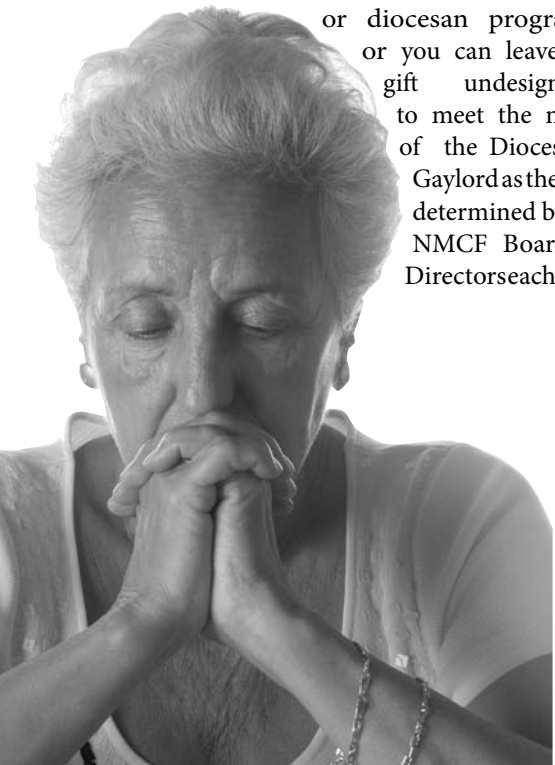
Legacy Circle

A Lifelong Commitment

The Legacy Circle honors those who have remembered the Northern Michigan Catholic Foundation (NMCF) in their estate plans. Their commitment ensures that the Catholic teachings will remain vibrant in northern Michigan “*For Generations to Come*”. By making a commitment to the Legacy Circle, the member’s legacy lives on long after the Lord has called them home. We encourage and invite you to consider making such a commitment to the Catholic community of northern Michigan.

Northern Michigan Catholic Foundation

The NMCF is a separately incorporated endowment-based fiduciary body that supports the Catholic ministries in northern Michigan. By naming the NMCF as the beneficiary in your estate plan, your legacy will live on in perpetuity. The NMCF allows donors, like you, to designate a specific ministry, such as your parish, school, or diocesan programs, or you can leave the gift undesignated to meet the needs of the Diocese of Gaylord as they are determined by the NMCF Board of Directors each year.



Gifts of Life Insurance

As one of several giving options to the Northern Michigan Catholic Foundation, gifts of life insurance can be of benefit to the donor as well. The gift of life insurance you leave will benefit the ministries closest to your heart for generations to come. Some further advantages of making gifts of life insurance are:

- . The proceeds will be paid promptly, putting your gift into action and not being diminished by probate costs.
- . The amount specified in the insurance policy will be given to the parish, school, or ministry designated by you through the NMCF.
- . As a donor, you have the potential to receive tax savings from charitable gifting of life insurance. These may be in the form of estate tax savings and/or current tax savings depending on the structure of the gift.

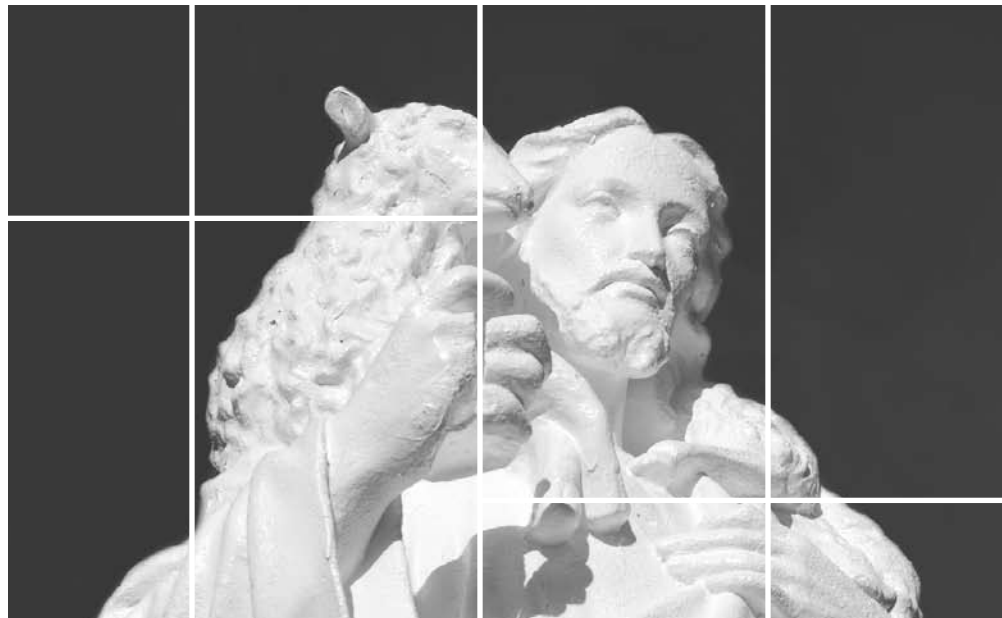
Consult your financial advisor to learn how tax savings may apply in your situation.

