



**CATHOLIC FOUNDATION**  
of West Michigan



**2023–2024**  
**ANNUAL REPORT**



**CATHOLIC  
FOUNDATION**  
of West Michigan

## A Solid Foundation for Faithful Giving and Community Impact

As a Catholic community foundation, we serve as the philanthropic partner that stewards charitable assets to support the work of the Catholic Church.

We are so grateful to our donors who make our mission come to life through their generosity. Whether working confidentially with individuals or collaborating with broader parish efforts, our pledge remains that of being trusted charitable giving advisors to create a stronger, more vibrant faith community — today and tomorrow — for all of us.

# Year in Review

July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024

**282**

Total funds and 21 new charitable funds

**\$3.5m**

Granted to 109 parishes, schools, and nonprofits

**\$124.9m**

Assets under management

**15.66%**

Investment performance (net of fees)

**61%**

of parishes partner with  
the Catholic Foundation

**84%**

of Catholic schools partner  
with the Catholic Foundation



## Dear Friends in Christ,

As we reflect on another year of blessings and achievements, our hearts are filled with gratitude. We are so grateful to see our donors' Catholic values intersect with a spirit of generosity, which provides a clear witness to Christ in our community. We are pleased to share this annual report, highlighting a fraction of the impact made possible through your support.

On behalf of the Board, councils, and staff, we would like to thank the many donors, volunteers, and beneficiaries who carry out the work of the Church in West Michigan. In a special way, we recognize and give thanks for the Bishop's Angels on the Silver Anniversary of this annual giving program. Through faith and wisdom, they have led — and continue to lead — the Foundation forward.

Every gift, every prayer, and every act of service offered through our Foundation is a testament to the love and hope that God inspires within each of us. This year, we have witnessed incredible stories. From providing scholarships that allow young minds to flourish in faith-based education to supporting our parishes and ministries in their spiritual and charitable works, we have seen how your generosity is shaping a brighter future. These stories are not just numbers or figures on a page — they represent lives touched by Gospel values because of your charitable gifts.

For these reasons, we are filled with gratitude, hope, and a shared commitment to continue this mission with confidence and humility. As we move forward, we invite you to continue journeying with us as good stewards of God's gifts, inspired by the Holy Spirit to carry out His will for your life.

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

Most Reverend David J. Walkowiak  
Bishop of Grand Rapids

Greg Deja  
Executive Director

## Trustees

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Most Rev. David J. Walkowiak  
Rev. Msgr. William H. Duncan  
Michael Lown  
Donald Duba  
Mary Lehman-Panek

## Council Members

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Amanda Barbour	Duane Kluting
Jenny Beach	Casey Lowery
Michael Berkemeier	Very Rev. Colin Mulhall
Jim Brady	Paul Snow
Tom Czerney	Tom Wesholski

## Staff

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**Greg Deja**  
Executive Director

**Erinn Hill**  
Stewardship Officer

**Teresa Reid**  
Gift Planning Officer

**Mary Ann Vicini**  
Project Coordinator

## Mission

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We inspire and enable generous support for parishes and ministries rooted in the teachings of the Catholic Church to make a lasting impact in our communities and the lives of others.

## Funding Priorities

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Sharing Our Catholic Faith  
Educating Children & Young Adults  
Supporting Religious Vocations  
Helping the Poor & Vulnerable  
Caring for Creation

## Tax Information

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EIN: 38-3298981

## Contact

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info@cfwmi.org  
catholicfoundationwmi.org  
360 Division Ave. S.  
Grand Rapids, MI 49503



# A Lesson in Legacy

## A Family's Endowment Fund Honors Catholic Educators

**When George and Anne Riddering are asked about the school, they pause. Then they smile. "Assumption..." Anne begins, "When you walk in, I don't know. It's so peaceful."**

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic School in Belmont, Michigan ("Assumption," to those who know it) offers a quality, faith-based education to children from preschool through 8th grade. More than that, it provides a path to achieving a purposeful life — and a community with which to share that life.

Sitting together, reflecting on their family's time at Assumption, George and Anne say they're grateful for the benefits their five children received there: an excellent education, a strong work ethic, and so much more. But they say the school's impact on their family overall was even greater, yielding blessings that continue to this day.

The Ridderings speak warmly about the people in the Assumption community, with whom they share values and an enthusiasm for living. The community has been so foundational to their family, George explains, that it was easy to decide where to give back to when it came time for the couple to design a giving strategy.

The two worked with the Catholic Foundation of West Michigan to create the **George and Anne Riddering Fund for ABVM Teachers**, an endowment providing resources and professional development funding to enhance teachers' ability to lead and serve students. Their hope is that Assumption will continue to attract

and retain highly qualified teachers into the future, the same kind of principled educators who made such a difference in their children's lives.

"It's not getting easier to attract and retain quality, high-level teachers," insists George. "The future is uncertain in so many ways, but we need well-educated students who have a strong work ethic that can carry on the legacy. Our hope is that this helps attract and retain teachers to do just that."

### Learning How to Learn

Assumption, they say, absolutely prepared their children — not just to meet the challenges of high school, but also to excel as college students, professionals, and parents in their own right.

"They learned how to learn," Anne exclaims, with George nodding in agreement. "I remember them being so excited about history and social studies, and I never liked those things. It was amazing how much they loved things I didn't love, and they never knew I didn't like them. I was overwhelmed with their homework at first, but by the time 5th grade came I didn't have to do a thing."

Anne laughs as she says this last bit, and George smiles. There's a genuine joy when the couple describes the school, but as enthusiastic as they are about the community aspect, the school's impact on their children's success is still at the core of their happiness. As George explains: "Four of our five children ended up going to the local high school in Rockford. It was



*Anne and George with their seven grandchildren at their cabin over Labor Day weekend: Charlie, Lizzy, Eleanor, Stella, Tommy, Michael, and Franny.*

interesting to us, at parent-teacher conferences, the teachers said that within the first week of school they could identify the Assumption students; they were at another level. Our kids had a lot of homework at ABVM, and so the structure and commitment were set. Combined with the faith experience, they were well prepared.”

Prepared for high school, but also for college, the Ridderings explain, their children’s time at Assumption laid the foundation for a lifetime of success, and included life lessons that now are being taught to the Ridderings’ grandchildren. George and Anne both went to local public schools, and while they certainly were prepared for life (George recently retired after a long career as a successful CPA), they say that the Assumption experience for their children was more complete — and a big part involved faith.

