



CATHOLIC FOUNDATION
of West Michigan

LEAVE A LEGACY OF LOVE AND FAITH

Include the Church in Your Will or Trust

At its simplest level, having a will or trust is important to ensure your assets and possessions end up where you want them. A thoughtful bequest can protect your family, maintain your current lifestyle, allow you to retain control of your assets, and possibly even receive estate tax savings. And, equally important, having an intentional plan empowers you to define your legacy.

Including one of the Church's ministries in your will or trust is a beautiful way to ensure your love never ends. Whether through a bequest, beneficiary designation, charitable remainder trust, or other giving option, all planned gifts will help ensure that our Church's ministries remain strong and viable for the next generation.

The Catholic Foundation of West Michigan is a trusted partner to help facilitate legacy arrangements and honor the donor's intent. As you consider your options, know that the Foundation staff would be honored to guide you through the process of creating your customized legacy plan.



"Love never ends."
1 Cor. 13:8

"One generation passes and another comes, but the world forever stays."
Ecclesiastes 1:4

Catholic Estate Planning

In planning our estates, we are called to be grateful for the material wealth we have accumulated and to be responsible with a plan for the disposition of that wealth at our death. In addition to the responsibility to provide for our loved ones, we, as Catholics, also have a responsibility to build a solid faith foundation for future generations.

Planned gifts from your estate can be an expression of faith, create a lasting legacy of giving to the Church, and offer significant tax benefits. Multiple vehicles exist to make charitable gifts from your estate.

- **Bequest** – Designate a specific dollar amount or percentage of your estate as a restricted or unrestricted gift to a Catholic parish, school, or ministry. A bequest gift can include cash, real estate, stocks and bonds, business interests, and personal property.
- **Beneficiary Designations** – Name a charity as beneficiary of your trust, life insurance policy, or retirement plan asset. Unlike other beneficiaries, who would have to pay income taxes on these funds, your charitable beneficiary receives the funds tax-free.
- **Charitable Remainder Trust** – Gift is made to a type of trust whereby the beneficiary receives a payout for life or a term of years. Donor receives an income tax deduction for part of the gift's value. Charity receives trust remainder.
- **Life Estate** – You retain the right to live in the home or use real estate for life while making a gift to charity of the remainder interest.

Sample Designation Language:

I/we hereby give, devise and bequeath (dollars/percent) of my/our (IRA, life insurance policy, etc.), determined as of the date of my death, to (parish, school, or ministry) as a gift to their permanently-endowed fund at the Catholic Foundation of West Michigan, a nonprofit organization located at 360 Division Ave, Grand Rapids, MI, 49503, Federal Tax ID # 38-3298981.

WHAT WILL YOUR LEGACY BE? LET'S START A CONVERSATION.
CONTACT US TODAY (616) 333-1640 | [INFO@CFWMI.ORG](mailto:info@cfwmi.org)

This information is intended to provide general guidance and is not a substitute for professional counsel. Consult your estate-planning advisor or financial advisor for professional guidance.



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info@cfwmi.org
Catholicfoundationwmi.org

About the Catholic Foundation of West Michigan

The Catholic Foundation of West Michigan is an independent 501(c)(3) community foundation serving West Michigan Catholics and endorsed by the Diocese of Grand Rapids and its Bishop, Most Reverend David J. Walkowiak. The Catholic Foundation manages charitable funds and distributes grants for a variety of Catholic ministries throughout West Michigan.

5 WAYS TO SUPPORT OUR PARISH ENDOWED FUND



We all have gifts that contribute to God's kingdom. What is impressive is when we use our gifts collectively to further God's kingdom, to build a community of love, and to create something greater than we are individually. Through our parish's endowed fund at the Catholic Foundation of West Michigan, we can support our mission today and sustain our faith-filled work for years to come.



CASH

Give any amount, any time! Make checks out to the parish or give online by credit or debit card. When making your gift, be sure to note that it's for our endowed fund at the Catholic Foundation.



GIFT OF STOCK

Donating stock is a great way to support our endowed fund. Making a gift of securities is simple and offers a number of valuable financial benefits:

- You can donate appreciated stocks, bonds or mutual funds
- The total value of the stock upon transfer is tax-deductible
- There is no obligation to pay any capital gains taxes on the appreciation



IRA QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTION

Give from your IRA directly to our parish, incurring no tax and lowering future required minimum distributions.