A life insurance policy is often an asset in many individuals’ estate plans. However, the reason and need for life insurance varies, depending on the individual. Initially, the plan may provide peace of mind, security or an inheritance for loved ones. As life situations change, however, so do the needs for coverage.

Donors may make gifts of life insurance to the NMCF through several means; outright gifts to charity, purchasing insurance plans as gifts, naming the NMCF as a beneficiary, and replacing contributed assets to the NMCF. To determine which of these options work best for you, contact your tax advisor. For information on giving gifts of life insurance to the NMCF, please contact Danielle Parish at the NMCF, (989) 732-5147.

Catholic Community

The Catholic community of northern Michigan is vibrant and alive with its 81 parishes, 19 schools and many wonderful diocesan ministries serving Catholics throughout the Diocese of Gaylord. To help ensure that these ministries continue, we invite you to consider supporting the NMCF. Your support can be left undesignated to go to the area of greatest need as determined by the NMCF Board of Directors, or it can be designated to a particular parish, school or ministry.



Established Endowment Funds

As awareness of the Northern Michigan Catholic Foundation builds, more and more parishes, individuals, and diocesan organizations in the Diocese of Gaylord are learning the benefits of establishing endowment funds. When placing an endowment within the NMCF, donors can be assured of many benefits, including the administration of funds, solid investment power, and the ethics of investments.

Parishes, individuals, families, agencies, schools or businesses can create an endowment fund. Gifts may also be made to existing endowment funds that support the causes most meaningful to donors. The funds are invested and generate an ongoing source of revenue for Catholic ministries within the Diocese of Gaylord.

Donations designated to your organization through the NMCF benefit your organization for perpetuity - an endowment is established and the interest from the gift’s principal benefits the Catholic cause designated by the donor. Additionally, leaving a gift through the NMCF assures that their gifts are properly managed. Among the most recent endowments placed within the foundation are: The Immaculate Conception Restoration

Fund, The St. Francis of Assisi Endowment, and The Stevenson Fund for the Religious Education of Public School Students in Our Parishes.

The entire list of endowments within the foundation is as follows:

- . Vocations Fund
- . Seminary Fund
- . Knights of Columbus Vocations Fund
- . Marriage Ministry
- . Charitable Works Ministry
- . Hispanic Ministry
- . Indian Ministry
- . Lay Leadership Ministry
- . Lay Leadership Scholarship Fund
- . Social Ministry
- . Emmaus Society
- . Youth Ministry
- . Our Lady of the Woods Shrine Endowment, (Mio)
- . Priests Education
- . Grand Traverse Area Catholic Schools (Traverse City)
- . The Stevenson Fund for the Religious Education of Public School Students in Our Parishes
- . St. Mary Cathedral Schools, (Gaylord)
- . St. Ann School, (Cadillac)
- . Schools
- . St. Joseph (West Branch), Catholic Cemetery Fund
- . St. Joseph (West Branch), Endowment in memory of the donor Marion M. Chadwick
- . St. Francis of Assisi Endowment, (Traverse City)
- . Immaculate Conception Restoration Fund (Traverse City)
- . Diocese of Gaylord

If you would like more information on how you can establish an endowment within the NMCF, please feel free to contact NMCF Executive Director Danielle Parish at :

989.732.5147

or

e.mail: dparish@dioceseofgaylord.org

WHAT YOUR GIFT MEANS

How Do Endowments Work?

Endowment funds, such as the NMCF, are designed to have the initial gifts remain a part of the funds’ principal for perpetuity, with the interest generated by the principal funds distributed to the designated organization. By spending only the income and not the principal, the funds will support the parishes, schools, diocese and many ministries for generations to come.

By giving a gift to an endowment fund, such as the NMCF, endowment gifts are often seen as gifts that sustain an organization because the initial gifts continue to create income for the organization. In fact, endowment gifts can in many ways assure that the annual gifts you give during your lifetime will continue, even after your passing. For example, if you attend Mass and contribute \$50 every week to the offertory collection, you give about \$2,600 to the parish each year. If you remember your parish in your will by providing a bequest of \$50,000 to your parish endowment fund in the NMCF, those funds invested at 5 percent would earn \$2,500 annually. With such a gift to the endowment, you will create a lasting legacy at your parish.