### **Philanthropy as a Family**

“Assumption very much complemented what we did at home,” Anne says, thoughtfully. “And it brought us closer to our faith, too,” George adds, nodding. From

the looks on their faces, it’s clear that the school’s impact was profound, perhaps a step forward for the family overall. George and Anne say that when they were growing up, their families didn’t have a lot. Even so, both of their parents gave their time and money to those less fortunate. Those examples of charity and generosity hit home, and George and Anne passed them down to their children.

By donating appreciated stock to establish a donor advised fund, the family not only maximized their charitable impact but also engaged their children in meaningful discussions about philanthropy and the importance of giving back to the community.

In celebration of George’s retirement this past year, the family contributed to the endowment fund, making an even greater impact in his honor. “Each Christmas, in addition to gifts, we ask each child and spouse to come to the family celebration with an identified charity that they can donate to, hoping it helps instill the need to give back,” says George. “They put a lot of thought into it, and it’s been fun.”

*Continued on next page*



Fun, too, is at the heart of the Assumption experience — and a key part of the legacy that George and Anne want to see continue. George has already been doing his part, most notably when he contributed to the new gymnasium at Assumption because the original was, to put it lightly, “modest.” George and others in the Assumption community came together and raised funds to create a Family Life Center at the school, “And then we had the best gym!,” he exclaims.

The community George and Anne formed with other Assumption parents endures today. “Most of our closest friends are parents of kids that our kids went to school with,” George says, as Anne nods and agrees. “It’s a very close-knit group. You have things like faith in common, similar beliefs, and that’s a great foundation for friendship.”

George even has an annual golf outing with friends he met at Assumption. They travel to courses far and wide, always keeping Mass in the schedule, and always having a great time, he says. Anne is in a book club with others from the Assumption community, and some of the families go on pilgrimages together: “We have one to Poland next June with Assumption families,” she points out.

### Filled with Gratitude

In this season of life, with George’s golf game improving and Anne’s Bethlehem Sourdough baking business taking off, the Ridderings reflect on why they chose Assumption for their legacy, and why charitable giving matters. They look at each other — their love for each other, for the school, and for life obvious on their faces — and then explain what’s at the core of their decision:

“It’s gratitude,” Anne says. “Our gratitude toward Assumption, but also the gratitude we feel because we had that experience.” That spirit is what inspires Anne to give back to people and organizations who have directly impacted or bettered her life or the lives of her loved ones. And in this case, it inspired the Ridderings to create the ABVM fund.

George then states, “Faith should be the foundation upon which you build your family. Assumption was like a second home for us where we found a close community and friends with common beliefs. They have great kids, we think we have great kids. We need the next generation of great kids, and we think Assumption can definitely help to grow that.”



*The Ridderings had three children get married in 2018. Pictured: Charlie, Bennett, Ali, George, Anne, Camille, Mike, Claire, Katie, and Tom.*

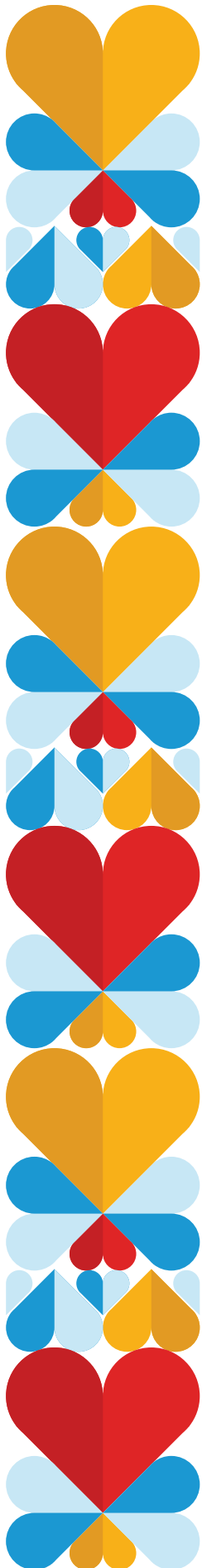


*In retirement, George and Anne plan to learn a new hobby each year. 2024 was the year of beekeeping.*

As for their legacy and the fund that they created to bring top-level teachers to Assumption, both George and Anne are determined in their commitment to future generations, and they hope that others are as well.

“Our fund isn’t going to do that alone,” George says, “but if it can help to support that mission of continuing the tradition of such a wonderful — not only faith-based, but also high-quality — education that Assumption School provides in preparing these kids for the future, then that’s what we want.”

The Catholic Foundation is honored to partner with the Ridderings to create a lasting legacy supporting Catholic education. **If you would like to invest in the future of our faith, contact the Catholic Foundation to learn about your options.**



# Love & Charity Grant Impact



## Establishing Catholic Education in Newaygo County

### BISHOP BARAGA ACADEMY

On August 19, 2024, families throughout Newaygo County celebrated the opening of a new Catholic school in Fremont, Michigan. Bishop Baraga Academy serves newborn infants through children age 12 in their childcare, offers preschool, and will grow to offer kinder-prep and K-5. Operating within the Catholic Schools arm of the Diocese of Grand Rapids, the school joins an alliance of 31 vibrant learning communities that serve more than 6,000 elementary and high school students throughout West Michigan.

Bishop Baraga Academy will help the Diocese carry out its mission to keep Catholic education available and growing for the next generation, and it will also provide working parents of young children in Newaygo with access to quality, faith-based childcare. "We really want to do extra for family support and family education. We want to help preserve their family unit and promote family time," says Dr. Shari McCarty, the Academy's executive director and principal.

McCarty applied for and received a \$15,640 grant from the Catholic Foundation to fund the Academy's ongoing renovation efforts and materials for the daycare and school, including equipment like phones and laptops; and critical building security like hallway cameras, a door entry system, a playground fence, and more.

### Advancing Human Flourishing

The grant has also helped make Bishop Baraga Academy the only modified Montessori and Reggio Emilia-influenced daycare and preschool in Newaygo County. Funds enabled the school to purchase comprehensive curricular materials from the North American Montessori Center and to provide in-depth training on Montessori, Reggio Emilia, and other nature-based pedagogies. The school has also invested in the "Montessori Assessment Playbook" from the National Center for Montessori in the Public Sector. "This valuable resource aligns with the Academy's mission to offer tools that support continuous improvement and advance human flourishing," says McCarty.