HONORARY AND MEMORIAL GIFTS

Remember a friend or family member and/or lift up the life of a particular person who made a special impact on you. Your gift will serve as a testament of the love, respect, or appreciation you have for the special individual.



LEGACY GIFT

Leave your legacy of faith for future generations. When it comes to making a long-term impact on the Church, there are many giving options from which to choose.

- Include a bequests to our parish endowed fund in your will or estate plan. You can designate a specific dollar amount or percentage of your estate as a gift to our endowed fund. Contact your attorney or the Catholic Foundation for applicable language to include in your will.
- Name our endowed fund as beneficiary on your life insurance policy, retirement plan, or IRA. Donating even a percentage of your plan can provide a significant estate tax benefit.

As you prayerfully consider your options, know that parish staff and the Catholic Foundation of West Michigan would be honored to guide you through the process of creating your customized giving plan.

This information is intended to provide general guidance and is not a substitute for professional counsel. Consult your tax or financial advisor for professional guidance.



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CATHOLIC FOUNDATION
of West Michigan

ENDOWED FUNDS

Always & Forever

An endowment is a type of fund that is invested in perpetuity and provides a spend rate that reflects a portion of the annual earnings, distributed in the form of annual grants to your parish, school or ministry, forever.

As your endowment fund grows, a percentage of the fund's balance (4%) is given each year to the beneficiary. Once an endowment is established, anyone can make additional contributions to the fund in any dollar amount.

Fund minimum for distribution:	\$25,000
Annual Distribution to beneficiary:	4% of the fund's balance based on a three-year rolling average

Setting Up an Endowment

Select a Beneficiary

Determining the beneficiary starts with understanding your passions. In what ways are you called to make a difference?

An endowment fund can be established for the benefit of a Catholic parish, school, or ministry.

Determine a Purpose

Is the fund restricted to a specific purpose at the beneficiary organization? For example, the purpose of a parish fund could be to support faith formation programs. You will also be asked to choose a secondary purpose if for any reason the primary purpose ceases to exist.

Choose a Name

The fund name could include your name, the name of the beneficiary organization, or be in memory or in honor of someone.

START THE PROSSES TO ESTABLISHING AN ENDOWED FUND.
CONTACT US TODAY 616.333.1640 | INFO@CFWMI.ORG

Options for Setting Up an Endowed Fund

The Catholic Foundation can help you set up an endowment in four different ways:

One-time Gift

Through a written agreement identifying the fund's name and purpose, donors can establish an endowment by providing a one-time minimum gift of \$25,000. The beneficiary would begin receiving its annual distribution in the next fiscal year after the gift is made to the Foundation.

Bridge Endowment

Bridge endowments allow the donor to establish an endowment while living which will be fully funded through a bequest upon one's passing. A donor makes an initial gift and provides notification of a future bequest to the Catholic Foundation to establish the Fund. They also agree to donate an annual gift that flows through the Catholic Foundation that equates to the minimum annual distribution (or grant) from a fully funded endowment for the benefit of the parish, school or ministry. For example, a donor might provide a \$5,000 gift of stock and a bequest for \$20,000, which would create the minimum fund at the time of his/her passing. The annual distribution from the Fund would be about \$1,000 (based on a 4% average distribution), so the donor agrees to make a gift of \$1,000 annually through the Foundation for the beneficiary. Because donors are providing the minimum annual distribution, the Catholic Foundation will recognize the fund as established as it awaits the bequest gift.

Equity Building Endowment

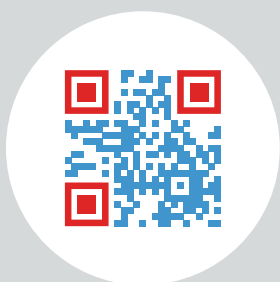
An Equity Building endowment allows a donor to establish an endowment within a certain number of years – not to exceed 10 years – while making annual contributions toward the fund's balance and to the beneficiary of choice. A donor makes an initial gift with an agreement to both increase the balance of the endowment over a certain number of years, as well as contribute an annual gift equivalent to the endowment's future distribution to the beneficiary. For example, for a 5-year Equity Building endowment, a donor provides a \$5,000 initial gift and agrees to make 4 more annual payments of \$6,000. Doing so would create the \$25,000 minimum endowment balance and provide the fund's annual distribution (\$5,000 for the endowment's growth plus \$1,000 for the beneficiary). After the 5 years, the endowment is fully funded and provides future income for the beneficiary in perpetuity.

