

We Are a Giving People

The St. Francis of Assisi Fund

Within the Catholic Community Foundation, there is a constant and deep desire to do good. As Patrick Madden, Foundation Executive Director, puts it, "We, as Catholics, are giving people."

Established in 2018, *The St. Francis of Assisi Fund* expands the breadth of the Foundation's impact in our community and the Foundation's ability to help the less fortunate among us. Importantly, the fund's flexibility enables the Foundation to move with immediacy, helping the poor when they need it most.

Of its inception, Foundation board member Dr. Ellen Yankellow shares, "The concept of *The Assisi Fund* was presented to the board in April of 2017. The idea was to provide emergency assistance for basic human needs to children and families in dire situations."

Members of the board were encouraged to be part of the inaugural funding. Dr. Yankellow and



several other board members responded with generous gifts of support.

G. Brian Kroneberger, Jr., another board member and contributor to the fund, believes it will work toward the betterment of the entire Baltimore community. "Clearly, in the greater Baltimore area, not only do we have needs today," he says, "we are most likely going to have great needs in the future. *The Assisi Fund* is a great way to help today and tomorrow."

"Right now, the fund is in its seed form," Mr. Madden adds, before citing a quote from St. Francis, namesake and inspiration for the fund: "Start by



We Are a Giving People

The St. Francis of Assisi Fund

Continued from page 1

doing what is necessary. Then, do what is possible, and suddenly you are doing the impossible."

Indeed, some day, through our prayers and generosity, we may see the Foundation helping to achieve what we now think of as impossible.



Invest in Our Community

When you make a gift to the Catholic Community Foundation, you help to ensure we can meet the needs of those served by the Archdiocese, no matter the situation. Contact us at CatholicCommunityFoundation@archbalt.org or 410-547-5352 to get started.

How to Be Generous at Every Age

Generosity takes on new meaning as we grow older, build financial resources and set charitable goals. These planning checkpoints, arranged by age group, outline how to maximize your generosity to the causes that matter the most to you.

50s

Update your will to reflect any life changes, such as a new relationship or grown children leaving home. Meet with a financial advisor to review your investments and savings—there's still time to make catch-up contributions for retirement.

Best Ways to Be Generous

- A gift in your will or trust: This costs you nothing today and can be made by adding one sentence to this document.
- Retirement plan assets: Name the Catholic
 Community Foundation as a beneficiary of part
 or all of your retirement plan assets. It takes just
 minutes to contact your plan administrator or
 complete the change-of-beneficiary form online—
 and you can even specify what Fund you would like
 to support.
- **Life insurance policies:** If your children are grown and financially stable, consider donating these to the Foundation.
- **Donor-advised funds:** This popular option offers you the flexibility to recommend how much and how often money is granted to qualified charities like the Foundation. You open a fund with a written agreement at a community foundation or sponsoring organization, which then provides regular accounting to you. If you are interested in establishing a donor-advised fund within the Catholic Community Foundation, please call us at 410-547-5352.



 Appreciated securities: Donate stocks you've owned for longer than one year and receive an income tax charitable deduction when you itemize. You can also eliminate capital gains taxes.

60s

Check with your financial advisor to make sure you are on track with retirement savings. If you've already retired, revisit your expenses, priorities and health care needs.

Best Ways to Be Generous

- Life income gifts: If you are looking for income in retirement, consider establishing a charitable remainder trust and use appreciated assets to maximize your tax benefits. You receive income for life from the trust, with the rest supporting the parishes, ministries and programs of the Archdiocese of Baltimore after your lifetime. If you have a high net worth and are looking to minimize taxes, a charitable lead trust allows you to support the Archdiocese now and provide for loved ones in the future.
- **Beneficiary designations:** Review the beneficiaries of your life insurance policies and retirement plan assets. Many of these assets may result in a large tax hit for your family, but they pass tax-free to the Catholic Community Foundation.
- Bank or brokerage accounts: Most states* allow you to designate one or more individuals

or charities as a beneficiary of a checking or savings account; certificates of deposit; or brokerage or investment accounts.

* State laws govern payable-on-death accounts and transfer-on-death accounts. Please consult with your bank representative or investment advisor if you are considering these gifts.

70s

Discuss your giving goals with your family and meet with your financial advisor to align your financial and philanthropic plans.

Best Ways to Be Generous

- Gift from your IRA: If you are 70½ or older, give any amount up to \$100,000 per year from your IRA directly to a qualified charity such as the Catholic Community Foundation without having to pay income taxes on the money.
- Legacy letter: This optional companion piece to your estate plan is a chance to share your dreams and your story with your loved ones.

What's Right for Your Stage?

We're ready to help you and your professional advisor to discuss a variety of giving options that work best for your personal circumstances. Please contact us at CatholicCommunityFoundation@archbalt.org or 410-547-5352 to get started.

Save Time, Get Organized

This helpful checklist walks you through the assets you need to account for when creating or updating your estate plan. Use the enclosed reply card today to receive your FREE copy of *Estate Planning Starters*.





The Power of Percentages

If you ask your spouse or family member the value of their estate, you'll likely be met with a blank stare. This can make deciding exactly how much to leave your loved ones, and cherished organizations, difficult—especially because the value of your estate fluctuates throughout your lifetime.

Instead of leaving a specific amount to family or the Catholic Community Foundation in your will or other estate document, consider leaving a percentage.

How It Works

Leaving the Foundation a percentage of your estate to support the ministries and parishes of the Archdiocese of Baltimore can be done in two simple ways: Through a gift in your will or by naming the Foundation as a beneficiary of your retirement plan account or other assets. In just a few steps, you can make a lasting difference for your cherished ministry or parish in our area.

A Gift in Your Will	Naming the Foundation as a Beneficiary
1. Contact us or return the enclosed reply card to request sample language you can use to make a gift.	1. Log on to your provider's website.
2. Make an appointment with your attorney to create or update your will.	2. Update your beneficiaries, including the percentage you'd like each to receive and the ministry or parish you would like to support. Or, print the form and return it in the mail.
3. Notify us of your intention so we can thank you and ensure your gift is used as you intend.	

Every Gift Makes a Difference

At the Catholic Community Foundation, every gift makes a difference for the parishes, schools and ministries of the Archdiocese. Whether your gift is 1% or 100% of your estate, you can feel confident your legacy will endure for generations to come.



The Catholic Community Foundation 320 Cathedral St.
Baltimore, MD 21201-4421
410-547-5352

CatholicCommunityFoundation@archbalt.org ccfmd.org