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### A Faith-centered Curriculum

At Bishop Baraga Academy, that sense of flourishing is centered on the Catholic faith. The school's daycare and micro-school utilize a curriculum from the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, which nurtures the spiritual lives of children through hands-on, experiential learning in a welcoming environment. And to ensure that Catholicism is woven into every aspect of student life, the school has acquired the Catholic Icing curriculum, integrating faith into everything from ABCs to crafts and broader learning experiences.

"We are profoundly grateful for the generosity of the Catholic Foundation of West Michigan grant, which has enabled Bishop Baraga Academy to secure the very best resources that align with our priorities and mission," says McCarty. "We cherish and promote our Catholic faith in all we do, and having access to top-quality curricular materials greatly supports this effort. I cannot express my thankfulness enough!"

## St. Gianna's No Cost Baby Boutique — Child Safety Classes

CATHOLIC CHARITIES WEST MICHIGAN

Children and their families living in poverty typically don't have access to much-needed resources like clothing, developmentally appropriate toys, car seats, and vital information about best practices for child safety. It's for this reason that Catholic Charities of West Michigan recently expanded their St. Gianna's No Cost Baby Boutique — a no- to low-cost retail store and destination for safety courses — to a new location in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

The first St. Gianna's No Cost Baby Boutique is located in Muskegon, MI. The store's successful track record of meeting the needs of parents and guardians in the community inspired the team to open a second location in October 2023 in the Creston neighborhood of Grand Rapids.

In the first few months open, "The demand has been extraordinary," says Karol Maurer, director of development and community outreach for Catholic Charities West Michigan.

The model for both locations is an organized, accessible, calming space that invites families to shop for necessities without being forced to dig through bins or navigate a mess. "It really looks like a store," says Maurer.

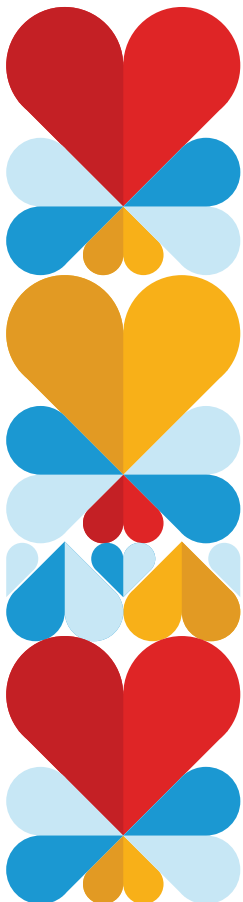
### A Place for Connection

All families with children aged 0 to 5 are welcome to shop for clothing, accessories, toys, and essentials like diapers, wipes, and formula, free of charge. They simply sit down with the pantry/community resource coordinator, and discuss their underlying needs like housing, food assistance, or substance abuse. After that, they can shop freely in the boutique.

The boutique offers helpful classes on safe sleep and car seat safety. One participant shared, "As a parent of multiple children, I couldn't believe just how much I learned at the child safety classes. Especially about car seat safety and handling emergencies." A major incentive for parents to participate in these safety programs has been the provision of a complementary child safety item — such as a car seat or portable playard — upon completing the course.

The \$20,000 grant provided by the Catholic Foundation West Michigan funded new car seats and playards for parents. "Car Seats are super expensive and we can't accept them donated," says Maurer. "This is definitely a huge cost to be able to purchase those as an agency, so being able to utilize those funds for this program is amazing."





# More Love & Charity Grant Recipients

## Arrowsmith Program

Immaculate Heart of Mary  
Catholic School | \$15,000

## The Leadership Formation Institute for Hispanic Ministry

Catholic Information Center | \$8,000

## Blaze — Helping Girls Hear Who God is Calling Them to Be

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin  
Mary Catholic School | \$1,000

## Nourishing Meals Program

Revive & Thrive Project | \$3,000

## Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Prince of Peace Parish | \$9,870

## Return to Mass Campaign

Diocese of Grand Rapids | \$20,000



# 2023 #GiveCatholicWM Challenge Grants

For the third year, the Catholic Foundation sponsored Giving Tuesday challenges, offering grants totaling \$10,000. Five challenges were intended to encourage participation; inspire the sharing of faithful, joyous stories; and spark good-natured competition.



**St. Alphonsus Parish** in Grand Rapids raised money on Giving Tuesday to support their youth ministry programs. The parish won multiple challenge grants that helped them expand their youth ministry program. In partnership with Blessed Sacrament and All Saints Academy, they hired a campus minister and launched a weekly middle school youth program.



**Holy Redeemer Parish** in Jenison raised support for their twinning parish Mission San Miguel in Oaxaca, Mexico. The aid helps in supporting their evangelizing mission as they spread the word of God in the nearby villages. Their latest activity is music worship, which they use to awaken the love for music in young people and children. With the money Holy Redeemer raised on Giving Tuesday and the challenge grant they won, Mission San Miguel was able to acquire a truck and guitars.

## Congratulations to the 2023 Challenge Grant Winners!

- Bishop Baraga Academy, Fremont
- Cathedral of Saint Andrew, Grand Rapids
- Holy Redeemer Parish, Jenison
- Holy Spirit Parish and School, Grand Rapids
- San Juan Diego Academy, Wyoming
- St. Alphonsus Parish, Grand Rapids
- St. Anthony of Padua Parish and School, Grand Rapids
- St. Bartholomew Parish, Newaygo
- St. Jude Parish, Grand Rapids
- St. Mary Catholic School, Spring Lake





Photos from Fr. Nick Baker's ordination Mass on June 1, 2024



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## Continuing to Steward Your Generosity

Since the *Our Shepherds — Our Future* capital campaign launched in 2019, 12 men have been ordained to the priesthood. The Diocese of Grand Rapids is blessed to have 24 seminarians in formation, five of whom started this fall.

As the steward of the *Our Shepherds — Our Future* Fund for Seminarian Education, the Catholic Foundation is honored to help ensure your generosity lives on for generations to come. The endowed fund has grown to \$19.26 million and will continue to grow through additional contributions and investment gains.