Pooled Endowment

A Pooled endowment allows for a group of people to join together to build an endowment. This is a good opportunity for an endowment to be named in memory of a loved one or in honor of a graduating class or a retiring staff member. The minimum funding level is \$25,000, but the initial donations can come from two, ten or even a hundred different donors. Usually, the beneficiary or a family member is designated the main point of contact for a Pooled endowment.

Strengthening our Catholic community today, tomorrow, and forever.

By joining together and unifying as a Catholic community, the Foundation positively impacts children, young adults, the poor and vulnerable, future Catholic leaders, our natural environment, and the community at large.



Watch this video to learn more about who we are, what we do, and how you can be involved.

Because We Believe

The Catholic Foundation manifests God's love in the world by promoting human dignity and sharing Christ's love. Our passion is rooted in the people of our communities. Grants support five key priorities.



A Solid Foundation for Community Impact

As a community foundation serving West Michigan Catholics, the Foundation is here to serve your unique needs and interests. We provide creative, customized recommendations and solutions for your charitable giving through highly effective investment vehicles, the finest professional stewardship, optimal tax benefits, and a program of responsible giving that creates meaningful and lasting legacies.

**Impact for Today,
Tomorrow, and
Forever.**

**240+
Charitable
Funds**

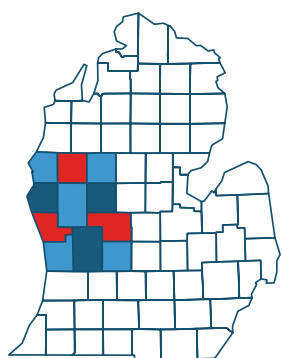
\$2.26 million
2021 Grants Distributed

\$108 million
Assets Under Management

83%
of Catholic schools
partner with the
Catholic Foundation

61%
of parishes partner with
the Catholic Foundation

*As of Jan. 2022



Serving generous hearts
across the eleven counties
of the Diocese of Grand Rapids.

**Our Catholic community invests together,
morally and responsibly. Over the past
5-years, our charitable funds have realized
a 12.1% annual rate of return.**

Create Your Own Giving Strategy

GIVE

You set the scope and timing of your generosity. We'll help you determine the best giving strategy for your goals.

GROW

Your gifts are invested in a portfolio of socially-responsible funds aligned with your Catholic Faith.

GRANT

Direct your gifts to support your favorite Catholic causes and charities.

TRANSFORM

Your generosity is faith in action, creating a positive impact on the lives of people in our community, today and into the future.

Together we can create meaningful change —
improving lives and creating lasting legacies.

**Allow us to support
your intent and impact.**



CATHOLIC FOUNDATION
of West Michigan

BEQUEST GIFT INTENTION

The incredible generosity of donors like you is critical to ensuring the work of the Catholic Church for years to come. A bequest of any size to a Catholic parish, school, or ministry helps leave a lasting legacy in alignment with your faith. We understand that bequests are revocable and that your plans may change. This is a non-binding agreement that helps us to track the intentions of your gift.

Name _____ Date of Birth ____/____/____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

I HAVE INCLUDED A CATHOLIC ORGANIZATION IN MY ESTATE PLAN

- ☐ Directly for _____ parish, school, or ministry.
- ☐ For the Existing Catholic Foundation Fund(s) _____
a full list of funds can be found online at catholicfoundationwmi.org
- ☐ For the Catholic Foundation of West Michigan's area of greatest need.
- ☐ I would like this gift to create a new memorial fund at the Catholic Foundation. Please contact me about a fund agreement.

I HAVE MADE THE FOLLOWING PROVISIONS

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☐ Will or Living Trust | ☐ Beneficiary Designation of |
| ☐ Specific Amount \$ _____ | ☐ IRA or Other Retirement Plan |
| ☐ Percent of Estate _____ % | ☐ Life Insurance |
| ☐ Remainder/Residual of Estate | ☐ Other _____ |

We deeply appreciate your generosity and wish to acknowledge your intention in a way that is meaningful to you.

- ☐ I/We would like others to be encouraged by my/our example. Please publish recognition in the Anima Christi Legacy Society as:

- ☐ I/We also would be interested in sharing my/our story in a Foundation publication.

- ☐ I/We would like to remain anonymous and prefer that my/our name(s) not be published.

Signature _____ Date _____

Please return this form to the Catholic Foundation of West Michigan

360 DIVISION AVE. S. | GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49503 | 616.333.1640 | catholicfoundationwmi.org