**“June 1 was a perfect day from my perspective as the Diocese of Grand Rapids celebrated the priesthood ordination of Nick Baker, a parishioner of Saint Sebastian Parish in Byron Center. His ordination is a sign of God’s ongoing love and care for His people. I have assigned Father Nick as the parochial vicar of Holy Spirit Parish in Grand Rapids. His priesthood will be a blessing for that faith community and beyond!”**

**— Most Reverend David J. Walkowiak**

# Endowed Funds

## Funds Impacting Diocesan Priorities and/or Community Needs

### Educating Children & Young Adults

Bishop's Fund for Catholic Education  
Dzwonkowski Education Fund  
Ronald & Joan Griffith Fund  
Wege Teacher Benefit Enhancement Fund

### Sharing Our Catholic Faith

Bishop Kevin M. Britt Adult Faith Formation Fund  
Bishop's Fund for Religious Education  
Fr. Norman Droski Fund for Catholic Parish Worship Structure: Renovation, Maintenance, & Construction  
Fund for the Faith  
Media Evangelization Fund  
Pastoral Services Ministry  
Paul & Leisa Snow Fund for Catholic Truth & Apologetics

### Helping the Poor & Vulnerable

John & Betty Neary Family Fund  
Jubilee Justice Fund  
Laura Alexandria Fund for Human Life; from Conception to Natural Death\*  
Monsignor Terrence L. Stewart Fund for the Poor  
Roy & Carolyn Seyffert Basic Needs Fund  
Sister Rose Callahan Fund for the Aged & Disabled

## Supporting Religious Vocations

Byars Family Fund for Seminarian Education  
Cebelak Vocations Promotion Fund  
Dan & Sherry Bowen Fund  
Deacon Kenneth Baldwin Memorial Fund for Seminarian Formation  
The Dougal Family Vocation Fund  
Emil Shebesta - Muskegon Knights of Columbus Fund  
Fallon Family Vocations Fund  
Fedewa Fund for Formation of Seminarians  
Fr. Dennis Morrow Vocation Fund  
Fr. Peter Omogo Honorary Fund for Seminarian Formation  
Hendrickson Family Fund, In Memory of Charlie  
Jack & Carol Smith Family Fund  
John C. Loss/Knights of Columbus 12985 - Seminarian Assistance Fund  
Larry & Nancy Erhardt Vocations Fund  
Lowery Family Seminarian Fund  
The Maggini Memorial Fund  
McDowell Family Vocations Fund  
Msgr. Raymond A. Baker Religious Vocations Fund  
Norman Pelak & Lenore Brechting Pelak Fund for Seminarians  
Our Shepherds — Our Future Fund for Seminarian Education  
Paul & Leisa Snow Fund for Vocations

Richard & Lisa Peters Fund in Honor of Rev. Vincent J O'Malley, C.M.  
St. Isidore Seminarian Scholarship Fund  
The Voyt Family Charity Fund

## Greatest Needs

Carl J. Schowalter Memorial Fund  
Donald & Rheata Hesling Memorial Fund  
Lehman/Panek Family Fund  
Mary P. & John M. Wolf Memorial Fund  
Natalie F. Rydzewski Memorial Fund

## Funds Impacting Our Parishes, Catholic Schools, & Organizations

All Saints Academy (Grand Rapids)  
Paul & Helen Walsh Education Fund  
Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Belmont)  
Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish Operational Fund  
The Campbell Family Endowment Fund, in memory of Russell & Marcella Campbell and Jean Marie Campbell\*  
George & Anne Riddering Fund for ABVM Teachers\*  
Jan & Ted Kuzma Education Fund  
Ralph & Zsuzsanna Palmer Fund for Tuition Assistance\*  
Richard & Mary Ann Hurst Fund  
Sr. Rosemary Smith, RSM Tuition Assistance Fund  
Stephen May Memorial Scholarship Fund  
Wayne & Margo Gagnon Elementary Tuition Assistance Fund  
Basilica of St. Adalbert (Grand Rapids)  
Basilica of St. Adalber Education Fund  
Mary Jane Kaye Fund

Blessed Sacrament (Grand Rapids)  
The Kandra Family Endowment Fund, in Memory of John & Mary Kandra and Frank & Agnus Kandra  
Lena Allgeier Education Fund  
Cathedral of Saint Andrew (Grand Rapids)  
Cathedral of Saint Andrew Preservation Fund  
Catholic Charities West Michigan  
God's Kitchen  
Christ the King - St. Francis de Sales (Howard City)  
McKenney General Fund  
Saint Apollonia Cemetery - McKenney Perpetual Care Fund  
Corpus Christi School (Holland) - Jacqueline Cry Miller Fund  
Holy Family (Caledonia) - Peter & Kathleen Huizenga Family Trust Fund  
Holy Name of Jesus Parish (Wyoming)  
Holy Name of Jesus Parish - Evangelization Fund  
Holy Name of Jesus Parish - Unrestricted Fund  
Holy Trinity (Comstock Park)  
Holy Trinity Education Fund  
Immaculate Heart of Mary (Grand Rapids)  
Missionary Sisters of the Holy Family  
Muskegon Catholic Central  
Alvina Sandusky Fund - Muskegon Catholic Schools  
Our Lady of Consolation (Rockford)  
Nichols Family Fund  
Sacred Heart Julia Ross Memorial Scholarship (Evart)  
Sacred Heart of Jesus (Grand Rapids)  
The Dougal Family Educational Fund  
San Jan Diego Academy (Wyoming)



AMDG Scholarship Assistance Fund (Ad majorem Dei gloriam)  
 The Endowment Promise Fund  
 Fr. Don Weber Family Foundation Fund  
 Julia Hartman Klein Educational Fund  
 Shrine of Saint Francis Xavier & Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish (Grand Rapids), formerly St. Dominic  
 SS. Peter & Paul (Grand Rapids)  
 SS. Peter & Paul (Ionia)  
 Armando Quaglia Scholarship Fund  
 Rex P. & Mary E. O'Connor Family Scholarship Fund  
 St. Ann's Home Benevolent Care Fund  
 St. Ann's Home Capital Enhancement Fund  
 St. Anthony of Padua (Grand Rapids)  
 Jim & Josie Dirkes Parish Improvement Memorial Fund  
 Jim & Josie Dirkes Scholarship Fund  
 John O'Donnell Memorial Scholarship Fund  
 Rosalie & Bernard Niedzwiecki Education Fund  
 Rosemary T. Bolek Scholarship Fund  
 St. Anthony of Padua Parish Endowment Fund  
 St. Bartholomew Parish Endowment Fund (Newaygo)

St. Charles Borromeo (Greenville)  
 Buescher Fund - St. Charles  
 The Kenneth & Gail Lehman Fund  
 St. Edward (Lake Odessa)  
 St. Gregory (Hart)  
 St. Isidore (Grand Rapids)  
 St. James (Montague)  
 St. John Paul II Parish Cemetery Fund (Cedar Springs)  
 St. John the Baptist Fr. Jim Cusack Parish Scholarship Fund (Hubbardston)  
 St. Joseph & Divine Providence Academy (Wright Township)  
 St. Joseph - St. Mary (Belding)  
 St. Mary (Miriam)  
 St. Jude (Grand Rapids)  
 St. Mary (Carson City)  
 St. Mary (Lowell)  
 Carter G. Ryan Scholarship\*  
 St. Mary (Muskegon) – Fr. Ernest J. Bernott Educational Endowment Fund  
 St. Mary (Spring Lake)  
 St. Mary Magdalen (Kentwood)  
 St. Mary - St. Paul (Big Rapids) – Foundation Fund  
 The Barbara Borth Fund  
 Mildred Weis Fund - St. Mary-St. Paul  
 The Rosalinde Parsons Good Samaritan Fund  
 St. Mary Catholic School

St. Paul Newman Center Fund (Ferris State University Catholic Campus Ministry)  
 St. Michael (Brunswick)  
 St. Michael (Coopersville)  
 St. Michael (Muskegon)  
 St. Michael (Remus)  
 Mary Pat & Don Ziemke P. Scholarship Fund  
 St. Patrick (Parnell)  
 Blundy Legacy Fund  
 St. Patrick (Portland)  
 Al & Karla Schraub Athletic Fund\*  
 Alvina Sandusky Fund – Portland Catholic Schools  
 The Former Pastors' Shamrock Endowment Fund  
 St. Patrick - Youth Ministry Fund  
 St. Patrick – St. Anthony Parish Legacy Fund (Grand Haven)  
 Anonymous fund to benefit the parish\*  
 St. Patrick – St. Anthony College Scholarship Fund  
 St. Patrick – St. Anthony Educational Fund  
 St. Patrick – St. Anthony Youth Fund  
 St. Paul the Apostle/Daniel J. Donnelly Education Foundation (Grand Rapids)  
 AMDG Architects Scholarship Fund - St. Paul the Apostle School\*

St. Pius X (Grandville) – Monsignor John Najdowski Fund for the Poor  
 St. Robert Catholic School – Fr. Len Sudlik Scholarship Fund  
 St. Sebastian Parish (Byron Center) – Pierce Fund  
 St. Simon (Ludington), formerly St. Stanislaus  
 St. Simon (Ludington), formerly Sacred Heart  
 St. Simon (Ludington) - Pere Marquette Cemetery Fund  
 St. Stephen (East Grand Rapids)  
 Dorothy Thomas Scholarship Fund  
 Mabel Sullivan Scholarship Fund  
 Monsignor Arthur LeRoux Scholarship Fund  
 Peter M. Wege Scholarship Fund  
 Sandra Thomas Family Fund  
 Sophia Louise Wege Scholarship Fund  
 STAR Scholarship Fund  
 Swanson Scholarship Fund  
 St. Thomas the Apostle (Grand Rapids) - Cunningham/McCahill Fund  
 St. Thomas the Apostle, formerly Sacred Heart (Muskegon)  
 Korson Family Scholarship Fund  
 Vida Family Fund  
 St. Vincent de Paul Endowment Fund, in memory of Frank J. Markel



## Funds Impacting Grand Rapids Catholic High Schools

In partnership with the Foundation for Catholic Secondary Education, endowment assets for Catholic Central & West Catholic High Schools are managed by the Catholic Foundation.

### Catholic Central High School

AMDG Architects Scholarship Fund - Catholic Central High School

The Brian "McDivot" O'Driscoll Scholarship Fund

Catholic Central General Endowment Fund

"Conquering Obstacles" The Denny Flak Scholarship

Deacon Dale Hollern Scholarship

Dennis W. Campbell Memorial Scholarship

Dr. William '54 & Mary '54 Passinault Family Scholarship\*

Ed & June Prein Family CCHS Scholarship Fund

Eugene "Sam" Kunst Endowed Memorial Scholarship

The Fred & Rosemary Braun Scholarship

The James & Ann Burns Endowed Scholarship

Jared T. Pilczuk Lifetime of Service Scholarship Fund\*

The Jeffrey P. Scholz Memorial Scholarship

Jim & Linda Payne Tuition Assistance Fund

Joe & Marie Reynolds Family Scholarship Fund

Joe Lauria Memorial Scholarship Fund

The John & Sandy Lowery Family Scholarship

Jon Davidson Memorial Scholarship

Lawrence & Patricia Ranazzi Transfer Scholarship

The Leigh Eriks & Armen Oumedian STEM Scholarship

Mary Lynn Kampfschulte Scholarship Fund

The Michael Lebednick Scholarship Fund, in Honor of Albert & Eleanor Lebednick

The Nicholas Mihos Memorial Scholarship Fund

Paul & Helen Walsh Scholarship

Philip & Sharon Burns Heart & Soul Award

The Reed Family Music Scholarship Fund

Rev. James C. Kowalski Scholarship Fund - Catholic Central High School

The Rob Rosenbach Memorial Scholarship

Robert & Francis (Schaaf) Rinehart Trust

Rosloniec Family Scholarship Fund

Sr. Robert Ann Dominican Sisters Educational Fund

The Thomas L. Quinn '53 & Geraldine L. Quinn '54 Memorial Endowed Scholarship\*

Timothy CC'51 & Janet Conroy Family Legacy Scholarship Fund

William & Karen Lawrence Family Scholarship

The William Ronan '61 Scholarship

The Willie Butler Encounter Diversity Endowed Scholarship

The Ziemke Family Scholarship

### West Catholic High School

AMDG Architects Scholarship Fund - West Catholic High School

Bertram Family Scholarship

Bill & Colleen Roth & Family Scholarship\*

Bishop Hurley Scholarship Fund

Bob & Pat Misner Tuition Scholarship

Bob "Sarge" & Charlene Czarnecki Fund

The Brechting Academic & Athletic Scholarship - West Catholic High School

The Cynthia (Wisz) Kneibel Scholarship Fund

The Czerney Szoka Scholarship

David A. Veneklas Family Scholarship

Deacon Ed & Joanne Harwood Angel Scholarship Fund

Ed Wagner Tuition Assistance Fund

Falcon Music Scholarship Fund\*

The Florence B. & Joseph F. Jachim Memorial Scholarship Fund

Fr. Dennis Morrow Education Fund

The Francis & Gloria Rasch Family Memorial Scholarship Fund

Frank Diehl Legacy Scholarship

Grace (Bono) Slott Endowed Scholarship

Hunter Family Scholarship Fund

John L. Young Memorial Scholarship Fund

Kluting Family Scholarship

Michael G. Cherrette Memorial Scholarship

Mulder Family Scholarship Fund\*

Patrick & Jacqueline Murphy Endowed Scholarship

Rev. James C. Kowalski Scholarship Fund - West Catholic High School

Robert & Larita Stephanak Memorial Scholarship

Robert W. Mysliwiec Falcon Award Memorial Scholarship Fund\*

Smith-Verkin Family Scholarship

St. John Paul II Scholarship

St. Peter Claver Scholarship Fund

Steven Chulski Memorial Scholarship Fund

VanGessel Family Scholarship

The West Catholic Band Boosters Scholarship

West Catholic General Endowment Fund

### Shared Beneficiary between Catholic Central & West Catholic High Schools

David M. Seamon "Leadership" Scholarship

Douglas & Arlene Lillis Scholarship

Eugenia Czarnecki Family Fund

The Faculty Enhancement Fund

Fr. Julien Reginato Fund for Catholic Education\*

Francis J. Geary Scholarship

Frank & Mary Hernes Memorial Scholarship for Graduating Seniors

The Lena L. Allgeier Technology Fund

Lyle B. Morrison Memorial Scholarship

Msgr. Charles D. Brophy Scholarship

Polish American History Endowed Scholarships Fund

The Reilly Family Scholarship

Reynolds-Elderkin Family Scholarship

The Richard J. Boguslaski Science & Engineering Equipment Endowment

Ronnell & Linda Denhof Scholarship Fund



\*New fund since June 30, 2023

# Donor Advised Funds

Anonymous (2)

Asselin Family Charitable Fund

Chad & Lauren Warner Fund

David J. Walkowiak  
Charitable Fund\*

The Frost Family Charitable Fund\*

Karen M. Weber Charitable Fund  
for Theology of the Body

Kluting Charitable Fund

The Miles J. Murphy IV  
Memorial Fund

Misericordia in Action\*

McDowell Family Fund

Our Lady of Good Health Fund

Panek Family Charitable Fund

Patrick & Alissa Mullally  
Family Fund

The Snow Family – Paul A. Snow  
Fund for Defense of the  
Catholic Faith

The Stranz Family Charitable Fund

Tom & Tracy Rosenbach Fund

## New Endowed Funds

### **AMDG Architects Scholarship Fund - St. Paul the Apostle School**

**St. Paul the Apostle Catholic  
School, Grand Rapids**

Scholarship providing needs-based tuition assistance to students attending St. Paul the Apostle Catholic School in Grand Rapids with priority consideration given to a Latino student.

### **Carter G. Ryan Scholarship**

**St. Mary Parish, Lowell**

Merit-based scholarship administered by the parish for 9-12th grade students. The scholarship may be used toward Catholic school tuition or participation in a Catholic mission trip or its equivalent.

### **George & Anne Riddering Fund for ABVM Teachers**

**Assumption of the  
Blessed Virgin Mary  
Catholic School, Belmont**

Funding to support teachers by providing resources and/or professional development that will enhance their ability to lead and serve the students of Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary School in Belmont.

### **Ralph & Zsuzsanna Palmer Fund for Tuition Assistance**

**Assumption of the  
Blessed Virgin Mary  
Catholic School, Belmont**

Tuition assistance for students attending Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary School who demonstrate the greatest financial need.

### **The Campbell Family Endowment Fund, in memory of Russell & Marcella Campbell and Jean Marie Campbell**

**Assumption of the  
Blessed Virgin Mary Parish,  
Belmont and the Consolata  
Missionary Sisters**

Two thirds of the available distribution will provide for the general operation of Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish. One third of the available distribution will provide for the general needs of the Consolata Missionary Sisters in Belmont.

### **Al & Karla Schrauben Athletic Fund**

**St. Patrick Catholic School,  
Portland**

Funding for general athletics operations for St. Patrick School in Portland.

### **Anonymous Fund**

**St. Patrick – St. Anthony  
Parish, Grand Haven**

Funding to support the general operations of St. Patrick – St. Anthony Parish.

### **Laura Alexandria Fund for Human Life; from Conception to Natural Death**

Financial support for the Diocese of Grand Rapids' Respect Life Office or its equivalent in order to advocate for the sanctity of human life.

### **Foundation for Catholic Secondary Education New Endowments**

**These endowments  
provide tuition assistance  
to families accessing Catholic  
secondary education.**

#### **CATHOLIC CENTRAL**

Dr. William '54 & Mary '54  
Passinault Family Scholarship

Jared T. Pilczuk Lifetime of  
Service Scholarship Fund

The Thomas L. Quinn '53 &  
Geraldine L. Quinn '54  
Memorial Endowed Scholarship

#### **WEST CATHOLIC**

Bill & Colleen Roth &  
Family Scholarship

Falcon Music Scholarship Fund

Mulder Family Scholarship Fund

Robert W. Mysliwiec  
Falcon Award Memorial  
Scholarship Fund

#### **SHARED BENEFICIARY**

Fr. Julien Reginato Fund  
for Catholic Education





# Bishop's Angels

## Celebrating 25 Years of Vision, Generosity, and Promise

As we reflect on the Catholic Foundation's journey, we are filled with gratitude for the impact of the Bishop's Angels.

### Vision

For 25 years, the Bishop's Angels have inspired a spirit of charity within our Catholic community and have been the cornerstone of the Foundation's operation. This long-standing annual giving program has spanned four bishops, three popes, and two Jubilee years. Over time, parishes in our diocese have opened and closed. Various offices and ministries have expanded, contracted, and reassembled. The Church's programs and services have evolved, and people have come and gone. What remains are the vision, generosity, and hope-filled promise of the Catholic Foundation – thanks to the steadfast support of the Bishop's Angels.

### Generosity

In 1999, a single diocesan campaign produced more than half of the Foundation's assets at the time. Following the campaign, the Catholic Foundation sought its own operating funds to inspire others to become engaged in the long-term needs of the Church. Enter the Bishop's Angels.

Since that time, the Angels have been steadfast in helping to raise awareness of the Catholic Foundation's mission and impact. This dedicated group of benefactors is unwavering in their faithful support, generosity, and advocacy to grow the depth and breadth of the Catholic Foundation.

What began in 1999 with 23 inaugural angels has now grown to 110 angels. As the Foundation matured, the Bishop's Angels program expanded in 2020 to also provide financial support to the Providential Care Fund, which supports the annual Love & Charity grants. (See impact on page 7 of this report).

### Promise

On this silver anniversary, we pay tribute to the visionaries and angels who established and supported a charitable giving foundation for the betterment of the Church and its many ministries. Their dedication proves we can truly make a difference together and realize a hope-filled promise. As we celebrate this milestone, we look to the future with renewed confidence in God's promise to make all things new.

We are immensely grateful to all who have been a part of our journey. As we embark on the next chapter of our story, we give thanks to God for our angels — past and present, those with us, and those who have gone to their eternal home.

We invite you to consider a gift to the Bishop's Angels annual giving program, joining like-minded donors in building a culture of generosity, funding vibrant ministries, and strengthening our Catholic community today, tomorrow, and forever.





***A special thank you to our Bishop's Angels!***

Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Aalderink

Jill Annable

Charles Bennett

Pat & Chuck Bloom

Dan & Sherry Bowen\*

Bob & Donna Chandonnet^

Don & Sue Condit\*

Ralph & Kay Crew

Tom & Jan Czerney

Donald & Noreen Duba

Mr. & Mrs. James A. Ens, Jr.

Brant Erbenraut

Joseph† & Dawn Erhardt

Wayne & Margo Gagnon\*

Dr. Albert George

Greg & Susan Griffith

Jeff & Christine Halvorson

Mark & Valerie Henderson

Mr. & Mrs. John Hendrickson\*

Larry & Candace Hillis

Thomas E. Hogan

Joan Howard

Jim & Nancy Hunter

Lois Jandernoa

Mike & Sue Jandernoa

Bruce & Dawn Johnson^

Donald Karpinski

Mr. & Mrs. John C. Kennedy, III\*

Mr. & Mrs. David Killoran\*

Duane Kluting

Paul & Patricia Korte

Mary Ellen Koziol

Floyd A. Kuehnl\*^

Dr. & Mrs. Jay LaBine

Arnold & Jody LaCombe, Jr.

Joe & Katy Levan

Mike & Kiki Lown

Tim & Nan Maczka

Tom & Laura Madison

Dr. Gary & Mary Ann Mancewicz

Kevin & Kathy McDowell

Howard & Colleen Mitchell

Patrick & Alissa Mullally

Ken & Edie Muraski^

Mike & Liz Novakoski

Mary Evelyn O'Connor

Rev. Fr. Michael P. Olson

Rich & Mary Panek

Diane & Mark Rizik

Tom & Tracy Rosenbach

Ray & Christine Sabon

Mrs. Joan Secchia

Rudolph & Judith Shunta^

Jay & Helen Smith

Paul & Leisa Snow^

David Snyder

Terry & Kristina Stranz

Steven & Karen Trudell

Allen & Nancy VanderLaan

Russ & Chris Visner

Mrs. Doris Vujea\*

Most Reverend David J. Walkowiak

James & Debra Watson

Cindy & John Williams

Phyllis Wisinski

*\* Lifetime Angels*

*^ Archangels*

*† Angels who have passed away*

# Catholic Business Leaders Forums

Hosted by the Catholic Foundation of West Michigan, these forums provide a fruitful environment for Catholic business professionals in West Michigan to exchange ideas and foster connections.



## Thank You to Our Sponsors!

### Title Sponsors



### Premier Sponsors

Dan Vos Construction  
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Franciscan Life Process Center  
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Mike & Sue Jandernoa  
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Marge's Donut Den

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Smart Building Services

Team Financial Group, Inc.  
The Center for Physical  
Rehabilitation  
Varnum LLP

### And Our Many Patron Sponsors

## Balance Sheet — AS OF JUNE 30, 2024

	06/30/24	06/30/23
<b>Assets</b>		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$2,525,325	\$952,101
Investments	123,837,723	108,517,773
Beneficial Interest	12,210,928	11,901,030
Other Assets	415	10,697
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$138,574,391</b>	<b>\$121,381,601</b>
<b>Liabilities and Net Assets</b>		
Deposits	\$41,481,417	\$35,625,062
Accounts Payable	135,169	60,573
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$41,616,586</b>	<b>\$35,685,635</b>
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>\$96,957,805</b>	<b>\$85,695,966</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>\$138,574,391</b>	<b>\$121,381,601</b>

## Statement of Operations — TWELVE MONTHS ENDING JUNE 30, 2024

	2024	2023
<b>Revenues</b>		
Interest and Dividends on Investments	\$2,055,637	\$1,681,075
Net Change in Fair Value of Investments	14,650,645	9,188,048
Change in Beneficial Interest	309,899	(6,439,322)
Contributions	2,433,255	9,474,627
Administrative Fees	311,927	274,542
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$19,761,363</b>	<b>\$14,178,970</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Allocation to Participant Accounts	\$5,499,330	\$3,723,659
Grants	2,181,205	2,129,423
Salaries and Benefits	410,578	316,331
Administrative	408,409	342,441
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$8,499,522</b>	<b>\$6,511,854</b>
<b>Change in Net Assets</b>	<b>\$11,261,841</b>	<b>\$7,667,116</b>

## Investment Performance (%) — (NET OF INVESTMENT FEES)

	3 Years	5 Years	7 Years
<b>CFWM</b>	<b>5.08</b>	<b>9.44</b>	<b>9.10</b>
Benchmark	5.23	9.54	8.92
Over/Under Performance	-0.15	-0.10	0.18

Complete financial statement audit reports are available on the Foundation's website.

# Fundholding Organizations

Through shared faith and endowment management, the Catholic Foundation is committed to furthering the missions of the following ministries — today, tomorrow, and forever.





# A Giving Option for Every Generous Heart



## **OPEN A DONOR ADVISED FUND** Flexible & Personal

Giving becomes convenient and personal with a donor advised fund (DAF), which offers a hands-on approach to your philanthropy. This fund invests your charitable gift to grow tax-free in one simple account for future giving to your favorite Catholic organizations, causes, and ministries.



## **JOIN THE BISHOP'S ANGELS** Help Us Serve

Bishop's Angels are individuals who annually designate a contribution (\$2,500+) to support the general operation of the Catholic Foundation and The Providential Care Fund, a fund that allows the Bishop to identify and respond to a specific cause at a time of need.



## **OPEN AN ENDOWED FUND** Always & Forever

An endowment is a fund that is invested in perpetuity and distributes a portion of the fund's balance in the form of an annual grant to a parish, school, or ministry – forever.



## **GIVE TO AN EXISTING FUND** Choose from Hundreds of Funds

You can direct your gift to support an existing fund for the benefit of a particular Catholic cause or ministry. Join others to create a larger impact for a Catholic parish, school, or organization of your choice.



## **HONOR A LOVED ONE** Celebrate a Life

Create an honorary or memorial fund, or add your contribution to an existing fund, to celebrate the life of someone who has made a lasting impact on you. This type of gift serves as a testament of the love, respect, or appreciation you have for the special individual.



## **LEAVE A LEGACY** Return Your Blessings To The Lord

Including one or several of the Church's ministries in your will or trust is a beautiful way to create your Catholic legacy. Through provisions in your estate plans, you can be recognized in our Light of Christ Legacy Society.

**"God gives us things to share; God doesn't give us things to hold."  
St. Teresa of Calcutta**

**Discover how the Catholic Foundation can support your intent and impact. Contact us today.**



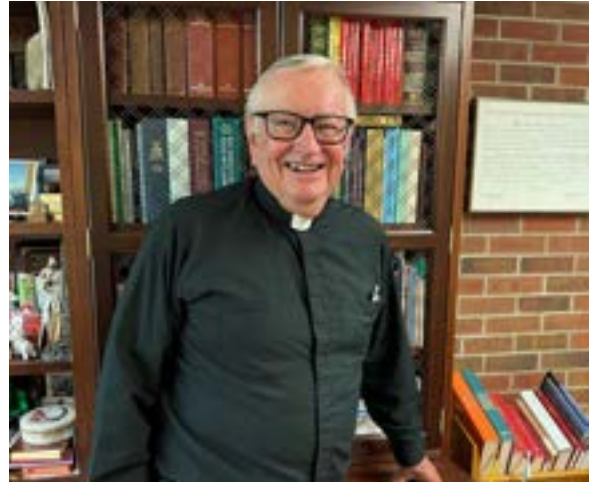
## How Will You Leave a Legacy?

Over the past year, the Catholic Foundation of West Michigan has joyfully begun inviting dedicated supporters to become founding members of the Light of Christ Legacy Society. We extend this warm invitation to you as we continue to welcome new members.

The Light of Christ Legacy Society is a tribute to those who have chosen to make a planned gift through their will or estate plan to the Catholic Foundation, its funds, a parish, a Catholic school, a diocesan ministry, or the Diocese of Grand Rapids. This society offers a special space to unite in prayer and celebration, honor the legacy of those who have gone before us, and acknowledge the profound generosity of our benefactors as they prepare to enter God's eternal Kingdom.

We are inspired by the passion and commitment of our donors, who seek to ensure the vitality of the Church for future generations. By sharing their stories and testimonies, we hope to encourage others to join in this meaningful mission.

Let us come together to build a future where the light of Christ's love continues to shine brightly for generations to come.



**MSGR. TERRENCE STEWART**

"I'm proud to support the Catholic Foundation of West Michigan as a means of continuing my commitment to aiding the poor even after I've gone home to God. By establishing an endowment, I was able to support the poor during my lifetime while also ensuring that my legacy helps those in need for generations to come. I did this in tribute to Bishop Robert Rose whose establishment of the Foundation and generous concern for many worthy causes are an inspiration to me."



**BRYAN & CONNIE RELLINGER**

"Our children's Catholic school experience has been transformative — the spiritual, academic, and social growth we've seen in them is remarkable. We're grateful for the values and education they received, and we've chosen to include the school in our estate plan to ensure future generations can benefit from the same wonderful opportunities and nurturing environment that have meant so much to our family!"



**CHUCK & PAT BLOOM**

"We are passionate about keeping our Catholic parishes and schools strong for future generations. As Jesus said, 'Help your neighbor.' We believe acts of kindness can be life-changing, whether big or small. The Holy Spirit brings us great comfort for our sacrifices."



**BOB & RENIE WOODARD**

"We are blessed with a strong faith, wonderful family, and a vibrant church community at St. Patrick - St. Anthony in Grand Haven. All we have is but a gift from God, so with guidance from the Holy Spirit, we included a gift to our Parish Legacy Fund, endowed with the Catholic Foundation of West Michigan, in our estate plan ... helping to ensure the financial stability of our parish for future generations."



**DEACON JERRY & SUSAN ROERSMA**

"We can see how the Church has been present in our lives at so many points: baptism, confirmation, marriage, and yes, even funerals. The Church's presence has brought depth and meaning to these important events. We want to help ensure that those who follow us have the Church strengthening them, guiding them through these important life events as it has for us."

Learn how leaving a legacy through the Catholic Foundation can help support the causes you care about.

Visit [cfwmlegacy.org](http://cfwmlegacy.org) or contact Teresa Reid at (616) 295-4351.





**CATHOLIC FOUNDATION**  
of West Michigan

# Thank You.

By joining together in the name of our Catholic faith, we continue to combine our blessings and resources to strengthen our Catholic community today, tomorrow, and forever.

## Contact

(616) 333-1640 | [info@cfwmi.org](mailto:info@cfwmi.org)

[catholicfoundationwmi.org](http://catholicfoundationwmi.org)

360 Division Avenue S., Grand Rapids, MI 49503